

Launch of 2020 Health and Wellbeing pupil survey

Somerset County Council is about to launch the new 2020 Somerset Children and Young People Survey (SCYPS) and we are keen to encourage as many schools and colleges to take part.

The online survey, which was first run in 2014 by the School Health Education Unit (SHEU), has enabled schools to gain invaluable insight into children and young people's experiences of life, both inside and outside of school. It has also made it possible for Public Health and SCC Children's Services to find out what young people think about a broad range of health-related issues.

The survey is carried out every 2 years. The last survey was undertaken in 2018, with over 9,000 children and young people across Somerset taking part. Data was collected from 69 primaries and 26 middle and secondary schools, 3 pupil referral units, 1 special school and 3 independent schools.

This year the survey will be designed and coordinated by the SCC Public Health Team. The new survey will continue to provide a unique insight in the lives of young people regarding their own health and wellbeing and experiences of school life. The new improved questionnaire will focus on emotional health and obesity as its main themes.

The 2020 survey is to be completed by children and young people in National Curriculum Years 4, 6, 8 and 10, and is free for all educational settings in Somerset. It can be completed online or in paper format and there is training available for any school who wishes to participate.

Somerset schools who have participated in previous surveys have reported that it provides a useful and detailed insight in the wellbeing of their pupils, enabling them to demonstrate the impact of their strategies, maximise their resources, and allocate budgets appropriately.

Examples of how the survey has been a useful resource to schools are:

- **Teachers have used the data to improve the quality and delivery of their PSHE lessons;**
- **Evidence to support a 'whole school approach' to support the implementation of the Somerset wellbeing Framework**
- **Evidence for Ofsted outcomes as well as improved governor understanding of the key issues for pupils.**
- **Used to secure additional funding for pupil support services, having a direct impact on improved attendance and outcomes such as LIFEbeat residential camps, Mental Health in Schools Programme, SEND audit etc.**

The survey goes 'live' from 16th March – 3rd April 2020. So sign up now!

To register your school and receive your information pack please contact the survey coordination team at schoolsurvey@somerset.gov.uk or by phone on 07976 699951.