

OMNI Survey 2022 – Information Sheet

Thank you for your interest in taking the OMNI survey!

In 2019, we launched the OMNI movement. Over 2,500 Queen's students were open and honest with us about what was impacting their mental health. We used this knowledge to lobby the University and NI Executive, and since then:

- hundreds of thousands of pounds have been invested into student mental health
- new partnerships with mental health services have been formed
- new mental health University-led campaigns have been launched, and
- existing mental health services at Queen's have been reviewed and improved

Now, in 2022, our students have gone through an incredibly challenging few years due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We want to get an understanding of how you and your mental health have been impacted. So, we're again asking you to share your experiences with us so that we can continue to change things at Queen's for the better.

Q: Who is running this survey?

This survey is being run by Queens' Students' Union, in conjunction with the Queen's Faculties, and with guidance from experts in wellbeing, academia, and the charity sector.

Q: Why am I being asked to participate?

A: This survey is open to all Queen's students. We would like to find out more about your experiences of key aspects of student life such as financial, academic, and social pressures. We would also like to explore your access to, and knowledge of, support available. Your answers will inform future approaches and the delivery of campaigns to address mental health concerns among the student population.

Q: Do I have to participate?

A: The decision is entirely voluntary. You do not have to take part unless you wish to do so. You may also change your mind and exit the survey at any time. None of your responses will be recorded if the web page is closed before completion.

Q: What will it involve?

A: You will be asked to complete an online survey asking questions about you, your life as a student, some general mental health questions, and your knowledge of university services. The questionnaire should take no more than approximately 15-20 minutes to complete.

Q: What are the advantages and disadvantages of taking part?

A: The main advantage of taking part is that your responses, combined with other students', will help provide a deeper understanding of student mental health at Queen's. The findings will be used to help us understand what needs to be improved so we can try to achieve this through a variety of approaches (for example: through programme improvements, investment in new practices, and lobbying).

In terms of disadvantages, there is some time commitment, although it is a short, one-off survey. However, we also recognise that mental health can be a sensitive topic. We are aware that there is potential for participants to find some questions distressing or feel uncomfortable. We would like to emphasise that you do not have to take part and you can also exit the survey at any time before completion. If you experience distress at any stage, please reach out using the support lines listed in the subsequent pages.

Q: Will my answers remain confidential?

A: Yes, all the information you provide is confidential. We do not collect any information that will identify you (personal data). Please be assured that your answers are completely anonymous. We do not collect your name or email address, so you will not be personally identifiable in any reports or other outputs produced as a result of this research.

Please note: as all data collected is anonymised, you will not be able to withdraw your data following the completion of the survey. You can, however, close the survey at any point before the end and your answers will not be recorded.

Q: What will happen to the results?

A: The results of this survey will be used to write a report summarising the findings. The results will support both Queen's Students' Union and Queen's University to better support student mental health. As explained earlier, all data will be anonymised, and you will not be identified in any publications that arise from this study.

Q: What if I have a query about this project?

A: If you wish to clarify any aspect of this project, please email c.murphy@qub.ac.uk or su.president@qub.ac.uk

Q: What if I have a complaint about this project?

A: Please contact the Director of the Students' Union, Ciaran Higgins: c.higgins@qub.ac.uk