

From Head of Wellbeing: Paul Gooding

15 January 2021

Dear 2nd year to U6th parents/carers,

Annual Mercers' Wellbeing Survey

As a school we are inviting students to take part in a national wellbeing survey, run by University College London and Manchester University, in conjunction with hundreds of schools across the country. The survey will take place in early March, after half term. As a school we think this is an important venture to be involved in, not least as it intends to run for at least 2 more years. We are currently in the second year of the survey and we will be inviting our students from year 8 and above to take part. The survey will take, on average, about 25 minutes for students to complete.

Please refer to the standard letters from the research team at University College London for further information. Information for 2nd year parents is <u>here</u>. Information for 3rd-U6th parents is <u>here</u>. As these are generic letters which are sent to all schools we have a few adjustments that we would like to make you aware of when we do the Abingdon survey.

In terms of data transfer, Abingdon School will not be sharing any identifiable data with the researchers (eg name/surname) only unique anonymous identifier numbers which only the school has access to. The only other three bits of data we will be sending to the study are gender, year group and school name. We will not be sharing data on any other characteristics, such as special education needs or emotional wellbeing for example.

The survey will be *entirely voluntary* but we would hope that, to help with the study, the overwhelmingly majority of pupils will want to take part. If, however, you do not want your child to take part please discuss this with them and sign and complete the form on the attached letter from Professor Jessica Deighton then scan and email to me. If you are happy for your child to take part, there is no further action needed.

Also, on the day of the survey if your child decides that they do not want to take part they do not have to; the whole process is entirely voluntary. There is also no need to action this response form if you are a 6th form parent, this letter is just for your information - as the head of the study says that 6th formers are able to consent for themselves.

If you have any questions about the project in general please contact Paul Gooding (Head of Wellbeing) and, if you have any data protection questions, please contact Amy Hadden (Compliance Officer on

Abingdon School, Park Road, Abingdon, Oxfordshire, OX14 1DE Tel: +44 (0)1235 521563 Fax: +44 (0)1235 849079 <u>amy.hadden@abingdon.org.uk</u>) or Professor Jessica Deighton (lead researcher at UCL) as shown on the attached information. The privacy notice for parents is found <u>here</u>.

Best wishes

Paul Gooding
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