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## **Information for Aged Care Residents And Families**

'Adopt a Pop, Gain a Granny' is a Primary School Aged Care Community link Program.

Thank you for taking the time to read this Resident/Family Information statement. Your Residents have been invited to participate in an aged care ambassador project between your Aged Care Facility and a nearby local Primary School.

### **What is the project about?**

Adopt a Pop/gain a Granny is a local community project which aims to develop community links between aged care facilities and local primary schools. The aim is for primary school students to visit the local nursing home regularly, establishing lasting links and building their sense of community. Most schools will send students in grade 4, 5 or 6, that is to say that they will normally be aged between 9 and 12. Depending on the size of your nursing home the entire class may be participating at once, or students may be coming in smaller groups. The project aims to encourage younger students to respect and value our senior community members and to learn from them.

With an increasingly aging population the project aims to foster a sense of care for aged care residents and provide an opportunity for intergenerational learning through interaction.

### **What are the possible benefits for me and other people in my residence in the future?**

We hope that by being part of the program the students will care for and advocate for elderly members of our community and that the residents will feel valued and cherished by young people, improving their mental health and wellbeing. It's also a fun way to spend an hour or so in a day surrounded by the energy, innocence and enthusiasm of Primary School aged children.

### **How can I help prepare for this visit?**

You do not need to do anything to prepare at all. Just make sure you know what time it is on and endeavour to be ready when the children arrive. Your carers will remind you beforehand. It might be a nice idea to think of some conversation topics in case the children become tongue tied. They love to hear about what you did when you were their age. These children have not known a time without computers, television, cars and mobile phones.

### **What media and privacy considerations are there?**

This depends on your Aged Care Facility, school and community. Most schools and nursing homes like to take photographs during visits which may be used in newsletters or on picture boards. Sometimes schools / nursing homes like to promote this project and try to encourage other schools and aged care facilities to create links. Local print media are often looking for 'good news stories' and may be encouraged to attend a visit and photographs and interviews may be taken. Some

schools choose to promote program on an internet website / blog and there is also material promoting the state wide project on internet programs called Instagram, linked in and Facebook.

**CONSENT**

You will of course not be forced to participate. If you do not feel like participating on the day, you can stay in your room, or spend the time in a different part of our aged care facility.