Anti-Bullying Survey November 2015 – Information Sheet

What is it?

The Anti-Bullying survey has been adapted from a questionnaire designed by the Anti-Bullying Alliance <u>http://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/</u> to gauge pupils' experiences of bullying and how they feel their school manages the issue. The survey is an online questionnaire which should take a year 5 child less than 30 minutes to complete (depending upon their literacy level) and around 10 minutes for older pupils.

Norfolk County Council's Children's Services is hosting an online version for Norfolk schools between Monday 16 November and Friday 12 February 2016 to enable them to assess their pupils' views about bullying and how they feel their school deals with the issue.

What are the benefits of taking part?

- For pupils an opportunity to reflect upon bullying, share their thoughts and influence the direction of their school's and Norfolk's, anti-bullying strategy.
- For teachers use of a free, easy-to-use activity that raises awareness of and provides invaluable information to support the anti-bullying agenda.
- For schools free analysis of data and county wide comparison which provides evidence to show your school is taking bullying seriously and taking effective measures to address it.
- For Children's Services we will use the data to ensure we are on track with our Anti-Bullying Strategy and to inform the way we provide anti-bullying support to schools and communities.

Who can take part in the survey?

The survey is open to all pupils in years 5 - 10. At least ten pupils in the year group will need to take part to reduce the possibility of identifying a child through his or her responses. You can include as many pupils as you wish. We cannot provide feedback if fewer than ten pupils in a year group take part, or if it is otherwise possible to identify a child, because this would contravene the Data Protection Act. For schools with less than ten pupils in a year group who still want to get involved, you can use our survey or adapt it to suit your own purposes.

Before you undertake the survey

Each school should check that the general consent form that parents/carers are asked to complete at the start of the school year covers this type of survey. If it does not, schools may want to seek parental consent to carry out the anti-bullying survey and let parents and carers know that the survey is taking place.

Completing the survey

The survey can be completed as a stand-alone activity or as a starting point to discuss bullying issues. It can be completed as a whole class activity or by individuals, though teacher guidance may be needed for younger children and this may include reading it out loud with a class. It is recommended that teachers look at the survey before it is completed. Please see the attached PDF version of last year's survey as an example of questions. This year's questions are exactly the same.

When will I receive my school's results?

It will take our team some time to collate the results. Data will be processed and reported safely in accordance with Norfolk County Council's data protection policy.

The results will be placed on the Schools website, which is password protected, by 31st March 2016. You will need to log on to the 'My school' section, click on 'School performance' and then click on 'Norfolk Anti-Bullying survey November 2015' for full details of your results. **Please note that only the headteacher can do this as it is password protected**. If other staff want to access the information, headteachers will need to make it available for them.

I encourage you to share your results and the actions you take as a result with pupils, parents, governors and staff so they can see what difference participation has made.

Follow this link to see the results for Norfolk from November 2014 <u>Norfolk A-B</u> <u>Surveys</u>. If your school completed last year's survey, you can access your school's results by clicking on <u>www.schools.norfolk.gov.uk</u>. You will need to log on to the 'My school' section, click on 'School performance' and then click on '<u>Anti-</u> <u>Bullying Survey Results - Academic Year 2014/2015</u> for full details of your results.

Children with significant learning difficulties

For some children, particularly those in special schools, an alternative survey may be more appropriate. Mencap have designed a very simple visual questionnaire with accompanying notes which can be downloaded and would need to be completed in hard copy and then marked up for your own use. See <u>Mencap questionnaire and Mencap's Accompanying notes</u>

What else I need to know?

The final page of the survey encourages participants to seek help if they have experienced bullying. Teachers may also wish to discuss the school's policy or to reiterate the Childline number (0800 1111). These appear on the final page of the questionnaire to ensure pupils understand where to seek help should they need it. This is important because as the survey is anonymous it is not possible to link participants with particular remarks or to offer appropriate follow-up. To make this easier we have included this information in a separate sheet which you can copy and give to all children who participate.

If parents wish for further information about the survey you may wish to direct them to the Anti-Bullying Alliance website (<u>http://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/</u>) or to share this paper and the questionnaire with them. You may also be interested in the Parents questionnaire designed by the Anti-Bullying Alliance which your school can carry out. <u>ABA Parents and carers questionnaire</u>