

Thank you for your interest in being a part of the kidsQs podcast – The West Australian’s podcast for kids featuring the topics and questions that are of interest to them. Each week our co-hosts, Kate and Dylan, will ask an expert for the answers to your burning questions.

We have developed the following guidelines for schools who would like to participate.

STAGE 1: TOPIC IDEAS (*open submission*)

- We’re looking for topics that are of interest to kids, and would create enough discussion for a ten minute podcast, hosted by kids.
- Listen to some of the existing kidsQs podcasts with your students to get a feel for what they’re like, or view [sample questions](#) here.
- Brainstorm topic ideas and potential questions with your students.
- Send through your topic idea/s and some sample questions to kids@thewest.com.au for consideration.
- We’ll review each submission and will be in contact with you if your submission is successful.

STAGE 2: QUESTIONS (*chosen schools only*)

- Use an inquiry-based approach to have students come up with questions on your topic for an expert to answer.
- We’re looking for a mixture of questions that:
 - the students genuinely don’t know the answers to, and want to find out;
 - other students may not know the answers to;
 - we can use to create a ‘story’ within the podcast, eg.
 - to set the scene: “what is climate change, and why does it matter to us?”
 - to close the podcast: “so, what can us kids do about climate change that will make a difference?”
 - are pitched at the level of a ‘tween’ audience.
- Don’t overthink it – we’re looking for questions that would genuinely come from students – not ones that are overly crafted.
- Send your questions to info@mediaeducation.com.au and we’ll review them and get back to you with the list of the ones we’d like to record for the kidsQs podcast.

STAGE 3: RECORDING (*chosen students only*)

- Review the questions – have students do a final tweak of grammar and language if needed.
- Record kids one at a time in a small-ish room, with no background noise.
- Recording on iPhone or similar is fine, you don’t need high-tech equipment.
- Create a separate sound file for each student
- It would be best if it didn’t sound like the student was ‘reading’ the question, but rather being part of a conversation.
- Have students introduce themselves, but mix some up so they don’t all sound exactly the same, eg.
 - “My name is XX and I’m in year XXXX and my question is [PAUSE] XXXXX”
 - “I’m XX from year XX and I want to know [PAUSE] XXXX”
 - the pause is because we may just use the question and have the host introduce them.
 - if they are all same year level, leave that out and it will be introduced at start.
- Have each student that does a recording return a [media permission form](#) signed by their parent/guardian (or if you already have signed media permissions held by your school, please confirm by email).
- Email the following to info@mediaeducation.com.au
 - sound files
 - a list of student names and year levels
 - media permission forms (or confirmation in writing that you have this at school level)
- The kids’ questions will be provided to an ‘expert’ on your students’ topic. Please bear in mind that we may not be able to use all questions that are supplied.