

21 September 2023

Dear Parent or Carer,

RE: United Against Bullying programme

Driffield School and Sixth Form is taking part in the United Against Bullying anti-bullying programme provided by the Anti-Bullying Alliance (ABA). ABA is part of the National Children's Bureau (NCB) and works to reduce bullying in schools.

In order to make sure that we are doing all we can to prevent and reduce bullying and to improve student well-being, we want to find out the levels of bullying in our school and to find out how our students feel about school. For this reason, we are inviting students at our school to complete an anonymous survey in Term 1. We will then ask students to complete the questionnaire again in Term 3 to see if the changes made have had an impact.

The following information is important since it will explain about the survey and how the information gathered will be used.

Why we are writing to parents and carers

We are asking for your permission for your child to be invited to complete the student questionnaire. If you are NOT happy for your child to be invited to complete the questionnaire then please let us know by Monday 25 September.

If you give consent for your child to participate, completing the survey is still up to them. Please be reassured that you or your child choosing not to take part in the survey will not disadvantage you or your child in any way.

Why has my child been asked to take part and what will they do?

The student questionnaire has been specially designed by ABA. It has been tried and tested with students with and without Special Educational Needs aged 8 and above. It is an online survey which should take about 15 minutes to complete. The answers your child gives to the questionnaire will not be seen by their friends, teachers or you, unless your child chooses an adult to help them complete the questionnaire.

Are there downsides to taking part?

There are no known risks or disadvantages to taking part. The survey has been very carefully designed so that it will be easy for children to answer. If there are questions they don't like, they can leave these out. They will also be able to stop answering the survey questions at any time if they wish. Completing the survey should not cause them any distress. However, if they should become upset, school staff will be on hand to offer support. Information will also be provided about other sources of advice and help, e.g. talking to their family, calling ChildLine and so on.

What are the possible benefits of taking part?

The Leadership Team will receive an anonymised report of the survey findings for the whole year group that will help them review and support student well-being.

Your child's responses will help shape the approaches we use as a school when trying to prevent and tackle bullying. For example, it will help us to make sure that the school's anti-bullying policy covers all the important areas that concern children in our school. By asking these questions, students will also know we take incidents of bullying seriously as a school and that we care about our students' wellbeing.

What will happen with the information that your child gives us?

All information collected will be kept confidential and will be encrypted and carefully stored on a secure system held by ABA/NCB in accordance with the UK GDPR (Data Protection Act 2018 - "DPA" and EU Directive 2016/680 and Regulation EU/2016/679 – The General Data Protection Regulation "EU GDPR"):

Neither schools, nor the ABA/NCB will ever have access to students' individual completed questionnaires – only year group or whole year reports which contain anonymous information.

For further details of how data about your child will be collected, stored and analysed, please see the Data Protection Privacy Notice (Appendix 1 at the end of the letter).

Schools will not have access to individual completed questionnaires and whole year group reports will be sent back to them anonymously.

Some of the headline results may be shared with key people, like the school's governors and Ofsted. Again, this information is anonymised and it will not be possible to identify any individual students.

What we need parents or carers to do

We hope that you have found this information useful and that you will be happy for your child to be invited to take part in this survey. If you do not want them to take part, please let us know by Monday 25 September.

If you decide you would like your child to take part you are still free to withdraw your child from the programme at any time and without giving a reason; simply let the school know that you do not wish them to participate. If you are unsure about whether you would like your child to take part and you have some questions about the survey, you are welcome to contact me at the school.

Yours faithfully,



Mr J Hunt
Pastoral Director of Key Stage 4 and Head of Johnson House

APPENDIX 1

Data Protection Privacy Notice

(Information about the processing of student data)

The United Against Bullying programme involves the collection and analysis of data about participating students, including a 15-minute online student questionnaire. The Anti-Bullying Alliance (ABA) is part of the National Children's Bureau (NCB) - which is a registered charity, No. 258825, registered in England and Wales No. 952717, whose registered office is 23 Mentmore Terrace, Hackney, London E8 3PN, a Company Limited by Guarantee - has produced this privacy notice to provide parents of students with information about the data collected, processed and stored, for this specific purpose, and their rights in relation to it.

ABA/NCB is the organisation with responsibility for this data (the data controller) and all data will be processed in accordance with the Under the UK GDPR (Data Protection Act 2018 - "DPA" and EU Directive 2016/680 and Regulation EU/2016/679 – 'The General Data Protection Regulation "EU GDPR"): and for that purpose NCB is the data controller, registered with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) registration number: Z7988835. Please visit NCB's full Data Protection Statement at: www.ncb.org.uk/privacy-statement

The data is processed by Schnell Solutions Limited (the data processor) - a company registered in England and Wales under registration number 05879171 whose registered office address is 164 Bedford Road, Kempston, Bedford, United Kingdom, MK42 8B. Schnell Solutions Limited are registered with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), registration number ZA295565. Their privacy policy can be accessed at: www.bespokesoftwaredevelopment.com/privacy-policy

What are the purposes for processing the data?

- To help schools to understand levels of bullying and wellbeing among their students, by providing anonymised reports of survey findings.
- To help ABA understand levels of bullying and wellbeing at a national level.

How is the student questionnaire data stored, processed and handled?

The process to collect, store and handle student questionnaire data has been designed with data privacy at its core. All hardware and software components involved in the process work together to ensure data privacy and security. All data collected is solely used for the defined purpose.

What data are being processed?

The system uses two types of data about your child, which are connected together within the secure system to create a general picture about bullying and wellbeing:

1. *Child-reported surveys*: This is to understand children and young people's experiences of bullying behaviours, their wellbeing and how they feel about their school. The questions are outlined in Appendix 2.
2. *Information that schools already have about students*: names, student ID number, year group, class name, gender, free school meal eligibility, special educational needs status, Looked after Children status, English as an Additional Language, faith and ethnicity. This is to understand if bullying or wellbeing is different for different groups of students. Once inputted to the secure system, this information is encrypted and is not accessible to ABA/NCB.

To connect together the two types of data, an anonymised ID number is given to each student before they undertake the survey. The resulting survey results comprise an anonymised data set that does not include any student names.

All data analysis for the purposes stated above will be carried out using the anonymised data set.

How long will the data be processed?

- At the end of the programme, all data is permanently deleted by Schnell Solutions Limited and delivered to ABA/NCB in an anonymous format for statistical analysis.
- All information related to this survey is securely deleted from ABA/NCB's system after 5 years or when a school requests for it to be deleted.
- The anonymised data set will be kept for 5 years, after which it will be reviewed to determine whether it would be appropriate to delete it. Any analysis of the results will be kept indefinitely.

What allows the data to be processed lawfully?

We are able to process the data on the basis of consent. Consent is being sought from you as parents and carers for your child to participate in the United Against Bullying programme. Student's consent is also sought before they undertake the survey.

Who will have access to the data?

Mr Hunt, with log-in details for the school's account on the system is responsible for uploading student data. Thereafter it is encrypted.

ABA/NCB and the school have access to the anonymised data set for purposes of analysis.

What rights do I as parent or carer and my child have?

Under the UK GDPR, you and your child have certain rights that can be exercised at any time, including withdrawal of consent to participate in the United Against Bullying programme. Should you or your child make any such request this will be undertaken by the school and ABA/NCB accordingly.

Who can I contact for further information?

With regard to the right of access, if students or parents would like to learn more about the categories of data about them, or their child being processed, please contact the Anti-Bullying Alliance at aba@ncb.org.uk.