

11th September 2023

SLI/2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

NHS England has commissioned the **Smoking, Drinking and Drug Use (SDD) Survey**, to find out about young people's attitudes to smoking, drinking and drug taking amongst young people. This survey has been running since 1982 and it **is one of the most important national surveys** of young people.

At Dartford Science and Technology College we would like to support the opportunity for our students to express their views and also for the school to receive £150 towards their PSHE budget.

The survey is the main source of information for government departments, local authorities and charities on the prevalence of smoking, vaping, drinking and drug use among young people and is **essential in informing health and education policy**. The results will provide vital information to better understand the issues young people are facing and contribute to the development of curriculum content.

Your child will be asked to take part in an online survey at school in exam conditions. The survey will take around 20-30 minutes to complete on **Wednesday 20th September during their ICE lessons**.

Ipsos will store the information that your child provides securely, all responses are **confidential** and only shared with authorised individuals.

- Your child will **not** be required to provide their name or any other personal identifiable information.
- The survey will be completely **anonymous**. A teacher will be present in the classroom during the survey activities, to supervise the session, but has been asked not to view student responses.

If you would like to withdraw your child from taking part in this study, please contact the school as soon as possible.

If you have any further queries or questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Lindars (Stuart.lindars@DSTC.kent.sch.uk).

Yours faithfully,

Stuart Lindars