

# Supporting evidence-based policy on child wellbeing by continuing the Growing Up in New Zealand (GUiNZ) study

As part of the Wellbeing Budget the Government is providing funding to GUiNZ to ensure the continued value and viability of the study.

Budget 2019

- **Collecting data that captures the significant social and developmental changes that occur during early adolescence, and increasing data users and analysis.**

Funding of \$17.1m over the next three years for:

- Collecting data for the Growing Up in New Zealand (GUiNZ) study when study children turn 11 years old.
- Providing child-centred longitudinal data to inform the proposed Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy, which will contribute to the Government's priority to "Make New Zealand the best place in the world to be a child".
- There are currently 6,800 children in the GUiNZ study. This number needs to be maintained to maximise the long-term value of the data collected.
- Contributes to the following Budget 2019 priorities:
  - Supporting a thriving nation in the digital age through innovation, social and economic opportunities.
  - Supporting mental wellbeing for all New Zealanders, with a special focus on under 24 year olds.

The benefits of this funding include:

- Retaining study participants and ensuring the ongoing value and viability of the study for informing the proposed Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy.
- Collecting data that captures the significant social and developmental changes that occur during early adolescence.
- Generating greater value by enhancing the range of analyses that can be undertaken and increasing the number and diversity of data users.
- Longitudinal survey datasets such as GUiNZ are uniquely powerful because they allow researchers to assess persistence and change in people's circumstances, understand how early circumstances predict later life outcomes, and identify possible causal relationships.