

Date: 26 May 2022

### **RE: SAFE programme and collection of exclusions data**

Dear Headteacher,

I hope you are well.

You will have already received a copy of the [letter from the Secretary of State for Education](#) requesting that schools and the Local Authority work together to identify and support pupils at increased risk due to persistent absence, suspension, or permanent exclusion from school.

You will see that the letter makes specific mention of the Support, Attend, Fulfil and Exceed (SAFE) programme in the 22 areas most affected by serious youth violence. As you know, the SAFE programme will look to deliver targeted interventions to reduce truancy, improve behaviours, and reduce the risk of individuals failing to enter education, employment, or training (NEET). One of the objectives is to keep young people engaged with their education and avoid them becoming involved in county lines, criminal activity or serious youth violence or child sexual exploitation. It is also hoped that the early identification of those pupils at risk of suspension and permanent exclusion will lead to timely and relevant intervention aimed at preventing school exclusion and increasing time engaged in learning and raising attainment. Haringey is one of the 22 areas identified in the programme.

#### **LA strategies and ongoing work**

The SAFE programme complements ongoing work within the Local Authority on tackling youth violence, including our very important work as part of the **Young People at Risk Strategy Group**. These streams of work also link in with our recent **BAME Achievement Conference** and our recent **Exclusions Learning** events which highlighted an ongoing need to address the disproportionality in the number of exclusions in the borough.

We continue to strive to provide a system that is responsive to the needs of our young people, our families, and our schools with early intervention being a key element in influencing the trajectory of a young person so that it is as positive as it can be, and needs are understood and met at the earliest opportunity. Without your support and your help, we cannot achieve this, and we are grateful for all that you do to support our young people and your collaboration with us.

#### **Collection of data and Square Bells – please enable connection**

To ensure children and all schools can access the range of support services on offer, the Secretary of State is asking for exclusion and suspension data to be shared with the Local Authority on a **real-time** basis regardless of length and without delay. To this end, we have commissioned Square Bell to enhance our method of collecting exclusions and suspensions data, reducing the paperwork burden for both schools and LA Officers. The system that has been developed is live (**real-time**) and connects with your Management Information Systems (MIS).

You will already be familiar with Square Bells who work closely with [Chi Tsang](#) in the LA in collecting data for analysis. Square Bells offers secure custom solutions for data storage which are built around data integrity but allow for flexible reporting and we are confident that their systems are robust and will meet the need for this data collection in a secure and confidential way.

A significant number of schools in Haringey have already enabled their connection but there are some that have yet to do so. Please can I ask that you arrange for your School Business Manager or other appropriate member of staff to access the links below if they have not already completed the link.

- Via GroupCall Xporter on Demand (XoD)  
[manage.groupcall.com/OAuth/XodAuthorize?partnerId=squarebell.com](https://manage.groupcall.com/OAuth/XodAuthorize?partnerId=squarebell.com)
- Via Assembly Education  
[www.squarebell.com/AssemblyExc/authStart.php](https://www.squarebell.com/AssemblyExc/authStart.php)  
(The invite code you need on the first registration screen is letsassemble2018)

Using one of these links will allow Square Bell a view (read-only) of your exclusion data. It will also allow us to see a nil return for schools who haven't had any exclusions and means that we won't have to ask you this question periodically to ensure our records are current.

Links to the Square Bell data protection policy and details specifically relating to the exclusions project are set out below:

- [www.squarebell.com/data-protection](https://www.squarebell.com/data-protection)
- [www.squarebell.com/terms-smis-la-collections](https://www.squarebell.com/terms-smis-la-collections)

If there are any technical questions related to the data collection connection, then please do contact [Chris Mullarkey](#) at Square Bell who can be reached on 0115 7141234. The LA contact for this project is [Samantha Hunte](#) (Alternative Provision and Exclusions Co-ordinator), however, I am also happy to answer any queries you may have regarding the above information.

Could I ask that you aim to enable your connection before the half term break, by **close of play on Friday 27 May**.

I am very grateful for your continued support and co-operation.

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