

2024 Student Attitudes to School Survey (AtoSS)

Dear Parent / Caregiver / Guardian

This letter is to inform you about the 2024 Student Attitudes to School Survey (AtoSS), which will be administered to all government school students in Years 4 to 12.

About the survey

The AtoSS is a voluntary annual student survey offered by the Department of Education (DE) to assist schools and the DE to gain an understanding of students' perceptions and experience of school. We value student voice to improve student engagement, wellbeing and quality instruction and will be asking your child about their thoughts and feelings in relation to their school, their learning, peer relationships, resilience, bullying, health and wellbeing, physical activity, and life in general. The survey responses help the DE and your school understand how student's learning experiences can be improved.

- **The survey will be conducted at your school from 13th May until 14th June.**
- Your child will be invited to complete the survey online during class time.
- Student participation in the survey is voluntary and students may withdraw at any time.
- The survey will take around 20-45 minutes to complete.

Students may skip questions or withdraw at any stage if the survey makes them upset or uncomfortable. A teacher will be present during the survey to support students.

How is your child's confidentiality protected?

ORIMA Research will only use student personal information for research purposes to administer and collect data in the AtoSS. To ensure the confidentiality of your child's responses, personally identifiable data is not recorded. All information collected about your child will be handled in accordance with the *Privacy Data and Protection Act 2014* (Vic), the *Health Records Act 2001* (Vic) and the *Public Records Act 1973* (Vic), as well as the DE [Schools' Privacy Policy](#).

Options for participation

Participation in this survey is **voluntary**. If you **do not** wish for your child to do the survey, please opt out by emailing your school at bairnsdale.sc@education.vic.gov.au, or phoning your school on 5150 4800 before the survey commences on 22nd May. If you opt your child out of participating, your school will ensure that your child is not provided with access to the survey. Student details will be deleted by ORIMA Research at the conclusion of the survey.

If your school does not receive a Refusal of Consent email before the survey commencement date, this will be taken as your consent for your child to participate in the 2024 AtoSS. However, the survey is voluntary and even with your consent, your child can choose to skip questions or withdraw at any time.

Further information about this survey, including the questions your child will be asked to answer, please visit the DE's [survey information page](#). If you would like more information, please contact Bairnsdale Secondary College on 5150 4800, or contact the DE at school.surveys@education.vic.gov.au.

Yours sincerely,
Department of Education, Victoria