

Participant Information Sheet

For pupils attending schools participating in the evaluation of the SAFE (Support, Attend, Fulfil, Exceed) Taskforces programme

Project Title

Evaluation of SAFE (Support, Attend, Fulfil, Exceed) Taskforces programme

Ref: 22019

Purpose of this document

This document is designed for pupils attending schools that are participating in the SAFE Taskforces programme. It provides some information about the evaluation of the SAFE Taskforces programme.

What is the SAFE Taskforces programme?

The SAFE Taskforce is a programme led by local schools. SAFE Taskforces are being funded to *support* children and young people and enable them to *attend* school regularly so they can *fulfil* their potential by inspiring them to *exceed* their expectations.

The Taskforce will fund and coordinate interventions to help:

- Improve socio-emotional regulation and wellbeing
- Improve attendance
- Improve behaviour within the school and local area
- Reduce vulnerability to serious violence

Who is conducting the evaluation?

RAND Europe (a not-for-profit research institute), the University of Westminster, and FFT Education Datalab (a non-profit company specialising in education research) have been provided with funding by the Youth Endowment Fund (a charity established by the children's charity Impetus and funded by the Home Office whose mission is to help all children and young people thrive) to evaluate the SAFE Taskforces programme (being run by the Department for Education).

What is the evaluation going to do?

The evaluation team will explore:

- The impact that the SAFE Taskforces programme has on a number of pupil outcomes (the 'impact' evaluation)
- How the SAFE Taskforces are implemented and the experiences of those involved in it (the 'process' evaluation)
- The costs of running the SAFE Taskforces (the 'cost' evaluation)

This document will tell you more about the impact evaluation as this is what your data will be used for.

How will I be involved?

As part of your involvement in the SAFE programme evaluation, you will be invited by your school to participate in one or more interventions (more information about what these will involve will be provided by your school). The evaluation team will then look at the outcomes of pupils like you who participate in interventions by the SAFE Taskforces compared to other pupils who do not receive interventions. This will help us understand if and how the SAFE Taskforces programme makes a positive impact on pupils.

We will find out about these outcomes through gathering some of your data from your school and using data held by the government.

You can find out more about how we will collect, use, and safely store your data from the accompanying privacy notice.

Do I need to take part?

No. It is voluntary for you to be a part of the evaluation. If you would prefer to not take part, please complete the attached withdrawal form. If you are under 13, your parent / legal guardian will complete this on your behalf. If your data has already been collected prior to a submission of a withdrawal form, then the RAND Europe team will delete your data and will not use it in the evaluation. **Withdrawing from the data collection will have no negative consequences to you. You will still be able to participate in the programme even if your data is not used in the evaluation.** If you do not wish to receive support from this programme at all, please speak to your school leaders directly to inform them of this.

What's the YEF archive?

The Youth Endowment Fund (YEF) aim to prevent children and young people becoming involved in violence by finding out ‘what works’ and putting this knowledge into practice. They were established by the children’s charity Impetus and funded by the Home Office. The YEF is funding this evaluation.

As part of their work, the YEF hold a data archive (a place where the data on all their work is stored). The data collected throughout the project will be securely transferred into their archive. You can find more information about the YEF archive on the YEF’s website:

<https://res.cloudinary.com/yef/images/v1625734531/cdn/YEF-Data-Guidance-Participants/YEF-Data-Guidance-Participants.pdf>

At the end of the project, the YEF will become the sole controllers of that data. This means that they will be the only party responsible for ensuring your data continues to stay protected, including making sure that it is stored and shared securely. Before the data goes into the YEF archive, the Department for Education will take out names and other personal details like addresses. This means that anyone who looks at the information in the YEF archive will not know who it relates to. In the future, people can ask to use the YEF archive to do more studies to find out whether this project has helped young people. Only researchers who are approved by the YEF will be able to look at the archive.

More information about how this relates to your data can be found in the accompanying privacy notice.

Any questions?

If you have any questions, please email the RAND Europe team and the evaluation manager, Dr Lydia Lymeris: safeevaluation@randeurope.org.