Evidence Based Practice Unit

A partnership of

Anna Freud UCL

Learning Together Mental Health: Evaluation

Privacy notice- what are the researchers allowed to do with information about you?

1. What is Learning Together Mental Health?

Learning Together Mental Health (LTMH) is a whole-school support programme that aims to improve feelings of school belonging, engagement and safety for pupils, as well as reduce bullying, improve mental health and help pupils to do better in school (attainment). The programme is being delivered by an organisation called Place 2 Be. The programme and the evaluation are funded by the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF). Your school may be taking part in this programme.

The LTMH evaluation is a randomised controlled trial (RCT). This means that half of the schools taking part in the evaluation will be randomly assigned by a computer programme to receive LTMH and half of the schools will be randomly assigned to continue with their usual practice.

2. Who are we?

We are a team of researchers from Anna Freud, a children's mental health charity. We are working with a team of researchers from Ipsos, University College London (UCL) and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Together we are carrying out a research trial to find out whether LTMH helps to improve pupils'

mental health and to do better in school. Anna Freud will collect and be responsible for the information we collect about you.

If you have any questions then you can ask your parents or carers, and you can contact us at:

- Professor Jessica Deighton Jessica.Deighton@annafreud.org
- Write to us: Anna Freud National Centre for Children and Families, 4-8 Rodney Street, London N1 9JH
- Our Data Protection Officer (DPO) is Rachel Hart: DPO@annafreud.org

3. What information are we collecting?

We are collecting some personal data about you. For example:

- Your name, gender, and ethnicity
- The information from the online survey that you complete
- Information about you that is collected by your school or from the National Pupil Database (a database about pupils in schools). For example, whether you have free school meals or whether you have any learning needs and how you're getting on at school.

4. Why are we collecting your personal data?

Information about you may be used for three purposes:

A. To find out whether LTMH helps to improve pupils' mental health and pupils to do better in school.
B. To help schools understand the kinds of difficulties their pupils are experiencing (a 'needs assessment'), which will help schools decide what kind of support would be helpful in your school.
C. To inform a health evaluation, which is designed to find out whether LTMH helps to improve pupils' health outcomes (e.g. levels of anxiety and depression, eating behaviours, self-harming behaviours, substance misuse and use of relevant health services).

5. Why are we allowed to collect and use your data?

For this project, the law in England allows us to use your information because doing so is thought to be of 'legitimate interest'. This is because this project will help others to understand more about how best to support young people's mental health, help them to feel like they belong in school and do better there. Where we collect or use any particularly sensitive information about you (like information about your health), we do so because this information is necessary for scientific and research purposes (as it will help people to understand more about young people's wellbeing and what sort of support young people find most useful).

6. Who we share your data with

After you complete the online survey, we will group your answers together with answers from others in your year group so that we can tell your school about the kinds of difficulties that people your age are having. This is so that they can think about what kind of support might be most helpful. For this, we will not tell your school which answers came from which pupils (it will be anonymous).

However, if completing the survey makes you feel like you need some help, you can say so by ticking a box in the online survey. If you tell us that you would like some help this way, the research team at Anna Freud will contact an adult at your school to pass on this information (including your name) so that your school can contact you and provide some help if needed.

We may also share your information with another team of researchers at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine who are helping us with this research project. We will not share you name with them nor any other information which could be used to find out who you are.

7. How long will we keep your data?

We will keep your personal data until the end of the research project, 31st December 2031, after which it will be deleted. Any data that Anna Freud, or any of the other organisations we're working with, do keep (for a maximum of 10 years for further research) will not include your name or any other information that could be used to find out who you are.

At the end of the project we will store data from/about all pupils in a 'data archive'. Research data is held here, securely, so that other, qualified researchers with special permission can use the dataset for further research. We will not include any pupil names in the archived dataset.

8. Your data rights

You have the same rights as adults when it comes to your data. Some of these include:

- Knowing what data we have about you
- The right to correct anything that's wrong
- Being able to ask us to stop using your data
- And more.

For more information about your rights please visit the ICO website: https://ico.org.uk/for-the-public/. You can also contact us using the contact details included at the bottom of this notice to ask us about your rights.

9. What to do if you no longer want to take part

If you don't want to take part in the evaluation anymore, you can contact us to tell us at any time until 31st March 2031. You don't have to tell us why you don't want to take part anymore. If you don't complete the survey at school, we will still use information about you that is collected from their school or obtained from the National Pupil Database. If you don't want this to happen, please contact us at LTMH@annafreud.org

If you choose to withdraw from the study after initially taking part, you will be withdrawn from that point forward. Any data collected up to the point of

withdrawal will remain in the study records and continue to be used unless you explicitly request for it to be deleted (known as the 'right to be forgotten').

You can ask us to delete your personal data (e.g. your answers to the survey questions). However, please note that once we have already used your personal data in our analysis or reports, which will happen at a number of phases in the evaluation, we will not be able to change or delete it.