



Appendix E

Instructions for staff:

The Physical Environment

Equipment required:

- Map of the school: showing all areas labelled, e.g. include outside space, bike sheds, toilets, corridors, stairs, hall, resourced provision, SEN base, etc.
- Coloured highlighter pens: red, yellow, green.

The Social Environment:

Explain the task carefully to the pupil so that they understand that some social encounters can be positive but others may cause anxiety. Check they understand the rating scales and how to complete them.

The Learning Environment:

When the pupil has rated their subjects, choose one that has been rated as a 5 and one that has been rated as a 1 or 2. How the pupil describes what makes their experiences different for these two subjects can be used to explore their personal constructs and give some insights into triggers for anxiety.

Example: What makes maths a good lesson for you, and worries you about science?

Laddering Activity (example statements)	
Score 1 or 2	Score 4 or 5
Science	Maths
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have to get into groups or find a partner to work with • The teacher sometimes changes his mind and takes us out of the classroom to find things • The lab smells. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We sit at our tables • I have a set place at the side of the class • People do not talk or mess about • The teacher does not shout

Working in class

Explain to the students that different lessons involve different ways of writing and some we find more comfortable than others. Ask them to think about these ways of working and rate them using the 1-5 scale.



EMOTIONALLY BASED SCHOOL AVOIDANCE GUIDANCE

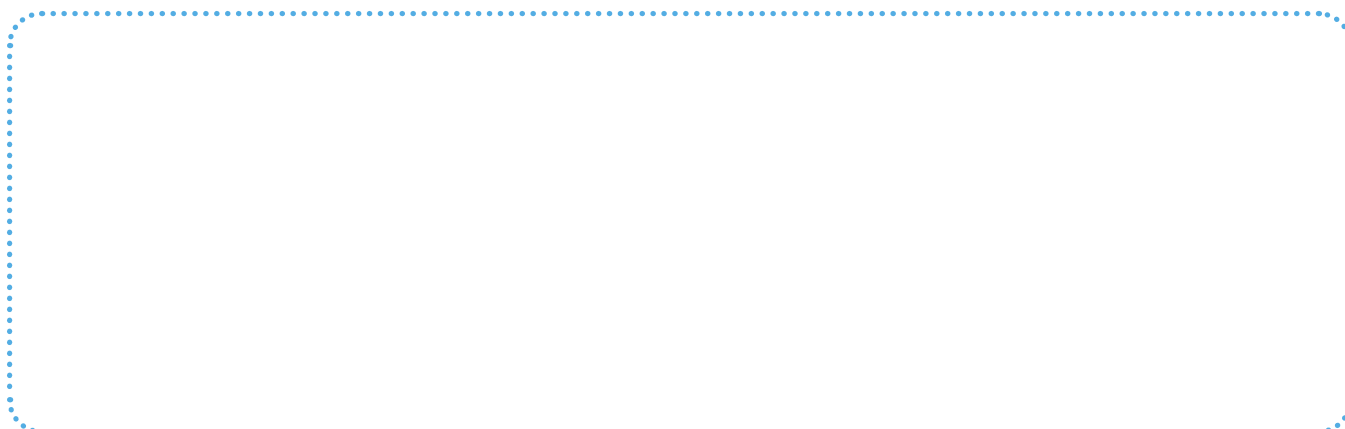
SECONDARY

Student version

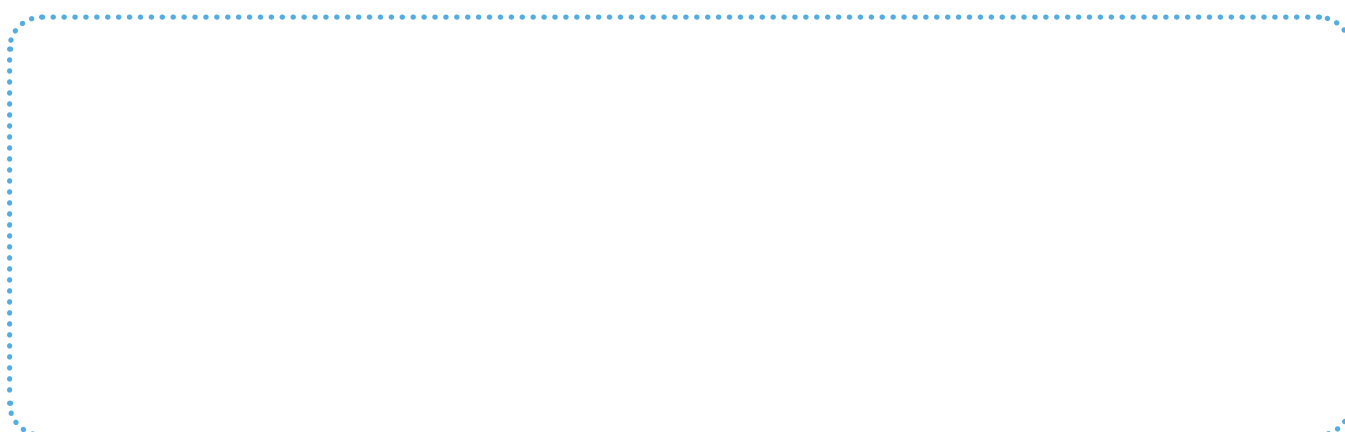
Mapping the Landscape of Your School

1. The Physical Environment

- Look carefully at the map of your school
- Use the highlighter pens to mark how the areas on the map make you feel.
 Green = I feel calm and relaxed in this space
 Yellow = I feel anxious/uncomfortable in this space
 Red = I would like to avoid this space as it makes me very anxious
- For the areas that you have coloured red, are there any circumstances, e.g. time of day, which make you feel more safe?



- What might the school do to help you feel safer in your 'red' areas?



Thank you for colouring the map.



2. The Social Environment

During the school day we are expected to work with and talk to both adults and other students. Sometimes these social situations can be pleasant but at other times they may cause us anxiety. Some social situations are described below. Mark on the rating scale to show how you feel about them, e.g.



1 Greeting other students in the tutor group in the morning.	
2 Walking down corridors at less changeover time.	
3 Lining up to go into the classroom before a lesson.	
4 In class, if there is no teacher in the room.	
5 Waiting to go into the canteen for lunch.	
6 Buying food in the canteen.	
7 Sitting in the canteen	
8 Break times when I have to go out with the other students	
9 Changing for PE	
10 Taking part in PE, games	
11 Talking to subject teachers	
12 Talking to support staff/ staff in RP	





Working in class continued



13 Getting to school and home from school:

Walk



Bus



Taxi



14 Talking to other students in my tutor group



15 Talking to classmates



For the situations that you find most difficult – please write down what would make them easier for you.

What could make a difference....

Situation

Idea

-
-
-
-
-





3. The Learning Environment

Subject Preferences

Many different subjects are taught in school and some we find easier and more interesting than others. Rate the subjects on the list on a scale of 1 – 5.



e.g. If you really enjoy maths ...

List of subjects	Rating
Maths	5

My subject ratings are

Subject	Rating	Subject	Rating
Science		Art	
ICT		DT	
Reading		Geography	
PE/Games		French	
Drama		Spanish	
Topic work		Other language	
RE		Dance	
Maths		Music	





Classes involve different ways of working and some we will find more comfortable than others. Use the 5 point rating scale to indicate how you feel about different things that happen in classes.

	1	2	3	4	5
	I avoid this If I can	I am very anxious about this	I feel anxious/ uncomfortable about this	I feel comfortable about this	I enjoy this
1 Answering questions in class					
2 Listening when the teacher explains what we are going to do in the lesson.					
3 Following instructions.					
4 knowing what to do to start a task.					
5 Working on my own.					
6 Working with a learning partner.					
7 Working in a group.					
8 Asking a teacher for help when I have not understood something.					
9 Working in a quiet class					
10 Working when other students are messing about.					
11 Reading aloud in class.					
12 Written work – handwriting.					





13 Recording what I have done using pictures, diagrams or graphs	
14 Using the computer to record what I have done	
15 When the teacher tells off other students	
16 When the teacher is giving back our homework	
17 When the teacher is marking my work	
18 When I go into class and my usual teacher is not there, but a cover	
19 When our class has been moved to a different room	
20 Making sure that I have all the books and equipment I need for the class	
21 Writing down homework so that I can understand what to do when I get home	
22 When I have an LSA supporting me in class	
23 When I have to stop what I am doing before I have finished	
24 When the teacher writes down what we have to do as well as telling us	





25. When the teacher uses pictures, diagrams, videos, etc to help to explain things.



26 Homework.



27 Sharing equipment in practical lessons, e.g. art or DT.



28 When other students try to distract me.



29 When the teacher introduces a new topic I know little or nothing about



30 Class tests and assessments



Look at your rating about what happens in class. Can you describe your ideal class/lesson.

