



26 January 2008

Dear Parent / Carer

### **HEALTH RELATED BEHAVIOUR SURVEYS - STUDENTS IN Y8 AND Y10**

Our school, along with several others in the authority, has agreed to participate in a very important Health Behaviour Survey among young people. The survey is a joint project from Education Services and the Public Health Division of the Primary Care Trust, and we stand to benefit substantially through our participation in the survey.

The survey method that we are using has been developed by the Schools Health Education Unit, based in Exeter, and has been in use for over 20 years. Over 2500 schools have used the survey, many of them repeating the process on a regular basis. The questions concern a wide range of health behaviours, for example:

**Home and Family**

**Nutrition**

**Drugs**

**Relationships**

**Leisure and Money**

**Exercise**

From the results our Public Health professionals will gain a reliable database upon which it can objectively plan health care provision for young people. Links between schools and the Primary Care Trust can be strengthened.

Both the Public Health Department and the school, including representatives from the governing body and parents, find the content of the questionnaire acceptable. Each questionnaire is **anonymous and confidential**, and no pupil will be identified when the figures are returned to the school. The Primary Care Trust and Wakefield County Council will receive the total summary of all schools in which individual schools are not identified.

As part of the survey it will be helpful if students would bring the following information:

- **Their height and weight;**
- **Their postcode** (only part of this will be used; your house will not be identified).

The survey will be carried out on-line in ICT lessons during week commencing 9<sup>th</sup> February 2009.

I hope you will agree that your child can participate. I will assume you do unless I hear otherwise.

We hold a copy of the questionnaire in the school office and if you would like to examine it, you are welcome to do so by appointment.

Yours faithfully

**MIKE TARR**  
**DIRECTOR OF STUDENT SERVICES**

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