

How important is it to have a
teacher you connect with?

2025 Research (May)



**the
man
cave**

We asked 3000+ boys to agree or disagree with the following statement:

There are teachers I connect with



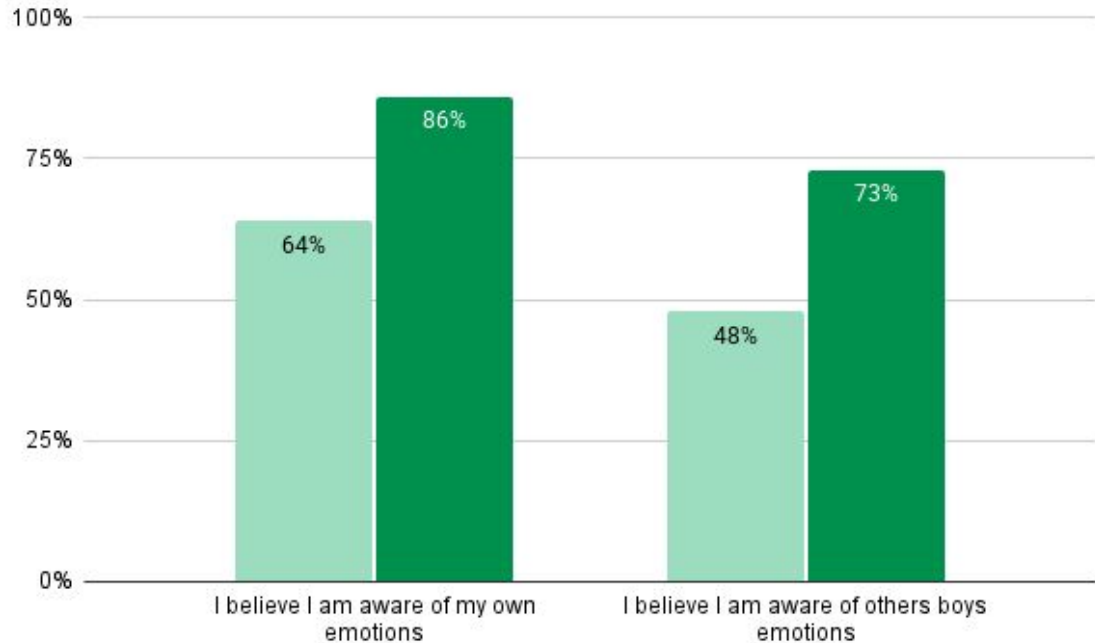
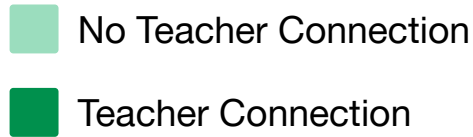
58%

of the 3000+ boys said they had teachers they connected with

**How important is it to
have teachers you
connect with?**

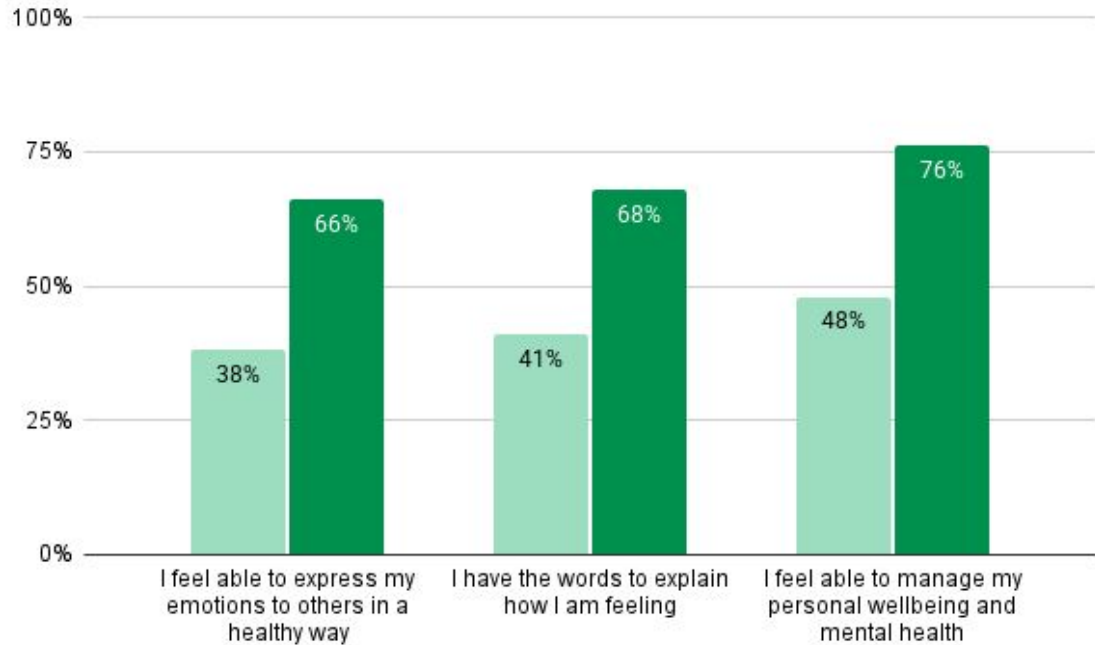
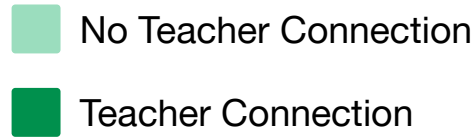


Emotional and Social Awareness



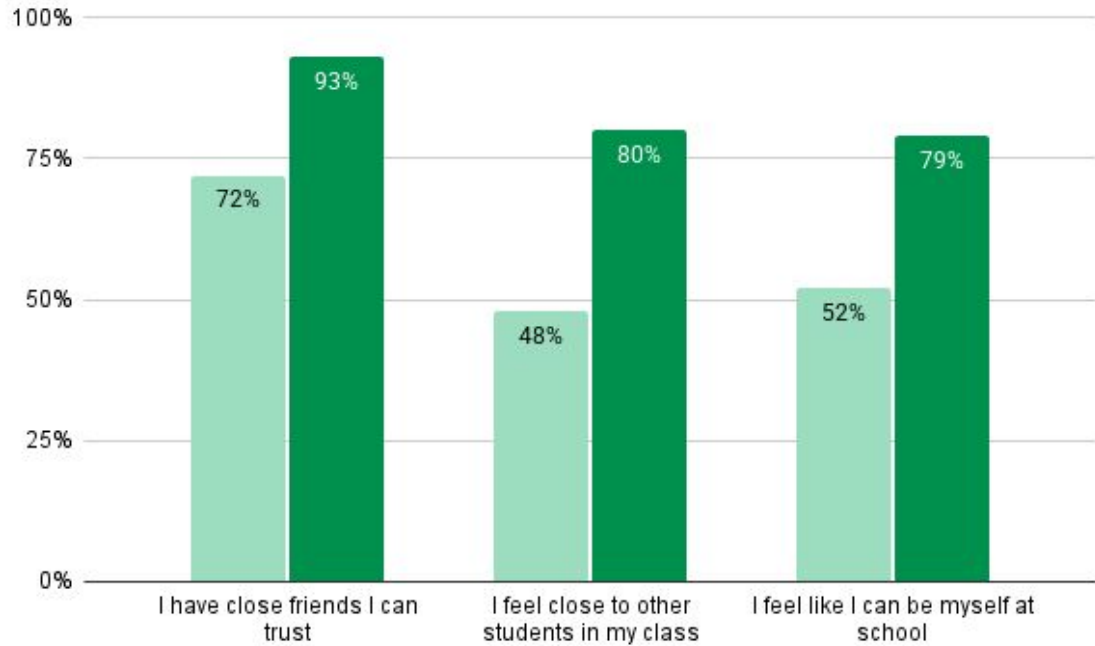
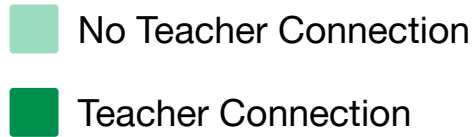


Healthy Emotional Expression



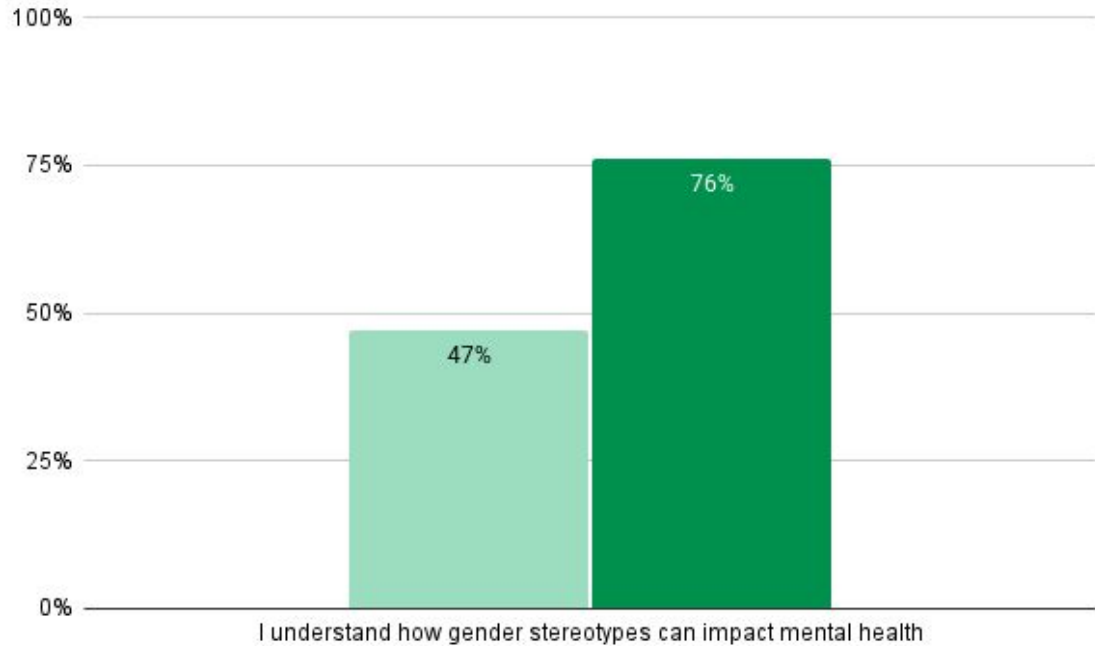
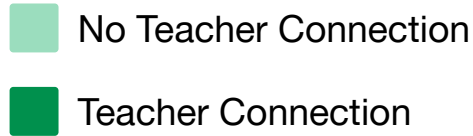


Social Connection & Authenticity



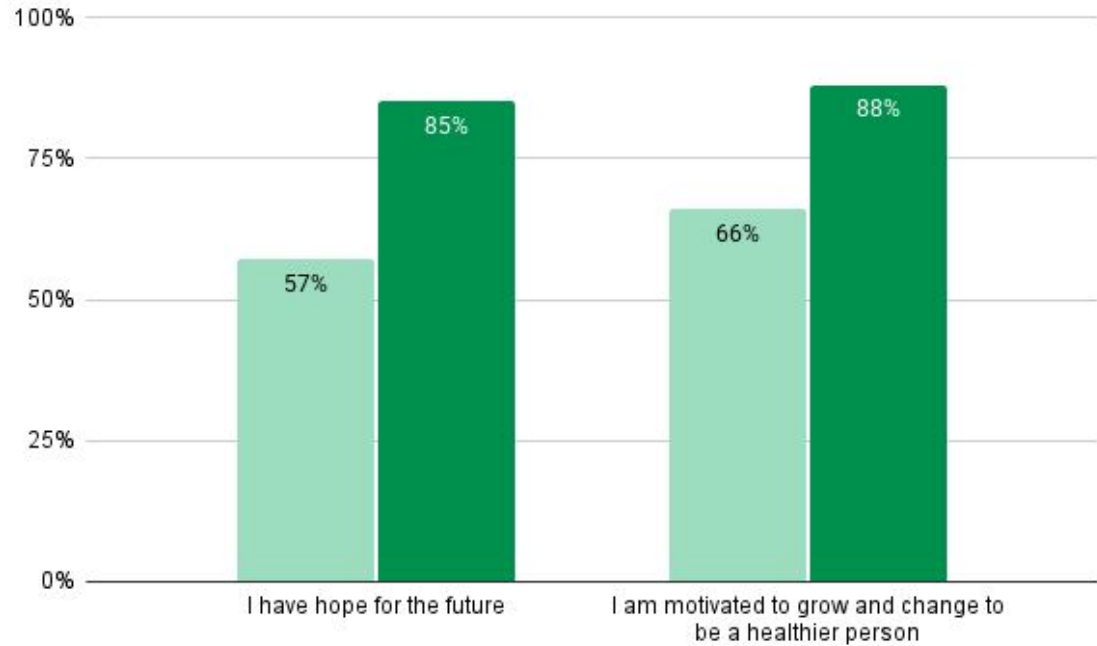
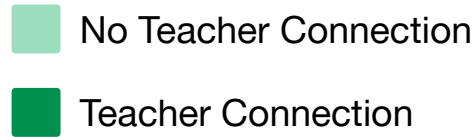


Impact of Gender Stereotypes



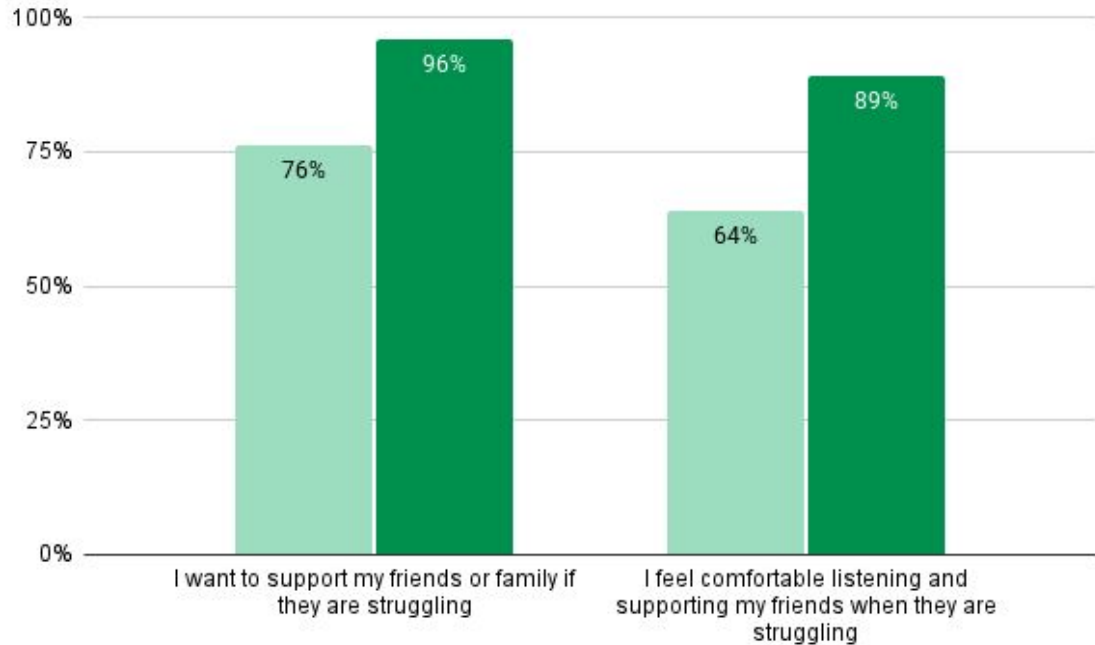
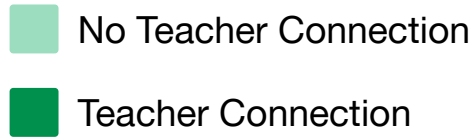


Hope & Motivation



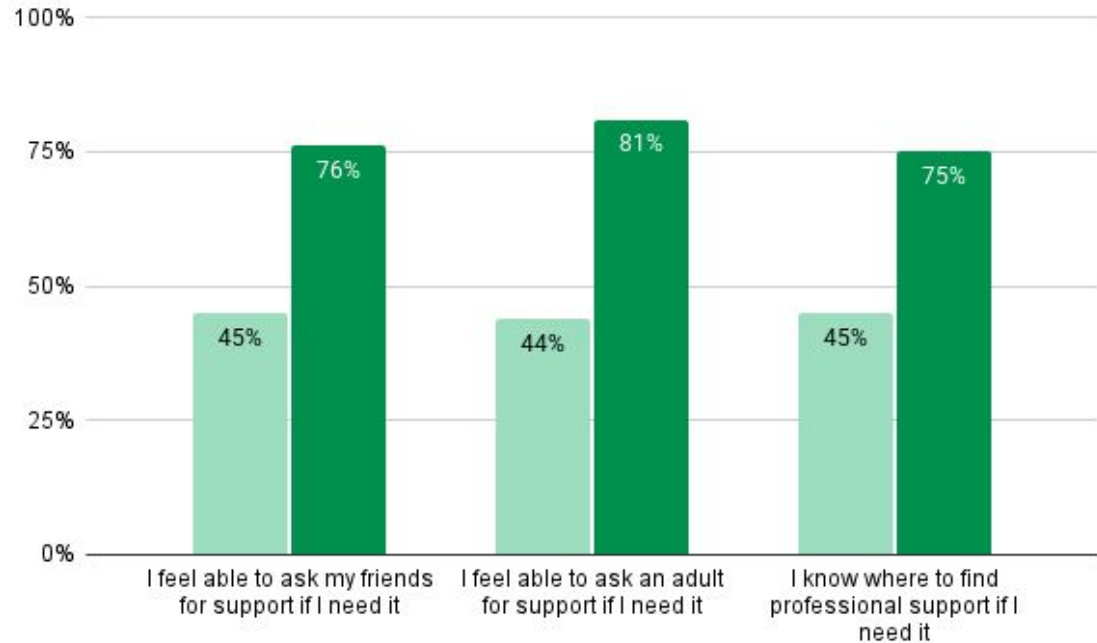
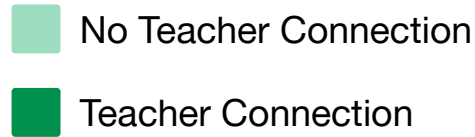


Supporting Other People



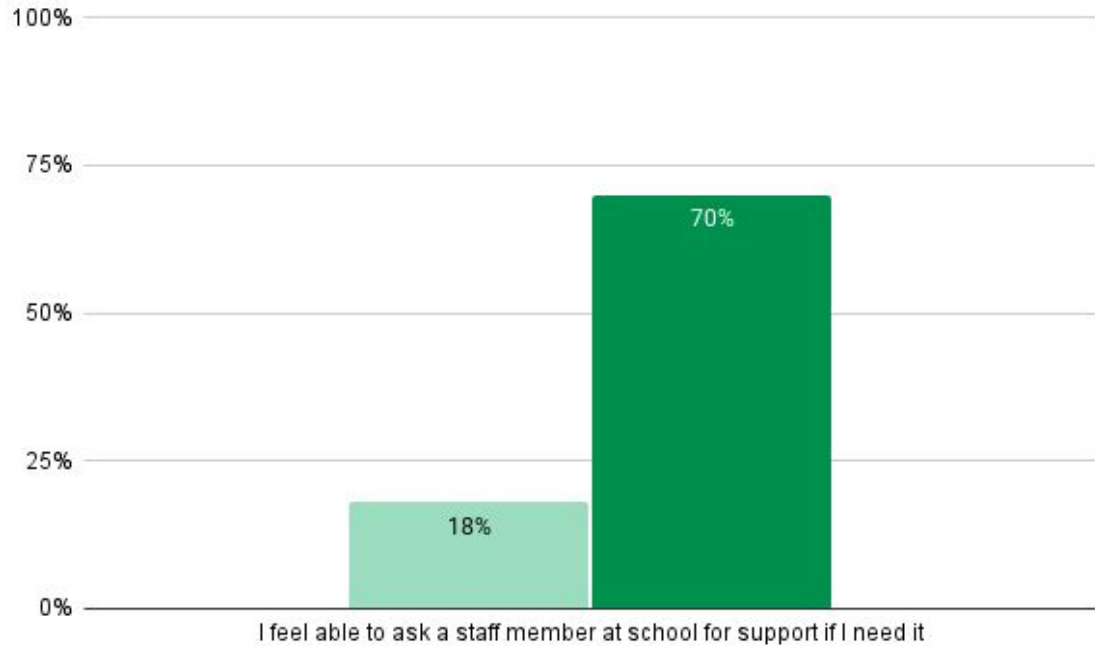
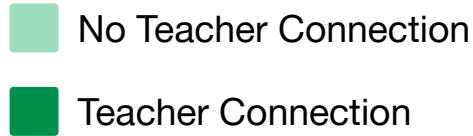


Help-Seeking Behaviours





Seeking Support at School



- **Strong teacher-student relationships drive emotional development**
- **Trust builds safety → and safety unlocks growth**
- **Connection is the cornerstone of student wellbeing and culture.**

Conclusion

Students who felt a strong connection with their teachers consistently showed higher levels of emotional development. This included greater overall wellbeing, more frequent help-seeking behaviours, and a stronger ability to challenge gender stereotypes.

Conversely, students who lacked these connections scored lower across the same indicators. These findings highlight how trusting, relatable teacher-student relationships create emotional safety, an essential foundation for personal growth and healthy group dynamics.

The influence of these relationships goes far beyond academic performance; they are critical to students' emotional and social development.

Prioritising strong teacher-student connections should be a core strategy in any school's approach to education and wellbeing.



