

WLN/jh

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Dear Parents and Carers

HEALTH RELATED BEHAVIOUR SURVEY

Our school, along with many others, has agreed to participate in a very important Health Behaviour Survey of children and young people. This survey supports the work of Devon County Council and its partners in the NHS.

We stand to benefit through our participation in the survey in a number of ways. For example; the survey results may prompt us to review the Personal Social Health and Economic Education (PSHE) curriculum. It will also help as a;

- Starting point for classroom discussion and activities
- Guide in choosing resource materials to support healthier lifestyle choices
- Guide for staff training requirements
- Starting point for discussions between parents and schools

The survey method that we are using has been developed by the Schools Health Education Unit and has been in use for over 40 years, with over 3000 schools using it.

The questions concern a wide range of health behaviours, for example:

- Home and family
- Relationships, emotional health and well-being,
- Tobacco, Alcohol, Drugs (Year 6 & Secondary only)
- Internet safety
- Healthy Eating
- Exercise
- Sexual health (Secondary schools only)

As a result of the survey Devon County Council and the NHS will have reliable information from which it can better plan to meet the health needs of children and young people. They and the school find the content of the questionnaire acceptable. We hold a copy of the questionnaire in the school office, and if you would like to view it, you are welcome to do so.

Each questionnaire is anonymous and confidential, and no pupil will be identified when the data is returned to school. The Council's Public Health team will receive a summary of all schools results and data for use in further analysis. They will use this to help in planning and targeting resources and services.

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 in planning improved health promotion for our pupils.

As part of the survey it will be helpful if your child brings their **postcode** to school to enable statistics to be produced for areas such as wards. No individual's answers will be linked to your child's name or address. The survey will probably be carried out in the next month.

Yours faithfully,

Dawn Wilson-North (Head of PSHE)