

Swindon Borough Council

Year 9

HOW ARE YOU? MAY 2021



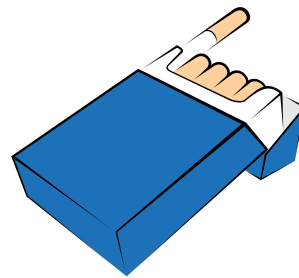
INTRODUCTION & CONTEXT

669 students from Year 9 completed the How Are You? online survey between March and May 2021. This report highlights some of the main findings from the data. There maybe other data you want to report on that has not been highlighted in this executive summary, this can be found in the full report.

WHAT'S GOING WELL?

ALMOST 96% OF PUPILS SURVEYED SAID THEY CHOOSE NOT TO SMOKE

97% OF PUPILS SURVEYED SAID THEY CHOOSE NOT TO USE E-CIGARETTES

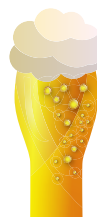


96% OF PUPILS SURVEYED SAID THEY DO NOT USE CANNABIS

88% OF PUPILS SURVEYED SAID THEY HAD NEVER EXPERIENCED PHYSICAL BULLYING AT SECONDARY SCHOOL



91% OF PUPILS SURVEYED SAID THEY HAD NEVER BEEN INVOLVED IN SEXTING AND 74% DO NOT WATCH PORNOGRAPHY



89% OF STUDENTS REPORTED THEY NEVER OR RARELY (ONCE PER MONTH OR LESS) DRINK ALCOHOL

67%

pupils surveyed report they are happy with their life

55%

pupils surveyed are happy at school

91%

pupils surveyed do not currently self-harm

69%

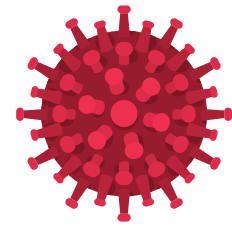
pupils surveyed agree to having healthy ways to manage difficult feelings

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Share headline data above with staff and pupils and other stakeholders.
- Use this positive data in PSHE lessons.. Positive messages about peer behaviour makes it more likely that students will continue to make good choices.
- It is not advisable for students this age to drink alcohol at all and although for the majority alcohol use is rare this is an area that should receive focus in PSHE lessons.

IMPACT OF COVID

51% OF PUPILS SURVEYED SAID THEY FELT MORE ANXIOUS OR DEPRESSED AS A RESULT OF THE PANDEMIC



57% OF PUPILS SURVEYED SAID THEY HAD FALLEN BEHIND IN CLASS WORK

24% OF PUPILS REPORTED THAT THEY HAD LIMITED ACCESS TO A COMPUTER FOR ONLINE LESSONS

46% OF PUPILS AGREE THAT THEIR ABILITY TO WORK INDEPENDENTLY HAS IMPROVED



52% OF PUPILS SAID THEY HAVE FELT ISOLATED

59% OF PUPILS SAID THEY WERE MORE WORRIED ABOUT FRIENDS AND FAMILY



THE MAJORITY OF YEAR 9 STUDENTS COMPLETING THE SURVEY APPEAR TO BE QUITE OR VERY STRESSED ACROSS A RANGE OF COVID-RELATED RESTRICTIONS. 67% REPORT FEELING RESILIENT AND 65% ARE GENERALLY HAPPY WITH MOST THINGS IN THEIR LIFE. JUST OVER 50% REPORT ENJOYING SCHOOL WHICH MAY BE RELATED TO HOME AND ONLINE LEARNING

RECOMMENDATIONS

- The data reported suggests a large proportion of students have had difficulty with the events of the past year and a key focus in the new academic year should be supporting emotional and mental health
- including strategies for coping with difficulties and helping develop greater resilience.
- Find out more about the issues experienced around not feeling happy in school.

PSHE in school

THE FOLLOWING AREAS RECEIVED GOOD RESPONSES FROM THE MAJORITY OF STUDENTS:

- INFORMATION ABOUT DRUGS
- INFORMATION ABOUT ALCOHOL
- PHYSICAL CHANGES ASSOCIATED WITH PUBERTY
- ONLINE SAFETY
- DIFFERENCE & DIVERSITY WITHIN CULTURES
- BENEFITS OF PHYSICAL HEALTH AND FITNESS



THE FOLLOWING AREAS WERE RATED LESS FAVOURABLY, BUT IT MAY BE THAT THEY HAVE YET TO BE COVERED IN THE CURRICULUM:

- PORNOGRAPHY
- BASIC FIRST AID
- CHANGES IN RELATIONSHIPS
- MANAGING STRESS & ANXIETY
- RADICALISATION & EXTREMISM
- HEALTH, CANCER & TOOTH DECAY



RECOMMENDATIONS

- Acknowledge the areas that students have asked about and explain they will be coming up
- Let pupils know that telling us about what they need from lessons enables us to make sure these areas are covered
- Focus on mental health and strategies to manage stress and anxiety in a healthy way.
- Ensure PSHE meets statutory requirements.

Safety considerations

77% OF PUPILS REPORTED THAT THEY GENERALLY FEEL SAFE IN THEIR DAILY LIFE

83% OF PUPILS SURVEYED SAID THEY FELT UNSAFE WHEN PASSING LARGE GROUPS

75% OF PUPILS SURVEYED SAID THEY FELT UNSAFE WHEN WALKING IN UNLIT AREAS



72% OF PUPILS SURVEYED SAID THEY FELT UNSAFE KNOWING OR THINKING THAT THERE ARE GANGS AROUND



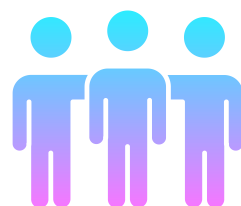
97% OF PUPILS SURVEYED SAID THEY WERE **NOT** IN A GANG

OF THOSE IN A GANG, **100%** ARE CONFIDENT THEY KNOW HOW TO LEAVE SAFELY

14% OF PUPILS REPORTED FEELING UNSAFE AT HOME

11% OF PUPILS REPORTED AVOIDING HOME IN ORDER TO FEEL SAFER

70% OF YEAR 7'S SAID THEY TRY TO ENSURE THAT THEY ARE WITH FRIENDS IN ORDER TO FEEL SAFER



42% OF THOSE SURVEYED REPORTED SHARING LOCATION SETTINGS ON THEIR MOBILE PHONE WITH FAMILY FOR SAFETY REASONS

59% REPORTED AVOIDING GOING OUT AT NIGHT IN THE INTEREST OF FEELING SAFER



RECOMMENDATIONS

- Ensure students have a realistic perception about danger and know that gang membership and weapon carrying is rare.
- Inform students about sources of help and support if they feel unsafe.

Safeguarding considerations

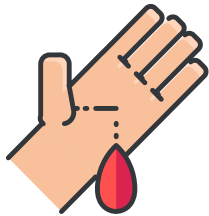
VERBAL BULLYING WAS THE MOST REPORTED TYPE OF BULLYING WITH 32% OF PUPILS SURVEYED SAYING THEY HAD EXPERIENCED THIS SOMETIMES OR OFTEN. YOU MAY WISH TO LOOK AT THE ISSUE OF 'BANTER', UNKIND/HURTFUL WORDS



85% OF PUPILS SURVEYED SAID THEY WOULD ACT IF THEY OR SOMEONE THEY KNEW WERE BEING BULLIED



69% OF PUPILS SURVEYED SAID THEY KNEW A MEMBER OF STAFF THEY COULD TURN TO FOR HELP MEANING A SIGNIFICANT MINORITY MAY NOT



SELF-HARM FIGURES ARE SIGNIFICANTLY HIGHER THAN IN PREVIOUS YEARS. 38% REPORTED THEY HAD SELF-HARMED. CURRENTLY 20% OF STUDENTS ARE SELF-HARMING, 9% ON A WEEKLY OR DAILY BASIS

58 STUDENTS (9%) REPORTED TO HAVE SHARED AN EXPLICIT PHOTO.

4% OF STUDENTS (30) REPORTED THAT THEY HAVE HAD SEX

26% OF STUDENTS (173) HAVE VIEWED PORNOGRAPHY ONLINE AND 11% REPORT WATCHING PORNOGRAPHY ON A REGULAR BASIS.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Year 9 reported data is somewhat concerning with levels of self-harm higher figures reported in previous years. Mental health generally appears to have been impacted fairly negatively and this should be a key focus in PSHE in the new academic year.

CLOSING COMMENTS:

YEAR 9 DATA PAINTS A RATHER CONCERNING PICTURE WITH EMOTIONAL/MENTAL HEALTH APPEARING TO BE FAIRLY POOR FOR A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF STUDENTS. SELF-HARM FIGURES ARE HIGHER THAN WE'VE PREVIOUSLY SEEN WHICH MAY WELL CORRELATE WITH STUDENTS FEELING UNHAPPY, ISOLATED AND STRESSED. GENERALLY OVER 70% OF STUDENTS TEND TO REPORT BEING RESILIENT BUT IN THIS GROUP IT IS 67%. ON A POSITIVE NOTE CIGARETTE AND CANNABIS USE IS LOW AND VERY FEW STUDENTS ARE IN GANGS OR CARRYING WEAPONS.



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