

Secondary School Children's Wellbeing Survey

Dear Parent/Guardian

In North Lanarkshire we want to do all we can to support our children and young people's health and wellbeing. Following implementation of a health and wellbeing survey in session 2020/21, we would like to hear from our young people again, therefore all secondary age children in North Lanarkshire have been invited to take part in a short online health and wellbeing questionnaire. The results of this survey will be used to understand the wellbeing needs of children in North Lanarkshire. This will help us improve the way children's services are planned and delivered.

What is my child being asked to do?

We are asking all S1-S6 children your area to fill in the Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire. Your child will be asked to complete this online questionnaire which should take around 5-10 mins minutes to complete. Your child's school will organise and arrange for children to take part. The questions are all well-established items that have been ethically approved for surveys with children of this age and found to be associated with wellbeing. Some of the topics include: emotions, feelings and behaviour at home and at school, engagement with learning and relationships with peers.

Will anyone see my child's answers?

Your child's name will be linked to an ID number by North Lanarkshire. Your child's school and the team managing this project (consisting of a small number of North Lanarkshire Education and Families staff) will hold this information. The project team analysing the data are trained to keep data safe, confidential and anonymous. The focus of the project team will be on looking at trends across the whole of North Lanarkshire and at school and school cluster levels. They will not have a focus on looking at individual results in detail. Only your child's school will look at individual data in detail. This will help school staff to speak with any young people who might need extra support.

Does my child need to take part?

No. It is up to you and your child to decide to take part. You can opt-out of participating by completing and returning the slip enclosed in the letter to the school. Your child can also say to their teacher that they do not want to participate at any point up until the survey is submitted. Not taking part will have no impact on your child's schooling or any services used. Your child will also receive an information leaflet explaining this and other details contained in this letter.

Yours faithfully

Mr Gerard McLaughlin (Chief Officer, Education North) Janie O'Neil (Chief Officer, Education South)

You do not have to do anything if you are happy for your child to participate in the survey.

If you do not wish for your child to participate, please complete the tear-off slip below and return it to your school within the **next 5 working days**. Thank you for your help with this important programme.

Children's Wellbeing Survey

I do not wish (print name of child in capital letters) to take part in the SDQ Secondary School Children's Wellbeing Survey.

Signed Date/...../.....

Name

Relationship to child Child's year group
