

# Student Survey Guidance

## Overview

Conduct a survey of students to find out about their experiences of sexism in school. The resulting evidence base will support your school to develop effective policies and initiatives to tackle sexism.

## Purpose of the survey

- Find out if students are experiencing sexual harassment, sexist language and gender stereotyping at school.
- Learn what students think should be done to address sexism.
- Build an evidence base to support school initiatives that effectively tackle sexism.

## Age group:

Secondary

## Materials required:

- Briefing for supervisors (appendix 1)
- Copies of survey

The survey is designed to be printed and completed by hand. However, if you have appropriate IT software you may choose to upload the questions and conduct it as an online survey.

## Key principles

### Student participation in the survey should be:

- *Supervised:* Run 'survey sessions' supervised by a member of staff, who is on hand to introduce the survey and answer questions from students. This session could be during form time or at the beginning/end of a lesson.
- *Anonymous:* Support students to freely share their views and experiences by making participation in the survey anonymous.
- *Informed:* At the beginning of a survey session, explain to students what the survey is about, that participation is anonymous, how the results will be used and who they can speak to if they want to discuss issues raised by the survey.

## Instructions

1. Decide whether the whole school, or particular cohorts, will take part in the survey and when/where the survey sessions will take place.
2. Brief the members of staff who will be supervising survey sessions. A template written briefing for supervisors is provided in appendix 1.
3. Photocopy the survey and distribute copies to staff coordinating survey sessions.
4. Run the student survey sessions. (Allow approximately 15 minutes for students to complete the survey.)
5. Collate and review the survey results.
6. Identify what action will be taken in response to the survey results.

## Appendix 1

# Briefing for supervisors

This briefing is for members of staff who are supervising sessions for students to complete the survey on sexism.

### About the survey:

This survey is designed to find out about students' views and experiences of sexism at school. This includes experiences such as sexual harassment, gender stereotyping and sexist language. The school is running this survey in order to build an evidence base to inform policies and practices that effectively tackle sexism.

### Time involved:

- 5 minutes to introduce the survey
- 15-20 minutes for students to complete the survey

### Resources you will need:

- Printed copies of survey
- Pens

## How to run a survey session

### Before the session:

- Confirm when and where the survey session will take place.
- Obtain copies of the survey for students.

### During the session:

- Give each student a copy of the survey.
- Introduce the survey to students. A suggested script is provided below:
  - *We are currently surveying students about their views and experiences of sexism at school. You will now get the opportunity to take part in that survey.*
  - *We want to hear about your views on this issue so we can take any action needed to address it.*
  - *The survey is anonymous. You do not need to write your name on it.*
  - *You will have 15 minutes to complete the survey. Please complete your survey quietly on your own. Once you have finished the survey <tell students what they should do with their completed survey>.*
  - *If there are any issues raised by the survey that you would like to discuss with a member of staff, please speak to me after this session.*
  - *Does anyone have any questions about the survey before we begin?*

### After the session:

- Respond to any questions or requests from students regarding the survey or issues raised by it.
- Return the completed surveys to the member of staff coordinating the survey.