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THE SCHOOL
HEALTH RESEARCH
NETWORK

The School Health Research Network (SHRN)

The SHRN School Environment Questionnaire (SEQ) Fact Sheet



Overview

This information sheet provides information about The [SHRN](#) School Environment Questionnaire (SEQ). It contains information about what the SEQ is, its benefits for schools and wider stakeholders.



Introduction

The SEQ is completed by a member of the School Leadership Team (SLT) every two years at the same time as The SHRN Student Health and Well-being (SHW) Survey is administered to learners.

Used in combination with the biennial SHW survey it creates a unique comprehensive dataset to explore links between school policies and practices (e.g. school leadership; school ethos; school environment; curriculum learning; family and community engagement) and learner health and well-being outcomes.

Both the SHW and the SEQ survey have been identified as key data sources that support schools in embedding a [Whole-school Approach to Emotional and Mental Well-being](#).



The benefits for schools who complete the SEQ

SEQ data enables schools to:

- **Assess the health and well-being of their learners** in the context of their own school policies and practices.
- **Strategic Planning:** SEQ data helps schools align their health and well-being strategies with learner needs and national priorities.
- **Benchmarking:** Schools can compare their results with national averages, helping to contextualise their performance and identify best practices.
- **Utilise SHRN data for school inspections.** SHW and SEQ data are both recommended sources of key data for [Estyn](#) inspections.



The wider national and regional benefits of utilising data

Wider SEQ Data benefits include:

- **Supports and informs national policies including the whole-school approach.** The SHRN, Welsh Government and Public Health Wales partnership ensures that SHRN data collection includes content to support current policy and practice needs. Most recently these included the Whole-School Approach to Emotional and Mental well-being; Community Focused Schools; Children's Rights; and Period Proud Wales.

SEQ data enables the measurement of school-level progress, with data identified as a key source for the Welsh Government curriculum reform. SHRN has worked with Public Health Wales to provide National Quality Assurance data for The Welsh Network of Health and well-being Promoting Schools (WNHWPS).

- **Facilitates the monitoring of school policy implementation and identifying innovative practice.** The SHRN collection of data on school-level policies and practices enables monitoring of how national policy is implemented, the investigation of school effects on learner outcomes and identification of innovative practice at the school level that can be refined, evaluated, and rolled out across Wales.

Examples of previously published work include relationships between school smoking policies and learner smoking, vaping and cannabis use; effects of school composition and culture on learner health outcomes; and individual and school-level predictors of physical (in)activity. To view our webinars, click [here](#).

- **Provides a platform to better understand primary to secondary school transition.** Since 2025 SHRN has achieved 100% population coverage in secondary schools and has successfully expanded into primary schools. This data provides actionable insights into the effects of school transition on learner outcomes and support policies to improve attainment and well-being outcomes.



The SEQ data collection timeline for schools

The SEQ is completed by a member of the School Leadership Team (SLT) every two years at the same time as The SHRN Student Health and Well-being Survey is administered to learners.

Data collection for the 2025 SEQ will take place for registered secondary schools between 15 September and 19 December. The SHRN SEQ reports will be released during the summer term of 2026.

Primary School data collection scheduled for the autumn term of 2026



Additional Resources

Read our [Report Findings for the SHRN School Environment Questionnaire \(SEQ\) in Secondary Schools 2023.](#)

Read our [SHRN National Reports web page.](#)

Read our [success stories and school case studies.](#)

For any further queries please contact the SHRN team: shrn@cardiff.ac.uk.