

# Parental Information Sheet: Evaluation of DARE 25

The Youth Endowment Fund (YEF) has funded Life Skills Education (LSE) to deliver the DARE25 programme to 80 schools in Spring term 2020/1. The programme is being evaluated by Sheffield Hallam University (SHU). This sheet explains what this means for your child, and how you can withdraw your child from the evaluation.

## What is DARE25?

- DARE 25 is a programme designed to help young people take safer and healthier choices and reduce offending behaviours including hate, knife, drug and alcohol related crime
- Year 6 pupils will participate in ten one-hour lessons delivered by a trained DARE officer
- The lessons will take place in the child's regular classroom. The class teacher and classroom assistants will be present, although the session is led by the DARE officer
- The lessons will involve role play, age-related scenarios, group skills sessions, discussion groups, reading and writing exercises and other interactive methods
- A more detailed outline of the programme can be found here:  
<https://lifeskills-education.co.uk/resources/the-dare-primary-programme/>
- ***DARE25 is part of your school's Year 6 curriculum, if you have any questions or concerns about this please contact your child's school directly:***

**Please contact LSE for any further information on DARE25 delivery:**

[enquiries@lifeskills-education.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@lifeskills-education.co.uk) / 0300 111 3273

## The DARE 25 evaluation

The Youth Endowment Foundation (YEF) have commissioned a team at SHU led by Eleanor Formby (principal investigator) and Ben Willis (co-principal investigator and project manager) to independently evaluate the DARE 25 programme. The evaluation uses an approach known as a randomised controlled trial. Schools will be randomly entered into either the treatment group, which will receive the DARE 25 programme during Spring 2020/21, or the control group, which will not receive DARE 25 during 2020/21 and will operate on a 'business-as-usual' basis during that time. Schools in the control group will receive the DARE 25 programme during 2021/22.

The evaluation has two parts: a process evaluation and an impact evaluation.

The **process evaluation** is focussed on understanding how the DARE 25 programme is delivered within schools and analysing programme data collected by LSE. LSE will share anonymised pupil/teacher DARE25 feedback forms (designed and administered by LSE) along with attendance data for all treatment group schools but not control group schools. In addition, up to 10 treatment schools taking part in the programme during Spring 2020/21 will be selected for remote 'school visits' involving:

- a telephone interview with a Y6 class teacher
- a telephone interview or online focus group with a senior leader and/or other key staff member within school
- an online focus group with Y6 pupils

Should your child's school be selected as a case study, you will receive a further information sheet and be provided with the opportunity to withdraw your child of any the activities taking place. This will not affect their involvement in receiving any DARE25 inputs.

The **impact evaluation** will involve participating pupils undertaking a quick in-class assessment at both the start and end of the programme. This will take the form of an online test for pupils which should take around 20 minutes to complete. Pupils must complete the assessment again in class at the end of the ten week delivery period. Our aim is to learn whether participation in DARE 25 is associated with improved scores on the assessment.

All schools (treatment and control) must complete the pupil assessments during November 2020 and March 2021. The purpose of this is comparing the scores of pupils who took part in the DARE 25 provision and those who did not. Schools in the control group receive the DARE programme in 2021/22, but do not repeat the pupil assessment.

Schools must provide the name, UPN, and date of birth for each participating pupil. This data will be used to match responses from the first and second pupil assessments to facilitate the necessary comparisons. YEF are also interested in the long-term effects of the DARE 25 programme. After the evaluation is finished, the pupil data will be sent to the Department for Education, where all personal details will be deleted. It will then be stored in pseudonymised form in the YEF data archive to support future research into the relationship between participating in DARE 25, educational attainment and criminal records. No pupils will be identifiable in the data retained; all personal data will be deleted.

The evaluation is not an assessment of individual pupils, staff or schools but is about understanding how the DARE 25 programme works overall. The evaluation report will be published on the YEF website and the findings may also be disseminated at educational research conferences and in academic or professional journals. No individual pupils, staff or schools will be named in reporting.

**Data protection: Confidentiality and right to withdraw**

Personal data will be kept securely on a password protected University folder accessible only to members of the evaluation team. The SHU evaluation team will comply with General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR legal basis: public task Article 6 (1e)) and the SHU Data Protection Policy Statement. Please refer to the link for more information:

<https://www.shu.ac.uk/about-this-website/privacy-policy/privacy-notice/privacy-notice-for-research>

After the evaluation is finished (in 2022), the pupil data collected (name, UPN, DOB) will be sent to the Department for Education (at which point SIOE cease to be responsible for the data), where it will be stored in pseudonymised form to allow future research into the relationship between participating in DARE 25, educational attainment and criminal records. All personal data will be deleted at this stage. No pupils will be individually identifiable in the data archived. For more detail please see: [https://youthendowmentfund.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/YEF Data Guidance Participants Nov2020.pdf](https://youthendowmentfund.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/YEF_Data_Guidance_Participants_Nov2020.pdf)

**You should contact the Data Protection Officer if:**

- you have a query about how your data is used by the University
- you would like to report a data security breach (e.g. if you think your personal data has been lost or disclosed inappropriately)
- you would like to complain about how the University has used your personal data [DPO@shu.ac.uk](mailto:DPO@shu.ac.uk)

**You should contact the Head of Research Ethics (Professor Ann Macaskill) if:**

- you have concerns with how the research was undertaken or how you were treated  
[a.macaskill@shu.ac.uk](mailto:a.macaskill@shu.ac.uk)

**Postal address: Sheffield Hallam University, Howard Street, Sheffield S1 1WBT / 0114 225 5555**

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If you DO NOT want your child to take part in the impact evaluation, please return this slip to the school and none of their details will be shared with the evaluation team and they will not be asked to complete the baseline or follow up assessment.

PUPIL NAME \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

\* In the event it is not possible to physically return this slip to school please email or call your child's teacher notifying them that you wish to withdraw your child.