

## Kids' Life and Times Survey 2026 – Giving Children a Voice

February 2026

Dear Parent/Guardian

We are writing to tell you about the exciting study being carried out by the two main universities in Northern Ireland in 2026 and to ask permission for your child to be involved. **Kids' Life and Times (KLT) is an annual online survey of all P7 pupils in Northern Ireland.** The survey provides P7 children with an opportunity to share their opinions on important topics. This year's survey includes questions on school, integration, social media and wellbeing. The purpose of the survey is to feedback the views of children to the government and other agencies that decide on things that affect children. In 2023, the Mental Health Champion Northern Ireland included figures from the KLT survey to report on children's wellbeing, while the Department of Education routinely use the figures from the survey to monitor children's attitudes towards Shared Education.

**Names are not required on the questionnaire so no individual child can be identified.** We take the protection and confidentiality of personal and sensitive data very seriously and will ensure that all processing is done in accordance with the UK General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Data Protection Act 2018. The KLT privacy notice is available at [www.ark.ac.uk/klt/pn26.pdf](http://www.ark.ac.uk/klt/pn26.pdf). Ethical approval for the survey is obtained from Ulster University's Research Ethics Committee.

The survey is completed in school and takes about 20 minutes. **If you DO NOT want your child to participate, please fill in the form below and return it to your child's teacher.** If you are happy for your child to participate in the survey, then you do not have to do anything. However, your child will be asked for their consent at the start of the survey, and **they will not have to complete the questionnaire if they don't want to.** If you have any questions, please contact KLT Director, Dr Erin Early, via email ([e.early@ulster.ac.uk](mailto:e.early@ulster.ac.uk)). Alternatively, you can contact us via telephone on **028 9097 5970** or **028 9536 7759**. You might also like to look at previous survey findings on our website at [www.ark.ac.uk/klt](http://www.ark.ac.uk/klt)

Yours sincerely,



**Dr Erin Early**  
Lecturer in Social Policy & KLT Director  
Ulster University



**Dr Paula Devine**  
ARK Co-Director  
Queen's University Belfast



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### Kids' Life and Times Survey 2026 opt-out form

**I DO NOT want my child to take part in the survey.**

Child's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of parent/guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_