



4 January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

STEER Tracking

This term we are introducing a wellbeing assessment and tracking tool called **STEER Tracking**. STEER have an innovative approach based on psychologically based, creative questions that students are asked via an online platform once a term.

Why are we introducing STEER Tracking?

It's not always easy for us to know which students need our help as they don't or can't always tell us, even though we ask. Sometimes we only know something is wrong when we see a change in their behaviour or a dip in their learning; we think that's too late. We want to know which students need our help, as early as possible, even if their needs are hidden or masked, and what we can do to help. STEER Tracking will enable us to give the right pupil, the right support, at the right time.

United Learning are seeking to improve pupil mental health in schools, and colleagues have met with a range of providers who offer data-driven interventions; of those they have been most impressed with STEER. To see if this has the potential to help our young people, United Learning are trialling STEER in some schools from January to July 2024 and our school is one of those schools. We will see if it benefits our students and supports staff to help the young people even more than they already do.

What does the assessment involve?

We will be asking all students to complete the short, simple, and safe STEER online assessment three times this academic year. The assessment tracks how each pupil is *steering* or making choices in 4 areas important for healthy development:

1. [Self-Disclosure](#): I can choose when to share my thoughts and feelings or keep them private.
2. [Trust of Self](#): I can choose to trust or question what I think or do.
3. [Trust of Others](#): I can choose to trust or question what others think or do.
4. [Seeking Change](#): I can choose to change things or keep them as they are.

Some students need a little extra help to make the right choice at the right time; they can get a bit stuck. This can have an impact on their academic progress, friendships, wellbeing, and mental health. Knowing who these students are, early enough, means we can give targeted signposts to help them *steer* their choices better.

How can parents help?

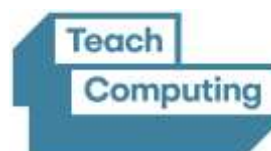
As a school, we've had training to help us interpret the assessment data and support our students. Though we won't be expecting parents to make sense of the data, teachers will share insights with you so we can work

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together to proactively guide and signpost your child when they need it. We know that when we work together, it has a positive impact on our students' academic progress and wellbeing. If you have any questions, please contact me at ameader@newsteadwood.co.uk.

How can you find out more?

We'd be delighted if you wanted to find out more about STEER Tracking. There are three ways you can do this:

1. Take a look at the [STEER website](#).
2. Click on the links above to watch a short video about each STEER factor.
3. Come and talk to us!

Pupils will be completing their first STEER Tracking assessment during January 2024, having watched a [short introductory animation](#). You are very welcome to watch it too.

Kind regards,



Mrs A Meader
Mental Health / Steer Lead