

YSGOL BRYN ALYN

CHURCH STREET, GWERSYLLT, WREXHAM, LL11 4HD

Tel: (01978) 720700 Fax: (01978) 752889

Website: www.ysgolbrynalyn.co.uk

e-mail: mailbox@ysgolbrynalyn.wrexham.sch.uk



Headteacher: Adele Slinn, B.A. (Hons.) NPQSL, NPQH.

Dear Parent/Guardian

Collection and Recording of Data on Pupils' National Identity and Ethnic Background

All schools are asked to collate data regarding the national identity and ethnic background of pupils, therefore, I have attached a form for you to complete. Please read the descriptions of "national identity" and "ethnic background" then tick the appropriate boxes on the form. Forms should be returned to the school office.

We are committed to ensuring that pupils from all ethnic backgrounds enjoy equal opportunities to fulfil their potential in every aspect of school life. The information we are requesting now will help us to achieve that, therefore, we hope you will feel able to provide this information and fill in the enclosed form. These details will increase the level of knowledge we have about our pupils and the communities we serve. It will also help us to plan and meet individual pupil's learning needs and assist us in ensuring that the curriculum meets the specific needs of individuals and groups of pupils.

The Information Commissioner has advised that pupils aged 12-15 are generally considered capable of deciding their own national identity and ethnic background. It is recommended that this decision be made with the support and knowledge of the parent or person with parental responsibility. Pupils aged 16 and over are recommended to make their own decision.

The information you provide will also be used to compile statistics on the school careers, experiences and achievements of pupils from different ethnic backgrounds. The statistics will help to highlight any areas in which pupils from particular ethnic backgrounds may not enjoy the opportunity to fulfil their potential. It will then be possible to address these areas. The statistics will also help to highlight good practice, so that it can be identified and shared between schools and Local Education Authorities throughout Wales.

These statistics will not allow individual children to be identified publicly and the information will only be used for statistical and research purposes. This information will be passed to the Local Education Authority and the Welsh Assembly Government to contribute to local and national statistics. Where possible, information about your child's national identity and ethnic background will be passed on to any other school in Wales to which your child transfers, to save you being asked for it again.

If you do not wish to provide your child's national identity and/or ethnic background information, please tick the appropriate box or boxes on the form.

If you do not return the form, this will not in itself amount to refusal to provide the information. If you have not returned the completed form within four weeks, the school will use its best judgement to assess the ethnic background of your child, noting that the information has been arrived at in this way, rather than provided by you. The school will let you know this decision and you can ask to have the information altered or removed if you wish. The school will not, however, assess your child's national identity.

Please note that you can ask to check your child's information at any time, and if you wish you may have the national identity and/or ethnic background information changed or removed.

Thank you very much for your assistance.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Slinn Headteacher

