

BRIEFING	TO:	Health and Wellbeing Board
	DATE:	Wednesday 26 th November 2025
	LEAD OFFICER	Lorna Quinn, Public Health Intelligence Principal
	TITLE:	Rotherham School survey
Background		
1.1	In 2025, all 16 secondary schools in Rotherham participated in the survey along with 1 pupil referral unit, and students who are elective home educated.	
1.2	The survey was open to all Students in Year 7 (ages 11 to 12) and Year 10 (ages 14 to 15) at secondary schools, pupil referral units, and those who are elective home educated.	
1.3	Following consultation with young people, in 2024, several questions were made optional enabling young people to opt out if they feel the question is not relevant to them.	
1.4	Where possible, the survey analyses trend data from previous surveys (including 2017, 2018, 2019, 2022, 2023 and 2024 – please note the survey was not undertaken in 2020 and 2021). However, response rates differ due to questions being optional and as such, it is not possible to assess trends for all questions.	
1.5	To prevent any misinterpretation of findings, the report notes the findings as both a proportion of total respondents to a question, and as a proportion of total number of children in the year.	
1.6	Inequalities have been considered throughout the report with each topic area reviewing data differences with gender, ethnicity, age, and health condition.	
1.7	Findings from this report should be viewed alongside wider population data for the 0-25 population available on the Rotherham Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.	
Key Issues		
2.1	A report has been attached alongside this and the presentation delivered alongside this paper will consider the topics of mental health and wellbeing, health behaviours, and protective factors.	
2.2	Areas that highlight an overall positive trend include a decrease in alcohol consumption, a decrease in regular smoking, a decrease in ‘poor’ physical health, and a decrease in students who do not eat breakfast.	
2.3	Areas that highlight an overall worsening trend include an increase of year 10’s regularly vaping, a decrease of oral health quantified by brushing more than once per day, an increase in poor mental health, and an increase in bullying.	
Key Actions and Relevant Timelines		

3.1	The survey is conducted each year and analysis conducted September-November.
3.2	The survey will move to the new consultation software in 2026.
3.3	Findings will be shared at Health and Wellbeing Board alongside other strategic meetings and with partners.
Implications for Health Inequalities	
4.1	This report considers findings across a range of characteristics including age (year 7 and year 10), ethnicity, gender, and whether people are living with a health condition.
Recommendations	
5.1	To note the findings of the School Survey Report for 2025.