1st March 2019

Dear parents

Re: Information about POET Survey

I have been made aware this morning about the POET survey that has been sent to some parents from Essex County Council. There were concerns that this is a scam, partly because the phone number looked suspect. I have been in contact with ECC and have been assured that this is genuine. They have sent the following statement to be shared with parents:

A letter was sent by Essex County Council on 28 February to families in Essex with an invitation to take part in the POET survey. This survey is a national survey which gathers views on SEND support and how effective the support is for children and families. The purpose of the survey is to plan and improve the service that we deliver to you.

The survey is provided by InControl. The survey is completed online and is anonymous; no personal information is gathered as part of this survey. The responses to the survey are collated by InControl and the summary of the findings are shared with Essex County Council, giving us invaluable feedback as to the impact of SEND support across the County. We are also given information about how Essex compares to other regions and with the national picture.

No personal data has been shared with InControl.

We apologise that an incorrect number was printed on the top of the letter and for any concern that this has raised amongst parents who received the letter. The email contact details and the page on the Essex Local Offer are correct.

http://www.essexlocaloffer.org.uk/listing/poet-personal-outcomes-evaluation-tool/

The parents'/child’s names have been gathered from the school census, a statutory data collection that happens 3 times per year and is shared with the Local Authority and the DfE for the purposes of managing provision. ‘SEN Support’ may have been recorded by your child’s school for a variety of different reasons throughout their school life.

Information on how we use your data can be found at https://www.essex.gov.uk/privacy-notices/education/Pages/Education.aspx

The survey is optional for families who wish to give feedback on their experience and their child’s support. If you do not feel it is relevant to your child then please disregard it.

If you have any further concerns please contact Helen Wall at helen.wall@essex.gov.uk

Yours sincerely

Natalie Hawkes

Head of School
Newlands Spring Primary School Academy Trust
Dickens Place
Chelmsford
CM1 4UU

Tel: 01245 442031

Company Number: 8132067