

Research with students

Information for young people participating in an interview

Your school or college is taking part in the Inspiring Futures programme, which partners schools and colleges with charities to provide students with mental health and wellbeing support, academic tutoring, skills development, and guidance and experience for post-16 pathways. We are sending you this information because you have been participating in a programme which is part of Inspiring Futures.

NFER is doing research on Inspiring Futures to explore how well it is working, what difference it is making for pupils, and what could be done to make the programme better next year. We will visit your school/college as part of our evaluation of the Inspiring Futures programme. We would like to talk to you during our visit. It's really important that we get the views of young people. This is a chance for you to share your opinions and experiences.

This information sheet tells you about what will happen so you can decide if you are happy to participate in an individual or group interview.

Who will be visiting?

The team researcher (Katherine Aston) will spend some time at your school/college speaking to teachers and students. She works for the [National Foundation for Educational Research](#) (NFER). Her job involves speaking to people and writing reports about what they say.



What will I be asked to do?

The adult at your school/college who invited you will say whether we would like to talk to you on your own (20 minutes), with one other student (20 minutes) or in a group (40 minutes). If you are being interviewed on your own, you can ask for an adult you trust (e.g. parent or teacher) to be with you.

We will ask you about:

- your experience of the programme you have taken part in
- what difference it has made for you
- what could be done to make the programme better for future years

We would like to audio record the interview. If you agree, we will use the recording to make a written record after the visit and then delete that recording.

The only reason we will share what you tell us with anyone outside of the research team is if you say something that makes us think you or another young person might be unsafe or at risk of harm. If this happens, we have to let your school or college know.

What will we do with what you tell us?

The information we collect from everyone we speak to will be used to tell The Rigby Foundation and participating schools, college and charities how Inspiring Futures has worked this year, what difference it has made for young people, and how to make the programme better for future years.

We might include some of the things you say in our report, but we **won't use your name** in the report, and nothing we write will show who you are or which school or college you attend.

It is important to us that we keep your information safe and secure. If you want to know more about how we will use and look after your information you can ask us when we visit. You can also find more information in our Privacy Notice for Students on our [project webpage](#).

What are the benefits and risks of taking part?

By taking part you will be helping us to:

- find out how Inspiring Futures has worked, and what difference it has made
- understand what can be learned for future years, which may benefit other pupils

You do not have to share any information you do not want to, and you can ask us to skip any questions you do not want to answer.

Do I have to take part?

If you are under 16, your parent or carer will be asked if they are happy for us to speak to you, before you take part.

It is then up to you to decide if you are happy to take part. (You do not have to take part even if your parent or carer says you can.)

If you do say yes, you can choose not to answer any of the questions we ask. You can also stop talking to us at any time and return to your lesson.

What if I still have questions?

If you have any questions you can ask us yourself when we visit, or you can ask your teacher to speak with us before we visit and let you know the answer.

Thank you for reading this. We look forward to visiting your school or college.