

# Researcher Profile – Meet



## Penelope Strauss

Please introduce yourself and your role at TKI

My name is Penelope Strauss and I am a Research Fellow in Youth Suicide Prevention within the Youth Mental Health team at Telethon Kids Institute.

What inspired you to become a researcher?

I am naturally a curious person and have always enjoyed being

challenged and discovering new topics to learn about, which is why I love research. Mental health and suicide prevention are topics I care deeply about and I like knowing the work we do makes a difference to people's lives.

What's one thing people may not know about you?

I lived in the US for 11 years and used to work at an Apple Store!

What research are you currently working on?

My research focuses on suicide prevention in high risk groups of young people and I've been working a lot on how the mental health of trans and gender diverse young people can be improved.

If you could give kids one message, what would it be?

Be yourself! Everyone is different and unique. It may take time to figure out who you are and what you want to do with your life and it is very important to be kind to yourself while you figure that out.

