

STEER Tracking to Support 16+ Transition, Attendance and Retention

Learner Information Sheet

Programme Description

Your sixth form is taking part in a research study, run by STEER Education, and evaluated by IFF Research. The study aims to find out whether STEER Tracking, an online wellbeing and development platform, can support your learning, relationships and wellbeing throughout your first year of sixth form. We are inviting everyone in your year group to participate in the study to help us understand your experiences of the STEER Tracking platform.

What does the STEER Tracking programme involve?

Each term, in September, January and May, you and your peers will log into the STEER Wellbeing and Development Platform to complete the STEER wellbeing assessment. You'll do it in your pastoral tutor lesson, and it will take about 10 minutes. The questions are carefully written to make sure they don't ask you anything that could make you feel uncomfortable. After each assessment both you and your pastoral tutor will get feedback, so you can work together to support your learning, relationships and mental health.

What does the programme evaluation involve?

IFF Research will be evaluating the STEER Tracking programme to understand how well it is working and whether anything could be improved. If you take part, you will be asked to complete a short survey at two timepoints and, in some cases, join an optional small group discussion about your experiences of STEER. The evaluation will also use existing school or college information such as attendance records. All of your data will be kept anonymous and confidential. Taking part is voluntary and choosing not to take part will not affect your education or usual support in any way.

How will your data be processed and stored?

STEER Education and IFF Research will keep your data safe and private, following data protection law.

STEER Education will collect personal information for the purposes of delivering the programme. At the end of the programme, your STEER assessment responses will be fully anonymised so that they cannot be linked back to you. Some anonymous data will be shared with IFF Research for analysis to help STEER understand how schools and colleges can support young people better.

IFF Research will not be collecting any personal data to evaluate the programme. Your responses will be completely anonymous, and when the report is published, no individuals, schools or colleges will be named.

Privacy notices explaining how your data will be protected, the legal basis for data being collected and processed, are available here:

[Learner Survey Privacy Notice](#)

[Learner Mini Group Privacy Notice](#)

The privacy notice sets out how your data will be protected at all stages of the research; who will have access to your personal data; how your data will be used, stored and deleted; what your rights are according to GDPR; and who you can contact with a question or complaint. Throughout the research, your data will only be held on secure servers, and whenever your data is transferred, it will be done so using secure and encrypted transfer methods.

What do I need to do to participate?

You don't have to do anything at all. In September, you and everyone else in your pastoral tutor group will complete the first STEER Tracking assessment and receive your feedback.

If you don't want to take part in STEER Tracking, you can withdraw by telling your pastoral tutor that you do not want to participate, and by not completing the termly assessments. You can't take part in the evaluation if you're not taking part in STEER Tracking.

If you want to take part in STEER Tracking, but don't want to participate in the evaluation, you can tell your pastoral tutor that you do not want to take part in the evaluation and not complete the evaluation surveys. Your tutor will remove your data from the anonymised data that is shared with IFF, or STEER can do this at the tutor's request.

Right to withdraw

If you choose to take part and then change your mind, you can withdraw from the study without having to give a reason. Withdrawing from the study will not make a difference to your education or usual support. You can do this by choosing not to complete any further evaluation activities. However, due to the survey being anonymous, it will not be possible to remove any existing data as the evaluators are unable to identify and remove an individual's data.

We do hope, however, that you are happy to participate, given the potential that the research has to inform us about how STEER's online platform can support you.

Do you have further questions?

For any questions about the STEER Programme, please ask your pastoral tutor.

For any questions about the evaluation activities, you can email the IFF Research evaluation team at STEER_pilot_evaluation@iffresearch.com.