

Writing about Values Project



Benefits of participation

- Past research conducted in North America indicates that the intervention **significantly raises pupils' attainment**
- The results of the research will contribute to our **understanding of what works** in raising pupils' attainment and will be **widely disseminated** to schools in England.
- **£1000 honorarium** for schools that complete the whole trial
- Become an **Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) Research Partner School** (including regular newsletter updates on the latest EEF projects and evidence, and access to EEF networking and knowledge events)



Participation timeline

1. **Final study sign up** - participating schools asked to provide background data for all Y10 & Y11 pupils & distribute parent information letters by **30th of June**
2. **Briefing** for teachers at the start of the 2016/2017 academic year + baseline survey & writing exercises delivered to the school
3. **Baseline survey** completed by all Y10 & Y11 pupils (1-2 days after the teacher briefing)
4. **1st intervention** delivered as an in-class activity (7 days after the baseline survey)
5. **2nd intervention** delivered as an in-class activity (just before Dec/Jan mock GCSEs)
6. **3rd intervention** delivered as an in-class activity (just before May GCSE exams)
7. **Follow-up survey** completed by all Y10 & Y11 pupils (after May GCSE exams)



Background data June 2016



Schools asked to ...

- **Provide a list of all Y10 + Y11 pupil names, unique pupil numbers (UPNs) & pupil background data**
 - Easy access: All information can be found on your *School Information Management System (SIMS)*.
 - We use the UPNs to access pupil's grades and background information through National Pupil Database.
 - All data will remain strictly confidential and stored securely
- **Pass on information about the project to pupils' parents/carers**
 - Parents can opt out of the study by completing the opt-out slip and returning it to the school
- **All expectations clearly outlined in advance in our Memorandum of Understanding**





Teacher briefing Start of 2016 academic year



- Conducted **at your school**
- Held between **5th-16th September 2016**
- Single **1-2 hour session** for Y10 and Y11 teachers
- Provides support to teachers to help deliver the intervention
 - Requires some small initial time investment in the project to ensure the intervention runs smoothly & enhances the chances of a successful outcome
 - At a time that suits teachers' timetables
 - No further preparation is involved
- Briefing:
 - Background information about the study
 - Procedure of the intervention
 - Example script with FAQs by pupils + answers





Baseline + Follow-up survey Start & end of 2016 academic year

- The surveys measure the impact of the intervention on the way pupils feel about school and includes questions about pupils' own school work and sense of fitting in at school.
- Conducted within form time or any other classes (decided by the school)
- 15 minutes to complete
- Support:
 - Surveys will be delivered and collected by a designated contact person
 - Surveys will be labelled with pupil names and easy to distribute
- The baseline survey should be conducted **within 1-2 days** of teacher briefing
- The follow-up survey will be conducted after the GCSE exams are over

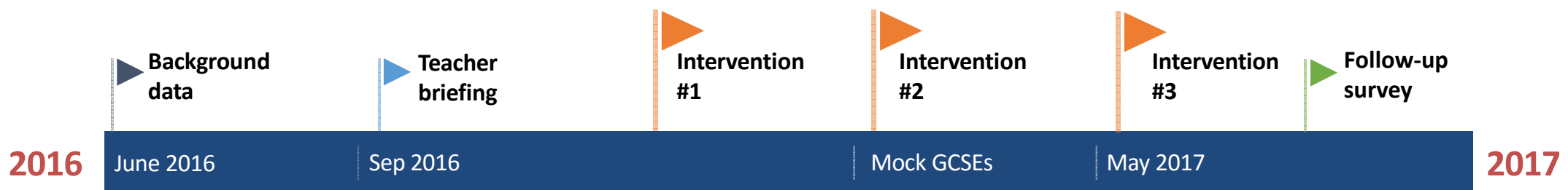




Interventions Sept 2016 - May 2017



- Distributed by teachers as writing tasks
 - Designed as an in-class writing activity
 - Pupils are asked to write reflectively about values
 - No more than 20 minutes to complete
 - Teachers will receive a suggested script to introduce the task and to answer common questions from pupils
- The interventions are scheduled to take three times across the academic year:
 - Beginning of the 2016 academic year - first week of September
 - Before mock GCSEs (Y11) / school tests (Y10) – Dec/Jan
 - Before GCSEs (Y11) / school tests (Y10) - May



Get in touch or sign up:

Contact us:

Dr. Matthew Easterbrook

Dr. Marlon Nieuwenhuis

Ms. Kerry Fox

Prof. Peter Harris

Prof. Robin Banerjee

Email: writingaboutvalues@sussex.ac.uk

Phone: 01273 876561 (Marlon Nieuwenhuis; Kerry Fox)

Website: www.sussex.ac.uk/psychology/writingaboutvalues