

13/06/2024

Dear Parent / Carer,

We are writing from the UCL Centre for Holocaust Education. It is compulsory on the National Curriculum that young people learn about the Holocaust when they are in Key Stage 3 (school Years 7-9). The Centre provides free training courses for teachers to help with their teaching of the Holocaust. The courses are informed by research we do with teachers and students.

In 2016, we did a study looking at what students know and understand about the Holocaust. As this study is over eight years old, we are doing the survey again to see how knowledge has changed in recent years. Your child's school has kindly agreed to take part in the survey. This letter outlines key information and gives you the opportunity to request your child does not take part.

### Purpose of the survey

- Learning about the Holocaust is part of the National Curriculum for history, although schools sometimes cover it in other subjects, such as religious studies and citizenship.
- The findings from this research will be used to support teaching and learning about the Holocaust. It will help the Centre to develop training courses for teachers.

### Methods

- The survey has been approved by the university's ethics committee.
- Only students who have learned about the Holocaust in school will do the survey.
- The survey will be like a quiz; it is not an exam. Students will not get into any trouble if they skip questions or give incorrect answers.
- Students can decline to take part in the survey.
- **As a parent/carer, you can also choose for your child not to complete the survey – please see the form attached.**
- Researchers are not visiting the school. Instead, teachers will oversee the survey.
- Where possible, surveys will be completed online but some schools are doing paper versions instead.

### Confidentiality

- Students will **not** be asked for their name in the survey.
- We are using a secure platform for the online surveys called REDCap. It follows data protection laws and does not use or share survey responses with others.
- Survey responses will be kept on secure databases at University College London (UCL) and only the researchers have access to them.
- If students express something in the survey that suggests that they or someone else is at risk from harm, the researchers will inform the school – this includes instances of antisemitism or Islamophobia. The survey is being completed anonymously, so we cannot identify individual students from the survey. But, where appropriate, the teacher can discuss any concerns on a class-wide or school-wide basis.
- Please read the **data protection privacy notice** below.

## Research reports

- Teachers at your child's school will receive a summary of the findings. We will also write a report for students. The answers given by individual students will not be shared with the school.
- Other publicly accessible research reports will be produced. They will be summaries of findings for all the schools that participate across England. Individual students, teachers and schools will never be named.
- If you would like further information about the survey, please email the Centre's research team: [CHE.research@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:CHE.research@ucl.ac.uk) or Miss Arnold: [aarnold@trafalgarschool.org.uk](mailto:aarnold@trafalgarschool.org.uk)

If for any reason you do not want your child to do the research, please complete the form attached and return it to Miss Arnold by **Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July**. **If the teacher doesn't receive this form**, then we will assume it is OK for your child to complete the survey.

Many thanks for your time,

*The Research Team at UCL Centre for Holocaust Education*

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## Data Protection Privacy Notice

Please read this Privacy Notice carefully – it describes why and how we collect and use personal data and provides information about your rights. It supplements wider UCL privacy notice(s) (see: <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/legal-services/privacy>) and the UCL General Research Participant Privacy Notice (see: <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/legal-services/privacy/ucl-general-research-participant-privacy-notice>). The data controller for this project will be University College London (UCL). The UCL Data Protection Office provides oversight of UCL activities involving the processing of personal data and can be contacted at [data-protection@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:data-protection@ucl.ac.uk).

This project is registered under reference **No Z6364106/2023/11/87** social research, in line with UCL's Data Protection Policy.

The legal basis that would be used to process your child's personal data will be the performance of a task in the public interest. The legal basis used to process special category personal data will be research purposes.

As mentioned above, we are **not** asking for your child's name. But we may collect, use, store and transfer anonymised 'Special category' data about your child. This includes a survey question asking about their **ethnic group** (for monitoring purposes, to ensure we have a representative sample). And a question asking their **religion** where relevant (to see if religion is related to engagement with learning about the Holocaust). Students can skip these questions if they prefer.

For research purposes, anonymised details about ethnicity and religion will be processed and stored in a secure database, only accessible to UCL staff, for at least 10 years. We will endeavour to minimise the processing of personal data wherever possible.

You have certain rights under data protection legislation in relation to the personal information that we hold about you. These rights apply only in particular circumstances and are subject to certain exemptions such as public interest (for example the prevention of crime). They include:

- The right to access your personal information;
- The right to rectification of your personal information;
- The right to erasure of your personal data;
- The right to restrict or object to the processing of your personal data;
- The right to object to the use of your data for direct marketing purposes;
- The right to data portability;
- Where the justification for processing is based on your consent, the right to withdraw such consent at any time; and
- The right to complain to the Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO) about the use of your personal data.

If you are concerned about how your personal data is being processed, or if you would like to contact us about your rights, please contact UCL in the first instance at [data-protection@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:data-protection@ucl.ac.uk). If you remain unsatisfied, you may wish to contact the ICO. Contact details, and further details of data subject rights, are available on the ICO website at: <https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/data-protection-reform/overview-of-the-gdpr/individuals-rights/>



### Student survey about Holocaust knowledge and understanding

#### RESEARCH OPT-OUT FORM

Please complete this form and return it to your child’s teacher if you **don’t** want your child to complete the Holocaust knowledge survey.

I **do not** want my child to take part in the UCL Holocaust knowledge survey.

Name of child. . . . .

Parent/Guardian name . . . . . Date . . . . .