



Woy Woy South Public School

RESPECT - RESPONSIBILITY - RELATIONSHIPS

The School Mall

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February 2015

Dear Parents and Carers

This term, our school is taking part in the *Tell Them From Me* student survey. The survey will provide us with valuable feedback on what our students think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the *Tell Them From Me* survey to help them improve. The survey is completed on-line and is run by an independent research company, **The Learning Bar**, which specialises in school-based surveys.

Staff in schools will **not** be able to identify individual students from their responses. To ensure confidentiality, participating students will receive a unique username and password. Where fewer than five students respond to a question, the results will be suppressed. The survey typically takes less than 35 minutes to complete and will be administered by the school during normal school hours. Once the surveys are completed by students, reports are prepared and in most cases are available to schools within three business days.

As well as schools getting student feedback, the Department of Education and Communities, through the Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation (CESE), will have access to data from across the State and will run a research project to look at state-wide patterns of student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices. The research will look at how these things impact on student outcomes, including academic performance. Individual students and schools will **not** be identified in any CESE publications, and all information will be handled in accordance with the relevant privacy legislation. Students' personal information will not be disclosed by the Department to any other person or body other than as required by law.

This research will help schools in New South Wales to better understand how to improve student wellbeing and engagement. It will also help teachers and principals discuss what works to improve student outcomes.

Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary. Your child will not take part if either you or your child do not wish to. If, during the survey, your child is uncomfortable answering any question, he/she should leave it blank and move on to the next one. Your child can stop the survey at any time.

If you **do not want your child to take part** in the survey, please complete the attached form and return it to your child's school by **Friday 27 February**.

More information about the survey and the research is available on the CESE website: <http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents>

Kim Whealey
Principal
Woy Woy South Public School

Dr Jenny Donovan
General Manager
Centre for Education
Statistics and Evaluation



Only return if you DO NOT want your child to participate!

Tell Them From Me Student Feedback Survey

If you **do not want** your child to participate in the student feedback survey, please sign this form and return it to your school **by Friday 27 February 2015**.

I (*print name*) **DO NOT** give consent
for my child/children (*print name/s*)
of class/esto participate in the ***Tell Them From Me***
student feedback survey.

Signed..... **Date**.....