

November 2021

Dear Headteacher,

I am writing, first, to thank you and your staff for the commitment and leadership you have shown during the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite the immense pressures placed on our city's schools, you have continued to educate and inspire our young people whilst ensuring their continued safety throughout this time.

We know that COVID-19 has had a disproportionate impact on London's young people, and we must do all we can to protect their futures. Today, I am asking for your continued support to achieve this key priority.

As part of the current Police and Crime Plan, I, as Mayor of London, have committed to keeping children and young people safe by tackling the crimes that cause the most harm to them. You may know that last year I published an [Action Plan to improve trust and confidence in the Metropolitan Police Service \(MPS\)](#) and to address community concerns about the disproportionality in the use of certain police powers affecting Black Londoners.

I am committed to ensuring that the British model of policing by consent allows for the voices of young people to be heard and reflected in the work we do. To help achieve this, the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) is launching the new **Youth Survey 2021** across London and we are asking for your support with this project.

What are we aiming to do?

The survey aims to gather the views of young people aged 11 to 16 (school year groups 7 to 11) in relation to a wide range of crime and safety issues, including:

- Personal safety
- Crime victimisation
- Perceptions of the police
- Serious youth violence
- Online activity and safeguarding

Survey responses will be used to drive important improvements in the way that the police and other criminal justice agencies work with and deliver services to young people. The survey will give young people the chance to shape policies and campaigns we develop, and to inform local policing priorities and youth engagement strategies.

We ask for your support...

We would be very grateful for your assistance in helping us to hear from as many young Londoners as possible, to enable us to make real differences to the lives of young people.

The survey is hosted online and will be open until **21 January 2022**. A link to the survey is included below, which can be copied and pasted into a web browser:

www.londonvoice.org.uk/WeAreLondon

Also attached is a Microsoft Word version of the survey for you to view the questions in advance.

We would appreciate support from you and the teachers at your school to enable students to complete the survey online.

This might include:

1. Allowing time in suitable lessons (such as IT or Citizenship) for pupils to complete it.
2. Setting the survey as homework – the survey can be completed on a smartphone, tablet or computer.
3. Encouraging participation through school communications.

The survey should take around 20 minutes to complete. Participation is entirely voluntary. Please ensure that your school's local policies for consent are followed before taking part. All responses will be anonymous, confidential and will not be attributable to any individual or school. Throughout the survey, there are links to relevant support agencies as a safeguarding measure for any young people that have concerns around the topics raised.

In return, we will be happy to provide you with summary slides upon completion of the study to allow you to share and discuss the results with young people at your school. If you would like to receive this slide pack, please email evidenceandinsight@mopac.london.gov.uk with the subject 'Youth Survey Slide Pack Request' before 30 July 2022.


The previous wave of this survey was conducted in 2018 and received nearly 8,000 responses from young people in London. Results from this survey can be found at: https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/youth_voice_survey_report_2018_final.pdf. The results from the 2018 survey were used extensively by MOPAC, the MPS and other agencies. This included helping to assess the effectiveness of the London Needs You Alive campaign, part of a strategy to reduce serious youth violence in the capital.

This year we are hoping to hear from even more young people and hope that you will help facilitate their voices being heard.

If you have any questions regarding the Youth Survey 2021, please feel free to contact Dr. Emily Gilbert (emily.gilbert@mopac.london.gov.uk) or email evidenceandinsight@mopac.london.gov.uk.

Thank you very much for your support in this very important piece of work.

Yours sincerely,



Sadiq Khan
Mayor of London