

Survey data to support your SEF

Whether or not you use the Ofsted toolkit to map your SEF precisely with the new Framework (and here's a [thought piece](#) firmly in favour), surveys can be a great source of evidence for many areas of self evaluation.

It is particularly relevant to "Leadership and governance" because of the new Framework's high expectations for leaders to be collaborative in how they lead self improvement in their schools. Surveying can be a powerful tool in building this culture, as set out in this [previous post](#).

Below we highlight some of these areas where survey data may be valuable in assessing your progress in different areas of school life, and identify questions you may want to ask your various stakeholders.

Where survey data can support your SEF

This table highlights our suggestions, including pointers for deeper exploration.

Area	Suggested types of survey data to use (where relevant)	Suggested survey questions to provide evidence	Further relevant templates or topics of note
Leadership & governance	Staff	Staff: % have confidence in decisions made by the SLT; % agree leaders listen and respond to staff concerns	Staff: Communication & Leadership
Safeguarding	Staff, Pupils	Staff: % correctly identify procedure (A pupil discloses something to you; who do you tell?) Pupils: % feel safe at school; % have an adult they can talk to at school	Staff: Vision & Policies Check Pupils: Safeguarding Survey
Inclusion	Staff, Pupils, Parents	Staff: % agree leaders enable staff to support	Pupils: Belonging & Community Survey

		all pupils; % believe pupils are safe; % agree school deals effectively with bullying Parents	Parents: SEND Support Questionnaire
Curriculum & teaching	Pupils		Pupils: topic specific surveys - e.g. Reading Review
Achievement	-		
Attendance & behaviour	Staff, Pupils	Staff: measure of minutes lost (weekly pulse)	Staff: Behaviour Barometer Pupils: Attitudes Survey
Personal development & wellbeing Early years	Staff, Pupils, Parents		

Using survey data - practical considerations

If you are the leader tasked with pulling SEF data together, here are a few points that may be useful to note:

- Benchmarks: School Surveys are particularly powerful because of the Teacher Tapp data that underpins our staff questions. Your survey results are automatically compared with results from staff working in schools like yours, matching phase and FSM quartile, allowing you to see how you compare.
- Personalising to your context: you can also use the platform to write your own questions, helping you dig into or track issues specific to your situation. Data can again be tracked over time (although won't be benchmarked); many leaders like to use a mix of the types of questions to get a blended picture.
- Accessing the data: when your survey closes you are automatically able to look at your PDF report and get the CSV data file. In addition, you can view your data online, allowing you to adjust parameters as needed.

Further ideas and support

There are lots of other posts that you may find useful here in the School Surveys blog, including [boosting parent responses](#), support with [survey planning](#) and [different Trust approaches](#).

If you are an existing member of School Surveys, remember that you can always email or phone us or [book a call](#) if you'd like any help.

If you aren't yet a member and are interested to find out more, please book a demo [here](#), or get in touch via hello@schools-surveys.com.