

Dear Parents and Carers,

STUDENT VOICE SURVEY

Our school, as well as many others in County Durham, has agreed to participate in a survey of children and young people. This survey will inform the development of plans and services across County Durham and may benefit pupils as services can be directed to support schools / areas where particular issues come to light.

The survey will be designed in conjunction with schools and will include questions on a wide range of key topics including

- Achievement and progress at school
- Safety at school, online and outside of school
- School life
- Health including mental health and diet
- Alcohol and drugs
- Careers advice and guidance (secondary schools only)
- Activities such as culture, sport, gaming

Each response will be submitted online and will be anonymous and confidential, and therefore no pupil will be identified when the data is analysed. The council's Research and Intelligence team will receive the results and data for use in further analysis at council and school level. The council and partners will then use this information to plan and target services, especially where improvement is required. Further information is available in Frequently Asked Questions, which can be found with this letter.

I hope you will agree with us that this is an exercise in which we wish to co-operate fully. I will assume you **DO APPROVE** unless I hear otherwise, and I look forward to working with you to support improved school life, health and wellbeing for our pupils.

Yours sincerely

Head Teacher

Data Protection Act 2018

Durham County Council complies with all relevant statutory obligations. Personal information processed by the Council will be handled in accordance with the Council's privacy statement, which can be accessed here <http://www.durham.gov.uk/dataprivacy>.

If you have any concerns about how your data is handled, please contact either the Data Protection Officer at DPO@durham.gov.uk or the Information Commissioner's Office casework@ico.org.uk.

Frequently Asked Questions for Student Voice Survey



What will you ask me?

We will ask you about your school life, health, habits and other things but we won't ask you for your name or address.



Why are you asking me this?

We want to know your thoughts and feelings on a number of things so that we can plan lessons and services for young people like you in County Durham.



How will you use my information?

We will send a report to your school showing what pupils answered to the questions and an overall report for the whole of the county will also be written. We will use your information to direct services to support schools or areas where needed based on any issues that come to light from the results.



How will you collect this information?

We will ask you to fill in a survey online.



Where is this information kept?

Your answers will be kept safely and securely on our computers in Durham County Council.



Who gets to see the information?

No-one in your school sees your answers. Staff at the council will produce a report with percentages like 75% of pupils said they eat fruit or vegetables every day.

But if you tell us something that makes us think you are in danger we will have to tell your school that someone has said it even if we don't know who you are.



What happens next?

Your school will get a link to the survey for you to complete in school time in early 2019. You can leave out any questions you don't want to answer and you can stop at any time. Later, if you want to know the results of the survey you can ask your school or ask us. But remember, we can't find your individual answers as we don't know who has filled the survey in.