



## Kids' Life and Times Survey 2026 – Information for teachers

### ***What is the Kids' Life and Times survey***

Kids' Life and Times (KLT) is an annual survey of **all P7 children in Northern Ireland (NI)** covering what they think about school and other issues important to their lives. The survey consists of an online questionnaire lasting about 20 minutes and is completed by the children in school. The overall purpose of the survey is to inform relevant organisations of the views of children and to give children a voice on issues that affect them. This is one of the few ways that children's voices can be heard by such agencies, so we hope you will consent to your P7s taking part. This year's survey includes questions on school, integration, social media and wellbeing.

The children can do the survey on **computers or tablets** – whichever is most convenient for your school. The survey will be available online from **Monday 2 March 2026** until **Friday 17 April 2026** at [www.ark.ac.uk/klt](http://www.ark.ac.uk/klt).

### ***How is the information used?***

The results from previous KLT surveys have been used in policy reports such as '*Advancing Shared Education*' (Department of Education) and in '*Factors affecting mental health and wellbeing in children and young people in Northern Ireland*' (Mental Health Champion NI). Many schools also use the results to inform their pastoral care programmes. The key findings from previous surveys are available on our website at [www.ark.ac.uk/klt](http://www.ark.ac.uk/klt).

Before consenting to your pupils' participation, you can view the content of the 2026 survey on [www.ark.ac.uk/klt/teachers](http://www.ark.ac.uk/klt/teachers).

Participating schools can request a report of the views of their P7 children. This can be helpful for pastoral care programmes. If you would like a report for your school, please email Assistant Survey Manager, Dr Jonny Hanson on [j.hanson@qub.ac.uk](mailto:j.hanson@qub.ac.uk). There is both an interesting and an educational dimension to the survey and we hope the children will enjoy giving their views on issues that affect their lives. We will ensure that anonymity is guaranteed and that the information will not be used in any way that would identify a school, a child or a family.

**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.

### ***Consent***

Please give each child in the class an opt-out form to take home to their parent/guardian. If their parent/guardian **does not** want them to participate, please ask them to return the form to you as soon as possible (the forms do not need to be sent back to us). You can also email the opt-out form; it is available at [www.ark.ac.uk/klt/teachers](http://www.ark.ac.uk/klt/teachers). Please ensure that any child whose parent/guardian returns the opt-out form does not take part in the survey. At the start of the questionnaire, the child will also be asked if they want to take part – **the children do not have to take part if they do not want to.**

**For information on how to take part in the survey, please turn over.**

## How the children take part in the survey

- Go to the Kids' Life and Times survey website at [www.ark.ac.uk/klt](http://www.ark.ac.uk/klt)
- Click on 'Survey'

Your School Number for accessing the questionnaire is the School's KLT Logon ID.

Please give each child in the class this number.

### ***Completing the questionnaire***

There are no right or wrong answers and, whilst we state this in the introduction to the questionnaire, it would be helpful if you could reiterate this in your class.

### ***Troubleshooting***

If anything goes wrong, a short 'Troubleshooting' document is available on the Kids' Life and Times website at [www.ark.ac.uk/klt/teachers](http://www.ark.ac.uk/klt/teachers)

### ***How to contact us***

If you have any queries about the survey, please contact KLT Director, Dr Erin Early ([e.early@ulster.ac.uk](mailto:e.early@ulster.ac.uk)) or Assistant Survey Manager, Dr Jonny Hanson ([j.hanson@qub.ac.uk](mailto:j.hanson@qub.ac.uk)). You can also contact us via telephone on **028 9097 5970 or 028 9536 7759**. If no-one is available to take your call, please leave a message and one of the team will call you back as soon as possible.

Thank you very much for your school's participation in the survey.

Yours sincerely



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**Dr Paula Devine**  
ARK Co-Director  
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