

# The BBC News School Report Survey 2011



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**A snapshot of what it's like to be an 11-16 year old in 2011.**

**Publication embargoed to 00:01 - Thursday March 24<sup>th</sup> 2011**

# The BBC News School Report Survey 2011

## Summary

### Background

This report presents the key findings from the BBC News School Report Survey 2011. The survey was carried out in conjunction with the Royal Statistical Society Centre for Statistical Education (RSSCSE) at the University of Plymouth.

The BBC News School Report Survey achieved a total sample of 24,052 respondents – all children aged 11-16. The survey aimed to offer pupils attending School Report partner schools the opportunity to give their views and experiences of life, home, technology, faith and other topical issues. Questions were also asked relating to the 2011 Census. Teachers and pupils were consulted in all stages of its development. The survey was available to be completed online between 20<sup>th</sup> January 2011 and 4<sup>th</sup> March 2011.

School Report invited the 804 schools signed up to the project in the relevant period to take part, 329 did so. There was no maximum or minimum limit to the number of children at each school that could take part. The average participation rate was 73 but figures ranged from 1 to 784<sup>1</sup>.

There is no claim that those responding to the School Report Survey are representative of all 11-16 year olds because of self-selecting nature of the schools that take part and the sample of children therein. However there is some evidence that the schools taking part in School Report are broadly representative of schools across the UK and that those taking part in the Survey are representative of that group<sup>2</sup>.

Research by the RSSCSE on similar scale projects indicates that the children involved were generally representative of children in the whole population

### Key findings of the BBC News School Report Survey

#### Home life

87% of respondents are born in the UK and Ireland, the second highest area of birth was the rest of Europe at 4%.

More than 1 in 5 (22%) use two or three languages in conversation with family and friends.

Just under 70% of respondents live with their dad and just over 10% with their step-dad. 93% live with their mum and 3% with their step-mum. 4% live with a grandparent.

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<sup>1</sup> There are 3941 state maintained secondary schools in the UK. Independent schools can take part in School Report, and the number participating is proportional to the number of independent schools in the UK. 19 of the 329 schools participating in the Survey (or 6%) are Independent.

<sup>2</sup> The average percentage of pupils known to be eligible for Free School Meals in 279 of the schools who completed the survey is 17.6%. This compares to the English average of 15.4.

### Travel

Very few children responding to the survey cycle to school (2%). The most common mode of transport to school is by foot (35%); 33% use public transport and 27% arrive by car.

### Sport and leisure

Half of those children surveyed did up to 2 hours of sport in school the previous week. 40% say they did more than 2 hours. 8% say they did 5 or more hours. The most common answer is that respondents did between 1 and 2 hours of sport or exercise in school during the previous week (37%). 6% of respondents did no sport or exercise in school during the preceding week.

Outside of school, the most common answer was that respondents did up to 1 hour of sport or exercise the previous week (18%); 6% did 10 hours or more.

Since they were aged 11, two thirds of children (68%) say they have acted, sung, played a musical instrument or danced in front of an audience.

### Technology

67% of respondents say they have mobile phones that can access the internet. 61% of the 11 and 12 year olds surveyed have access to a mobile with internet. 3% of children have no mobile phone.

When asked to choose up to three ways that they like to keep in touch with friends when apart from them, the most popular choice was texting (chosen by 70%), then social networking websites (66%).

When asked if they had ever helped an adult in their family go online, only 13% answering this question said that they had not. 60% of children responding had helped with finding websites, 48% had helped with emailing.

Almost all respondents have a computer with internet access at home (95%). 2% of respondents say they do not have a computer.

### Locality, crime and fair treatment

45% of young people enjoy living in their local area "a lot". However, 18% children only feel safe "some of the time" when walking round their local area, and 4% never feel safe in their local area.

One in 6 children (17%) surveyed have been victims of burglary, theft or mugging.

When asked if they had been treated unfairly due to their age in any of a variety of locations, 23% of respondents said they were treated unfairly when shopping and 18% had been treated unfairly whilst using public transport.

### The economy

When asked if they or their friends or family had been affected by problems in economy, 33% say they know someone who has lost their job, 33% say their

family has cut back on spending, and 1 in 5 (20%) say less money was spent on their Christmas presents in 2010.

### The Royal Family and 2012

When choosing an opinion nearest to their own, more than 4 out of 10 respondents said that they are not interested in, or do not want to have, a Royal Family. 3 out of 10 said they are proud of, or like, the Royal Family.

Two thirds of children surveyed (66%) say they are interested in London 2012; over 1 in 5 (22%) are not interested. In London 70% say they are interested in London 2012, compared with the rest of the UK where 65% are interested. In Scotland, 58% of respondents are interested in London 2012.

### Politics

Just under a half (48%) say they will vote when they are 18. Higher proportions of older respondents were planning to vote, compared to their younger counterparts. At the age of 16, 56% say they will vote.

When asked to choose the best way of getting their voice heard on an issue they felt strongly about, from a range of options, "write to your MP" (17%) was more popular than any other option, closely followed by "don't know" (16%). More respondents chose the option "set up something on a social networking site" (7%) than "go on a demonstration" (5%).

### Threats

When asked to choose the 3 biggest threats to the world from a list of 9, the most common answer is terrorism, chosen by more than half (59%), followed by climate change (49%).

When asked to choose the 3 biggest dangers to themselves from a list of 10, the most common answer is crime (53%), then drugs and alcohol (50%).

### Religion

When asked about religion, over half identify a faith (53%: 51% are faiths listed in the Census, 2% are "other"). Just under 34% have no religion.

When asked if they believe in God(s), just under 40% do and 32% do not.

### Their future

When asked if they thought they would go to university – 57% say yes, 9% say no and 21% say they do not know. . A larger proportion of children from London say they think they will go to university (64%), compared to the rest of the UK (56%)..

Asked which two things they would like to achieve by the age of thirty, from a list of ten, the two most favoured options are: owning own home (35%) and earning a lot of money (31%); only 7% chose "being famous".

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## Introduction

BBC News School Report ([www.bbc.uk/schoolreport](http://www.bbc.uk/schoolreport)) enables 11-14 year olds to make their own news for a real audience.

On March 24<sup>th</sup> 2011, pupils from more than 800 schools from across the whole of the UK will be make the news to their own agenda and publish it on their school website. The BBC will link to those stories and feature many in national, regional and local TV radio and online output throughout the day. 2011 marks School Reports fifth year. The BBC's aims for the project are to engage young people with news, bring their views and voices to a wider audience, and help them to engage in some of the ethical issues behind content production and distribution. Schools participate for a variety of reasons but predominantly because they find that it supports learning.

On March 27<sup>th</sup> 2011, three days after School Report News Day adults throughout the UK will be filling in the ten yearly Census. The adult Census will tell us how adults live now - School Report News Day will provide an insight into how 11 to 16 year olds live. The School Report Survey is part of this. A third of the questions included in the School Report survey relate directly to the Census.

The Royal Statistical Society Centre for Statistical Education (RSSCSE) at the University of Plymouth has worked on this project with BBC News School Report. The RSSCSE has 10 years experience in running *CensusAtSchool* (<http://www.censusatschool.org.uk/>) involving hundreds of primary and secondary schools, and has experts on all aspects of data gathering at schools and on the creation of learning resources associated with this.

The survey was available online to schools signed up to take part in BBC News School Report. This was in addition to their other news making activities in the project. 804 schools were approached to take part.

The online survey was open for six weeks and in that time 24,052 children from 329 schools – completed up to 29 questions. The average number of responses per school was 73; the figures for individual schools range from 1 to 784.

Visually this was presented as a drop down box or tick box survey. Each question was multiple choice, with a variant of yes, no, prefer not to say, don't know and/or a list of suggested answers for which the pupil could choose a specified number. Children could also choose to skip a question and in this case they were counted as null. Nulls were counted toward the total response for every question.

The questions were all framed to not identify any particular child and to cover topics that would be discussed openly in the classroom.

Ahead of launching the survey, the question wording was tested in the classroom with volunteer pupils to ensure they were clear and accessible for the targeted age ranges. Children were also consulted on their preferred choice of questions, and topics were ensured to be age appropriate.

When analysing the data it is important to note that due to the self-selecting nature of the schools that take part and the sample of children therein, these findings are not necessarily representative of 11-16 year olds in general. It would be incorrect to say that this is a generalisable survey of the population of all school children age 11-16. More detail about School Report schools is in Appendix 2.

All participants took part on the understanding that they would remain anonymous. It was made clear that pupils did not have to respond to any question that they did not want to answer.

The findings for individual schools have been returned to them, on request, for their own use. Individual schools results will not be made available more widely without their express permission.

The survey provides a rich source of data due to the large sample, it provides pupils with practice in writing reports, and has great potential for the creation of teaching and learning resources. This report summarises the key findings.

## **Preface**

**March 2011**

“This is the fifth year for School Report and the first time we have run a survey. A number of schools have run their own surveys as part of their work on School Report in previous years. They found it a very useful source of news and a good opportunity for cross-curricula learning and so we wanted to offer this to all schools. 2011 seemed a good time to try this as it coincides with the ten yearly Census and we hoped this would help generate an audience for the work of School Reporters.”

“We would not have attempted it without the great support and expertise of the Royal Statistical Society Centre for Statistical Education at Plymouth and I am very grateful to Professor Neville Davies and his team for their excellent work with us on it. In particular, their advice on how to ensure schools have the resources they need to make the most educationally of taking part; their expertise in collecting and interpreting the data; and their rigour, absolutely essential in a project such as this, in ensuring the data gathered from thousands of children was handled securely and appropriately. I would also like to thank colleagues in the BBC and also Dr Anna Barford who advised on the questions and the School Report staff and mentors who encouraged schools to fill them in. But most of all I thank the hundreds of teachers and thousands of pupils who have responded so enthusiastically to this and all other aspects of School Report.”

**Helen Shreeve**

**Editor, BBC News School Report**

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[\*\*www.bbc.co.uk/schoolreport\*\*](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schoolreport)



“Enabling school children to complete a survey that comprises questions they are interested in, with follow-up reporting of responses from their own and other schools, is an excellent way to motivate pupils and their teachers about the importance of data and the information they contain. Therefore, the BBC News School Report Team is to be congratulated on their innovative project to invite all their registered schools to take part in an anonymous survey that contains questions related to a wide range of topics and issues designed to engage pupils aged 11 – 16. However, the real value of the project comes after completion of the survey through pupils being able to process and analyse the collected data, discuss their findings and write reports on what they discover.”

“The project is timely because on 27 March the adult population of the UK provides data and information for the 2011 census. Naturally, the census is a much bigger and more complex activity than the BBC school survey, but the goal of getting information from collected data is key to the success of both. And giving pupils early experience of planning, data collection, analysis, drawing conclusions and communicating results is very good preparation for them in later life when they will need to make informed (evidence-based) decisions that will affect the way they live.”

“As well as providing an excellent basis for schools to write reports for the BBC News School Report Day, the collected data from the survey is a rich source of material for creating learning and teaching resources for pupils and their teachers, well after that date. The RSSCSE, which aims to improve the statistical education of people of all ages, looks forward to working with the BBC News School Report team to help provide those resources.”

**Neville Davies**

**Director, Royal Statistical Society Centre for Statistical Education,  
University of Plymouth.**

## Findings

### **Section 1: Tell us a bit about yourself**

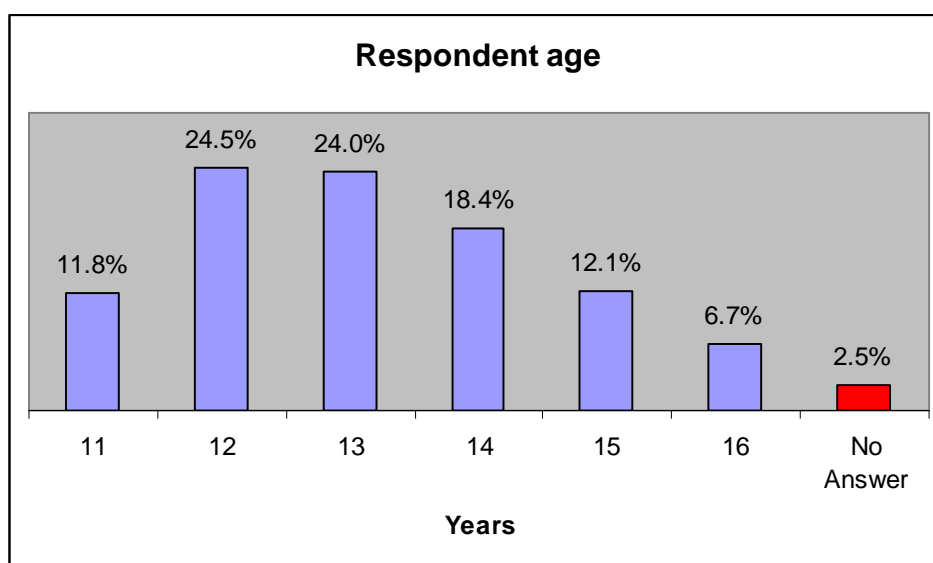
In order to get a clear picture of the sample group, some general questions were asked of the children. These questions cover age, gender, place of birth, living arrangements, and languages spoken.

- The sample includes children from 11 to 16 years old; the ages 12, 13 and 14 years are best represented.
- Slightly more girls than boys completed the survey.
- 87% of the children surveyed were born in UK and Ireland.
- 93% respondents live with their mothers.
- Almost a quarter of respondents speak 2 or more languages.

### **Age**

Most respondents were aged 12 to 14. The smallest number of responses of these age groups came from 11 and 16 year olds.

Question 1: "How old are you?" Response range: 11-16 years old.

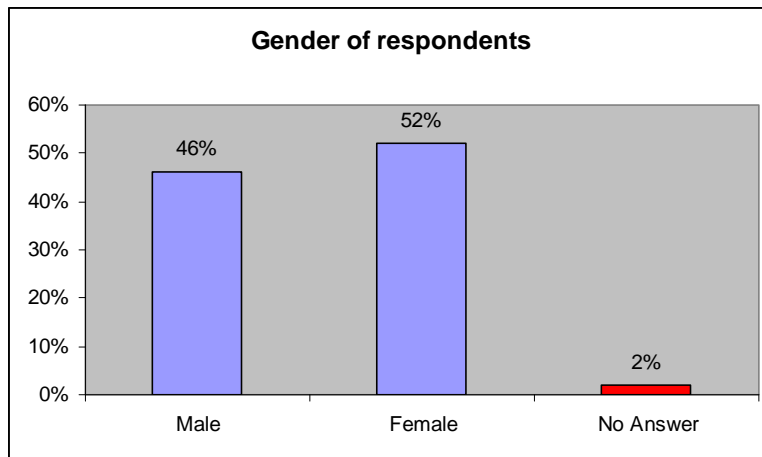


Graph 1.1 Age

### **Gender**

The gender of respondents was roughly an even split, and slightly more girls completed the survey than boys.

Question 2: "Are you:" Responses: Female / Male

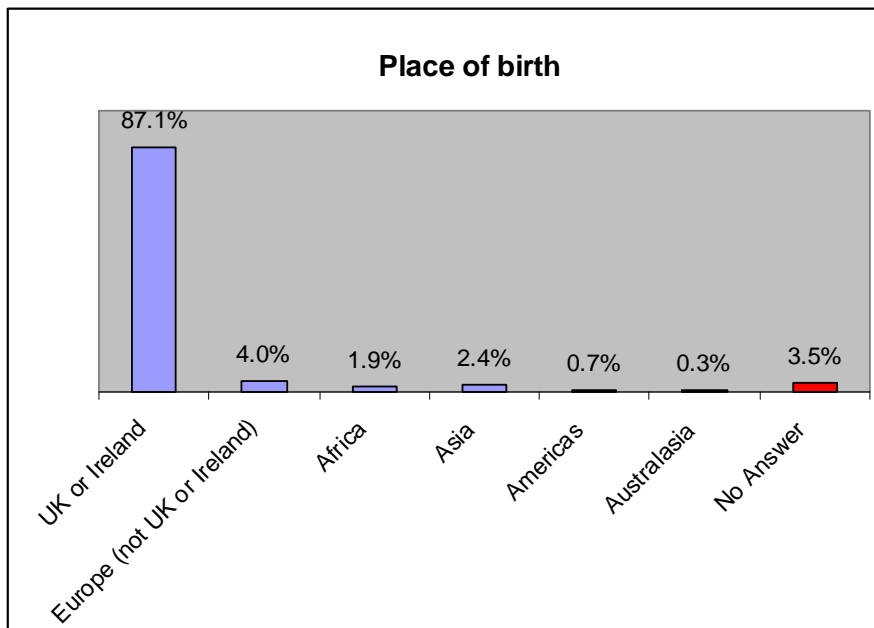


Graph 1.2 Gender

### Vast majority born in the UK and Ireland

87% of respondents were born in the UK or Ireland. 5.3% of children were born in the rest of world, of them 4% were born in Europe (not including UK or Ireland). 3.5% of respondents did not answer this question.

Question 3: "Where were you born?" Responses: UK or Ireland / Europe (not including UK or Ireland) / Africa / Asia / Americas / Australasia

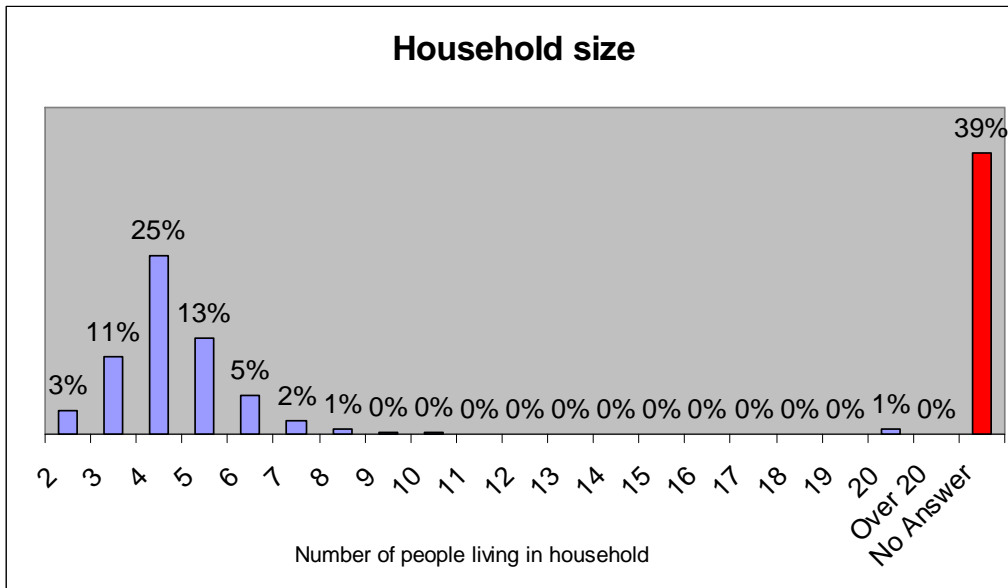


Graph 1.3 Place of birth

### Most common household size is 4

The most common household size is 4 (including the respondent). Over a third of the children did not answer this question.

Question 4: "How many people live in your household including yourself?" Response range: 2 to 20 or more

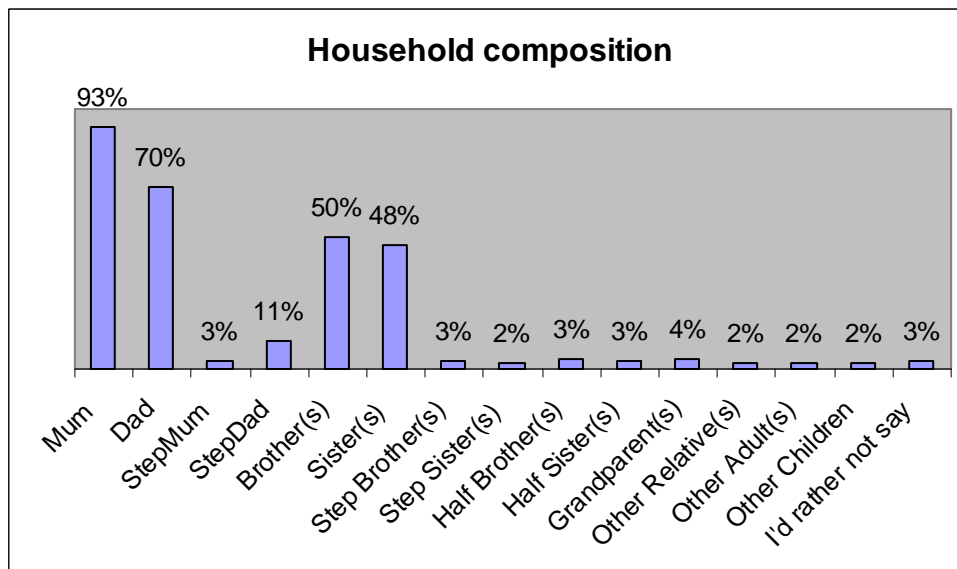


Graph 1.4 Household size

### Who lives in a house like this?

The survey shows that respondents live mostly with their mums and dads (93% live with their mum, 70% live with their dad). Only 4% of respondents said they share their home with a grandparent.

Question 5: "Who do you live with? Tick any that apply." Responses include: Mum / Dad / Step Mum / Step Dad / Brother(s) / Sister(s) / Step Brother(s) / Step Sister(s) / Half Brother(s) / Half Sister(s) / Grand parent(s) / Other relative(s) / Other adult(s) / Other children / I'd rather not say

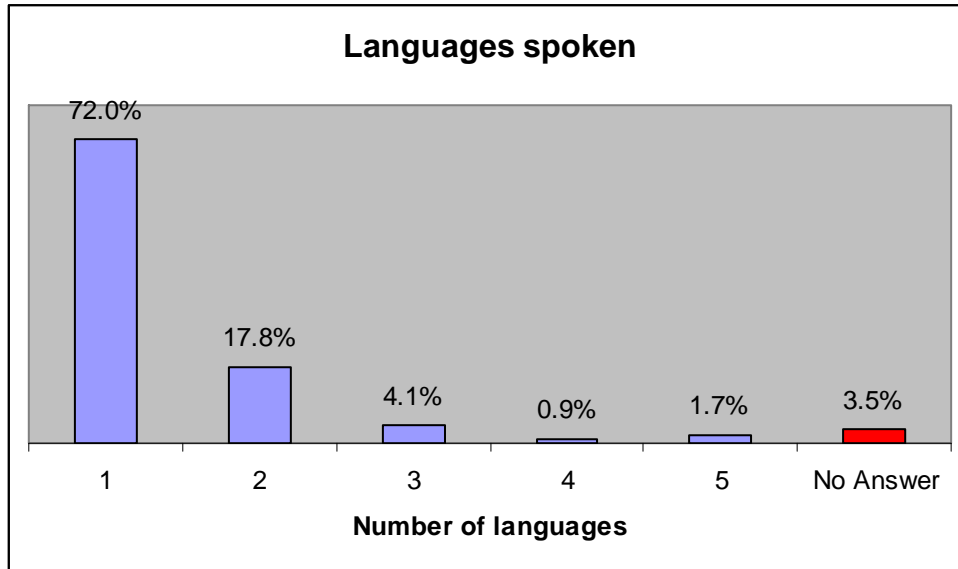


Graph 1.5 Household composition

### A quarter speak 2 languages or more

Most children speak only one language (72%). Over 1 in 5 (22%) speak two or three languages.

Question 6: "How many languages do you use in conversation with your family and friends?"  
Response range: 1 to 5.



Graph 1.6 Languages spoken

## Section 2: Journey to School

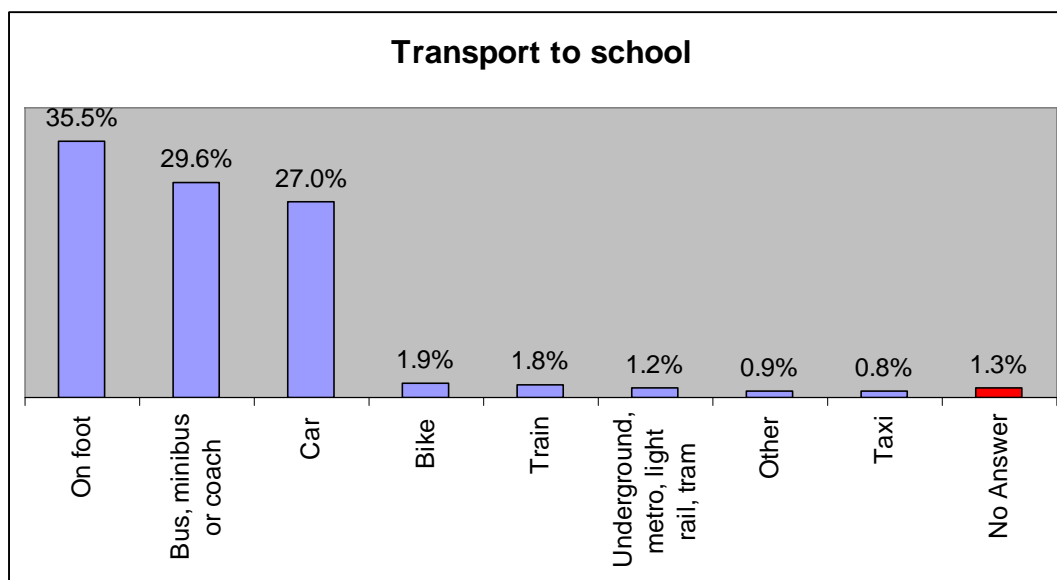
To understand more about their day to day geographies, questions were asked about respondents' journeys to school.

- the most common way to get to school is walking.
- 80% of children said their journey took 30 minutes or less.

### Walking to school is most common

The most common mode of transport of the children who completed the survey is by foot (35%). Public transport is nearly as common with a third (33%) of children using buses, minibuses, coaches and trains. Just over a quarter of the children get to school in a car. Very few cycled (2%).

Question 7: "How did you travel to school today? Select one only, for the longest part of the journey to school, by distance." Responses: Underground, metro, light rail, tram / Train / Bus, minibus or coach / Taxi / Car / Bicycle / On foot / Other

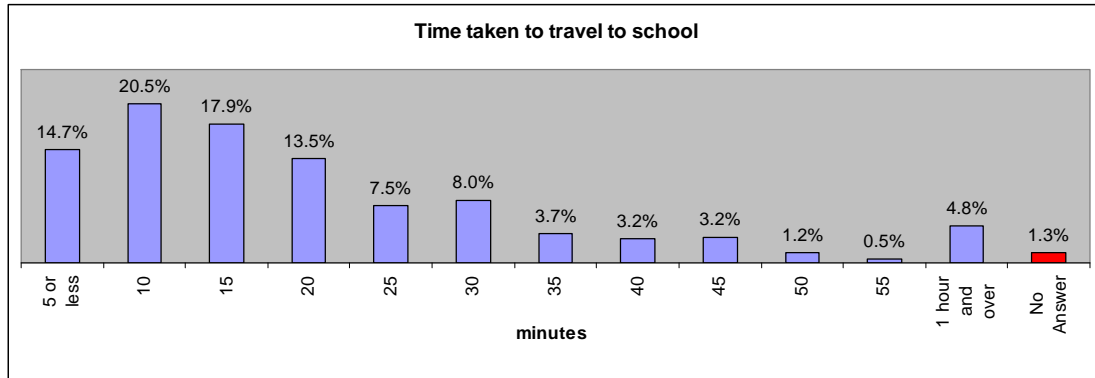


Graph 2.1 Transport to school

### A fifth live ten minutes from their school

The most common response from the children was that it takes them 10 minutes to get to school, 1 in 5 children travel for 10 minutes to get to school. 8 out of 10 respondents take 30 minutes or less to get to school. 2% of children take between 90 minutes and 2 hours to get to school.

Question 8: "How long (approximately) did your total journey to school take today?"  
 Responses: 5 minutes or less / 10 minutes / 15 minutes / 20 minutes / 25 minutes / 30 minutes / 35 minutes / 40 minutes / 45 minutes / 50 minutes / 55 minutes / 1 hour / 1 hour and 5 minutes / 1 hour and 10 minutes / 1 hour and 15 minutes / 1 hour and 20 minutes / 1 hour and 25 minutes / 1 hour and 30 minutes / 1 hour and 35 minutes / 1 hour and 40 minutes / 1 hour and 45 minutes / 1 hour and 50 minutes / 1 hour and 55 minutes / 2 hours or more



Graph 2.2 Time to travel to school

### Section 3: Leisure

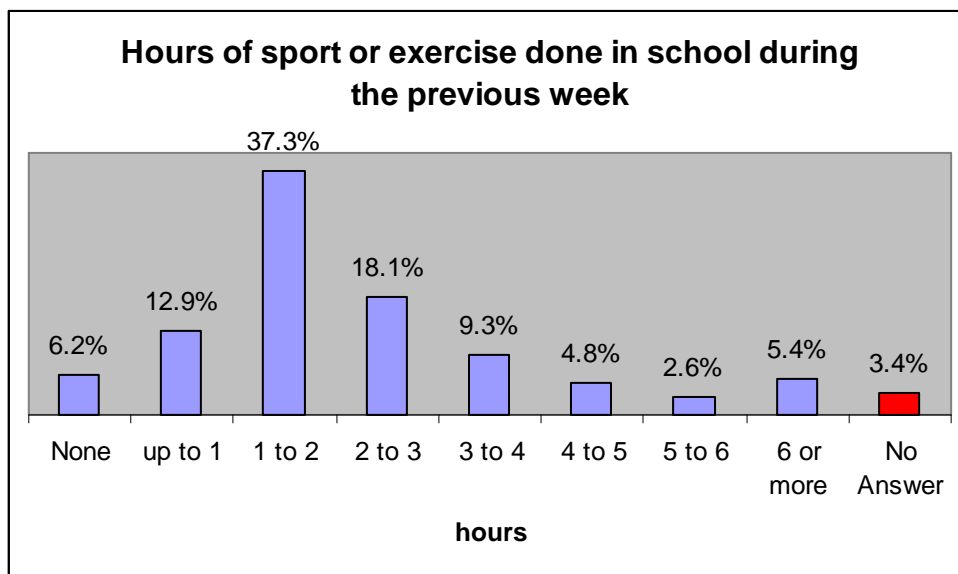
We are interested in the amount of sport and exercise that children do, and where they do it. We are also interested in whether they have the opportunity to take part in the performance of cultural activities.

- In school, 40% of respondents did more than 2 hours of sport during the previous week.
- Out of school, the most common answer was that respondents did up to 1 hour of sport during the previous week.
- Around two thirds have been part of an arts performance in or out of school.

#### Most get up to 2 hours of exercise at school each week

The most common answer was that respondents do 1-2 hours of exercise per week in school.

Question 9: "How much sport or exercise did you do in school last week?" Responses: Up to 1 / Up to 2 / Up to 3 / Up to 4 / Up to 5 / Up to 6 / Up to 7 / Up to 8 / Up to 9 / Up to 10 / More than 10



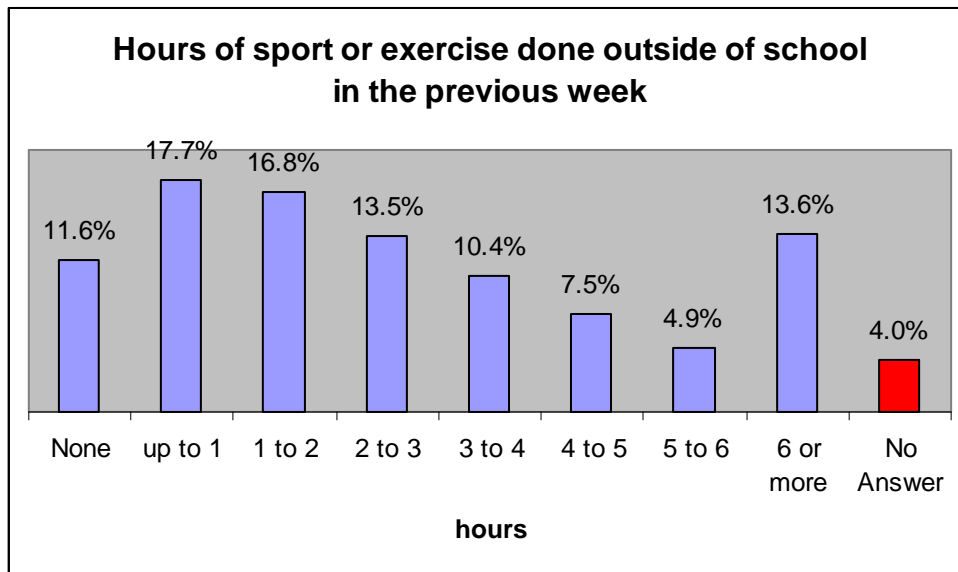
Graph 3.1 Exercise in school

#### More than 1 in 10 do not exercise out of school

The most common answer was up to 1 hour per week. 6% of children did 10 or more hours of sport or exercise out of school during in the preceding week.

Question 10: "How much sport or exercise did you do outside of school last week?" Responses: Up to 1 / Up to 2 / Up to 3 / Up to 4 / Up to 5 / Up to 6 / Up to 7 / Up to 8 / Up to 9 / Up to 10 / More than 10



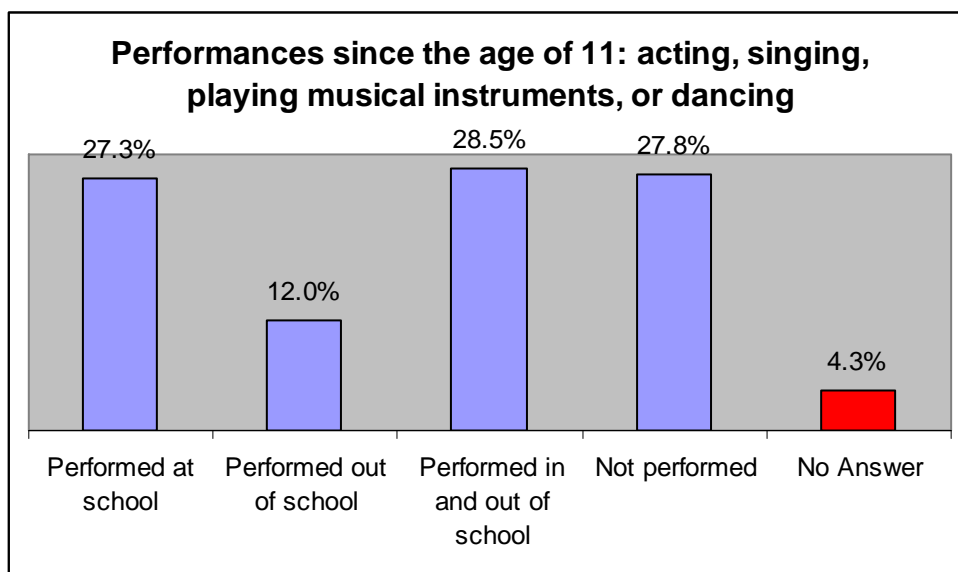


Graph 3.2 Exercise out of school

### Most children are performers

Most of the children who completed the survey (68%) say they have performed in front of an audience. In other words, more than two thirds have acted, danced, sung or played an instrument in or out of school since they were 11 years old. As most respondents to the survey are aged 12 or 13 – it can be argued this must happen quite regularly. More children take part in performances in school than out of school.

Question 11: "Since you were 11 have you acted, sung, played a musical instrument or danced in front of an audience?" Responses: Yes at school / Yes out of school / Yes both out of school and in school / No



Graph 3.3 Performances

## Section 4: Technology

To assess the role of technology in the lives of young people, the survey asked questions about access to computers, mobile phones, games consoles, and the internet. It also reviews how the children use technology in their day to day lives.

- 61% of 11 and 12 years old say they have access to web enabled phones.
- When asked how they prefer to stay in touch with friends, more children choose texting than talking.
- 60% of children say they have helped an adult in their family find websites.

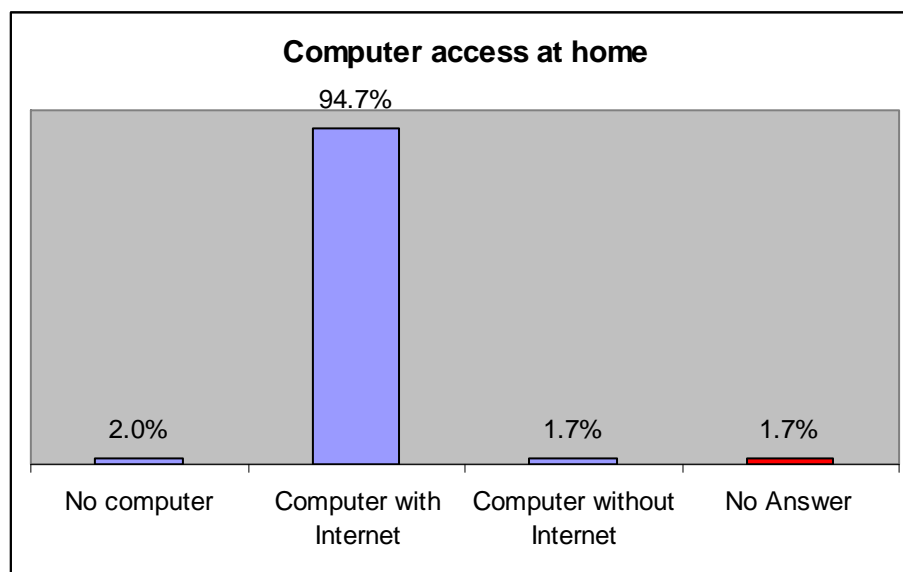
### Most are internet connected at home

Almost all respondents say they have a computer with access to the internet at home (95%); a tiny proportion of 2% do not have access to a home computer.

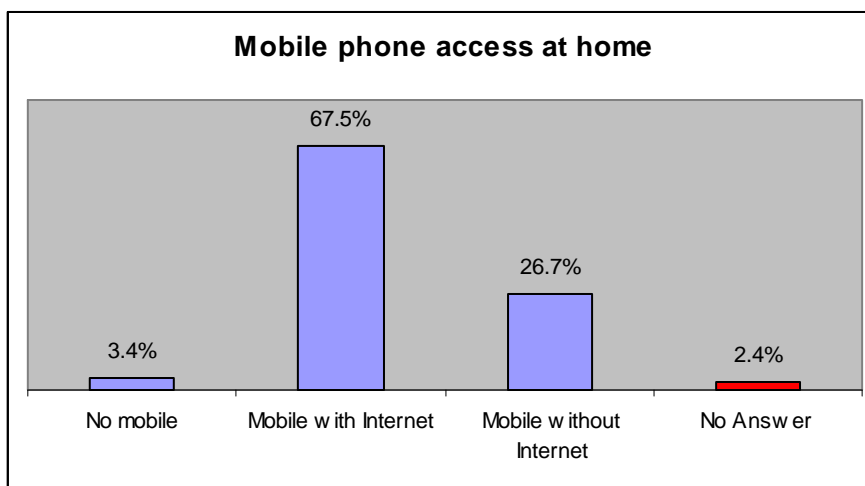
Almost all respondents (94%) have access to a mobile phone, and 67% can access the internet on that mobile phone. Of the 11 and 12 year olds surveyed, 61% can access the internet from their mobile phones. A small proportion, 3%, has no mobile phone access.

Games consoles are less common in children's homes than mobile phones or computers. 88% have a console, and over two-thirds of these are internet-enabled. 8% of children do not have a games console.

Question 12a. "Do you have access to the following at home:" Responses: Computer: No / Yes, with Internet / Yes, without Internet. Mobile phone: No / Yes, with Internet / Yes, without Internet. Games console: No / Yes, with Internet / Yes, without Internet



Graph 4.1 Computer access at home

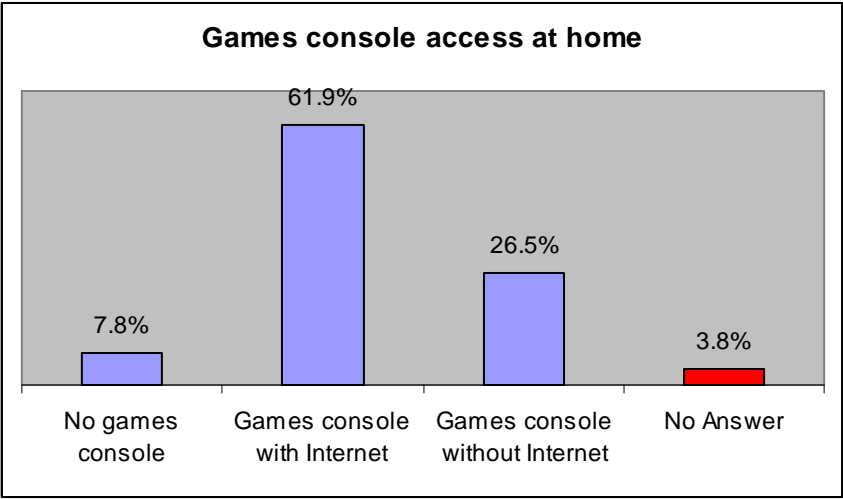


Graph 4.2 Mobile phone access at home

**Do you have access to a mobile phone at home?**

	No	Yes, with internet	Yes, without internet	Null	Total
11 Year olds					
Number of pupils	148	1603	1017	79	2847
<b>% of 11 year olds</b>	5.20	<b>56.30</b>	35.72	2.77	100.00
12 Year olds					
Number of pupils	220	3729	1815	131	5895
<b>% of 12 year olds</b>	3.73	<b>63.26</b>	30.79	2.22	100.00
13 Year olds					
Numbers of pupils	153	4035	1467	113	5768
<b>% of 13 year olds</b>	2.65	<b>69.95</b>	24.43	1.96	100.00
14 Year olds					
Numbers of pupils	121	3187	1038	74	4420
<b>% of 14 year olds</b>	2.74	<b>72.10</b>	23.48	1.67	100.00
15 year olds					
Numbers of pupils	72	2160	626	41	2899
<b>% or 15 year olds</b>	2.48	<b>74.51</b>	21.59	1.41	100.00
16 year olds					
Number of pupils	58	1195	330	29	1612
<b>% or 16 year olds</b>	3.60	<b>74.13</b>	20.47	1.80	100.00
TOTAL children	808	16232	6432	579	24051
<b>% of TOTAL children</b>	3.36	<b>67.49</b>	26.74	2.41	100.00

Table 4.1 Mobile phone access by age

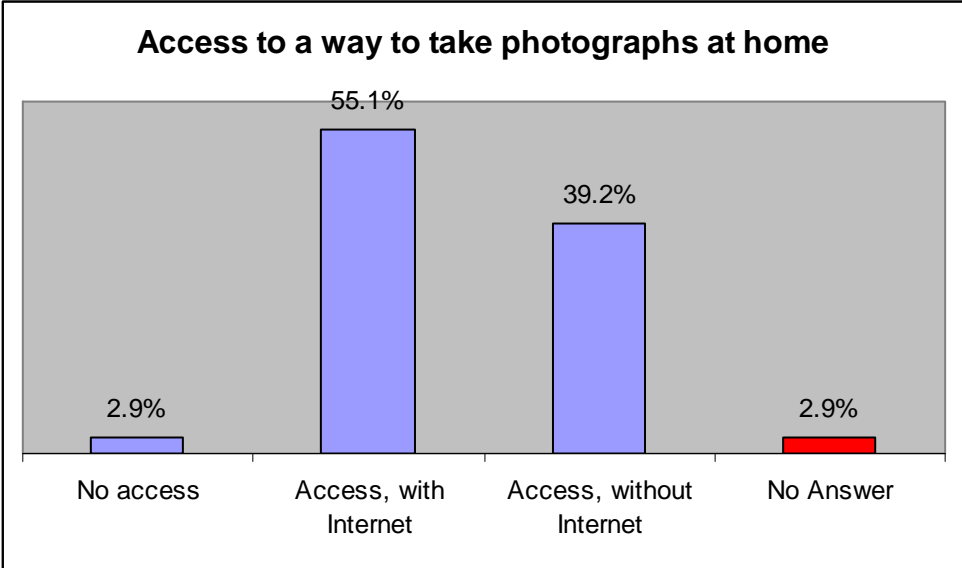


Graph 4.3 Games console access at home

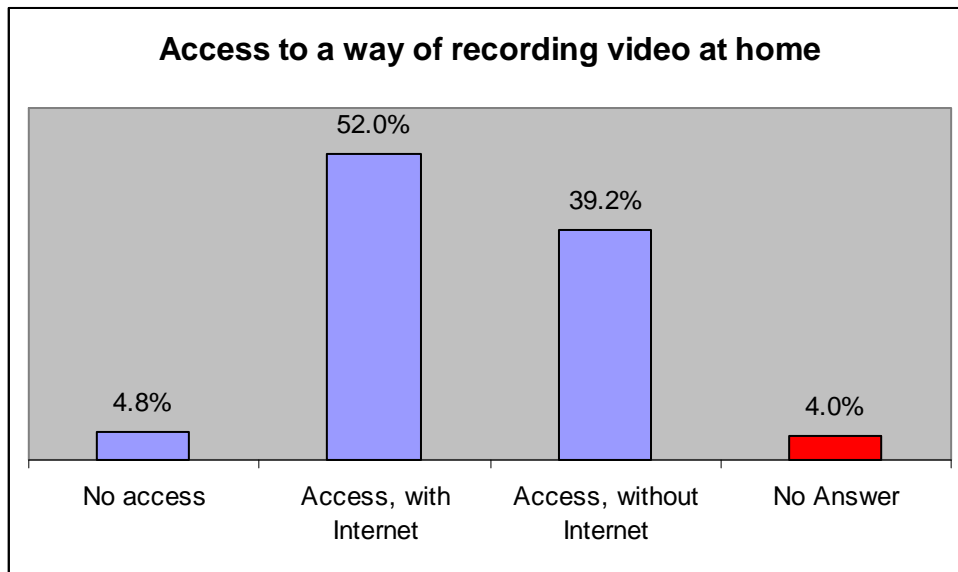
**Most can photograph, video and audio record at home**

94% of children said they could take photos, 91% can record video and 84% can record audio. Of those with access to the gadgets – more than half have the opportunity to upload to the web.

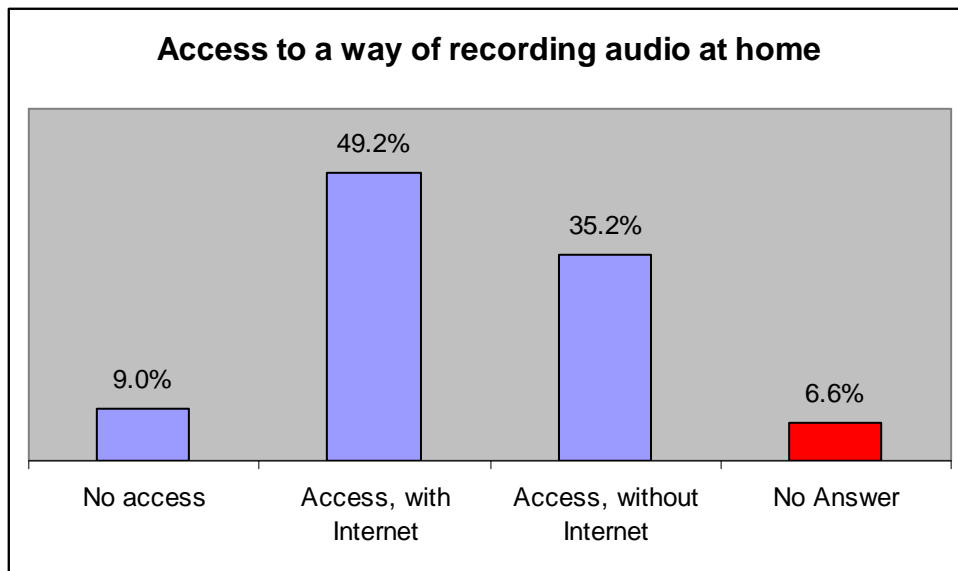
Question 12b: “Do you have access to gadgets that allow you to:” Responses: Take photos: No / Yes, with Internet / Yes, without Internet. Record video: No / Yes, with Internet / Yes, without Internet. Record audio: No / Yes, with Internet / Yes, without Internet



Graph 4.4 Access to photography equipment



Graph 4.5 Access to video recording equipment

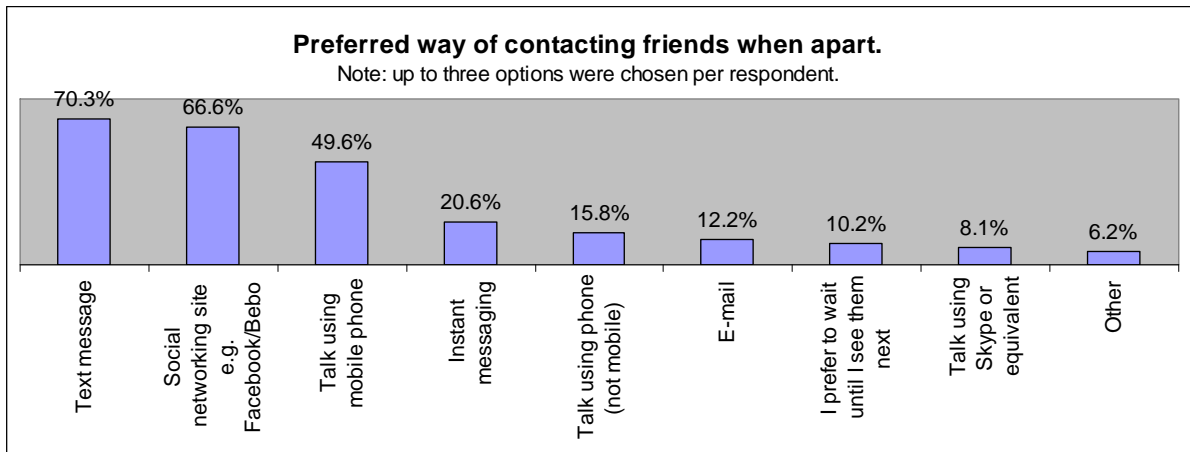


Graph 4.6 Access to sound recording equipment

### **Texting is the favourite way to stay in touch**

The most popular ways for children to stay in touch are via modern forms of communication: texting (70%), using a social networking site (66%) and talking on a mobile phone (50%).

Question 13: "When you are not with your friends how do you like to stay in touch with them? Choose your favourite three." Responses: Talk using phone (not mobile) / Talk using mobile phone / Talk using Skype or equivalent / Text message / E-mail / Social networking site e.g. Facebook, Bebo / Instant messaging / I prefer to wait until I see them next / Other

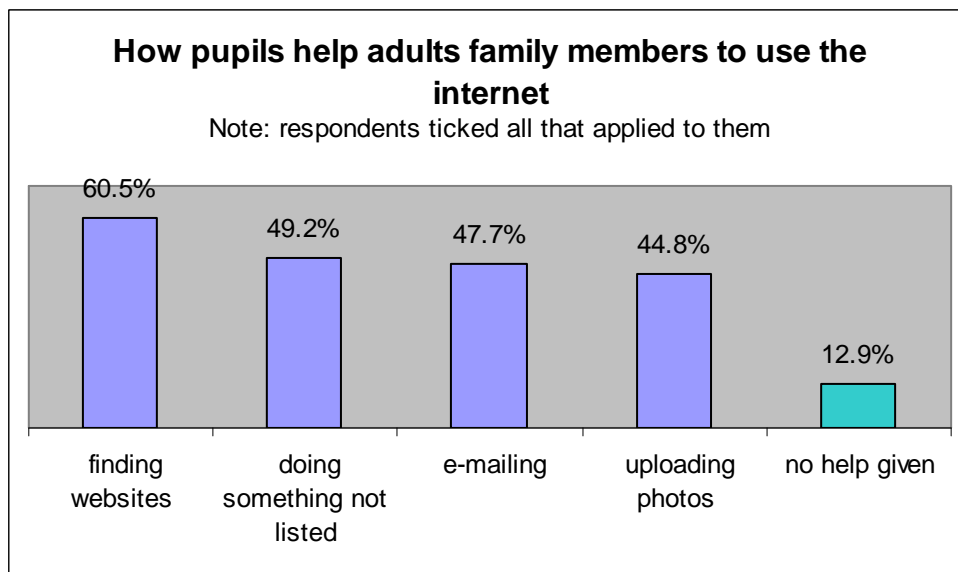


Graph 4.7 Preferred way of contacting friends

### Children help adults to use the internet

Whilst 13% of children do not help adult family members to use the internet, the majority do help with this. 6 in 10 help adults find websites, and 5 in 10 help with emailing.

Question 14: "Have you ever helped the adults in your family go online? Tick all that apply."  
Responses: Yes, I've helped them with e-mail / Yes, I've helped them find websites / Yes, I've helped them upload photos / Yes, I've helped them do something else / No, I haven't



Graph 4.8 Children help adults in their family use internet

## Section 5: Life where you live

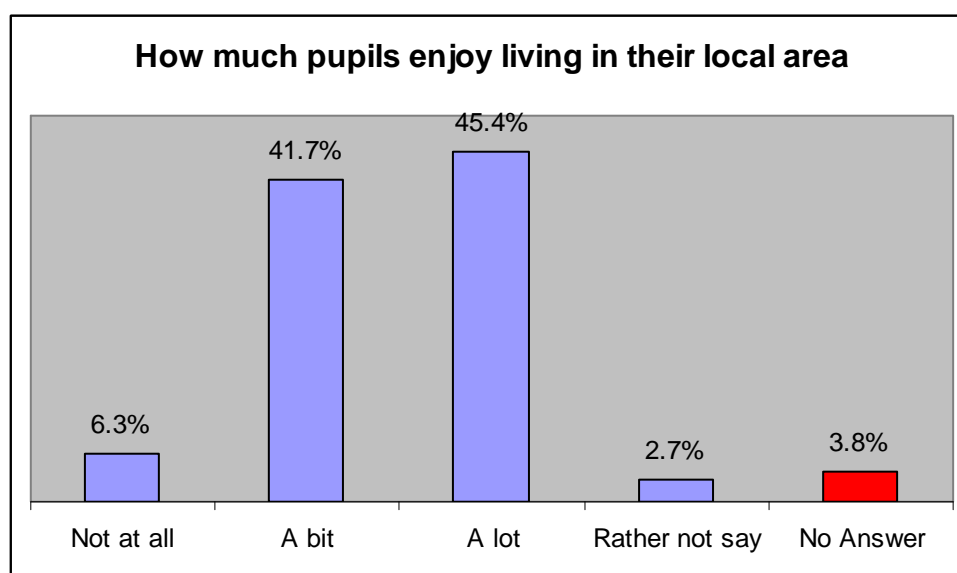
Questions were asked about how children view their local community, how they feel they fit into it, and how safe they are there.

- Children surveyed like where they live and most feel safe all, most, or some of the time.
- 4% never feel safe in their local area.
- 23% of respondents have been treated unfairly when shopping.
- 17% have been victims of theft, mugging or burglary.

### Almost half like their local area a lot

Most children liked where they lived. Almost half of the children like their area a lot (45%). 87% of the children said they liked their area a bit or a lot. 6% of children did not like their local area at all.

Question 15: "How much do you enjoy living in your local area? By area we mean within a mile or 20 minutes walk of your home." Responses: Not at all / A bit / A lot / I'd rather not say

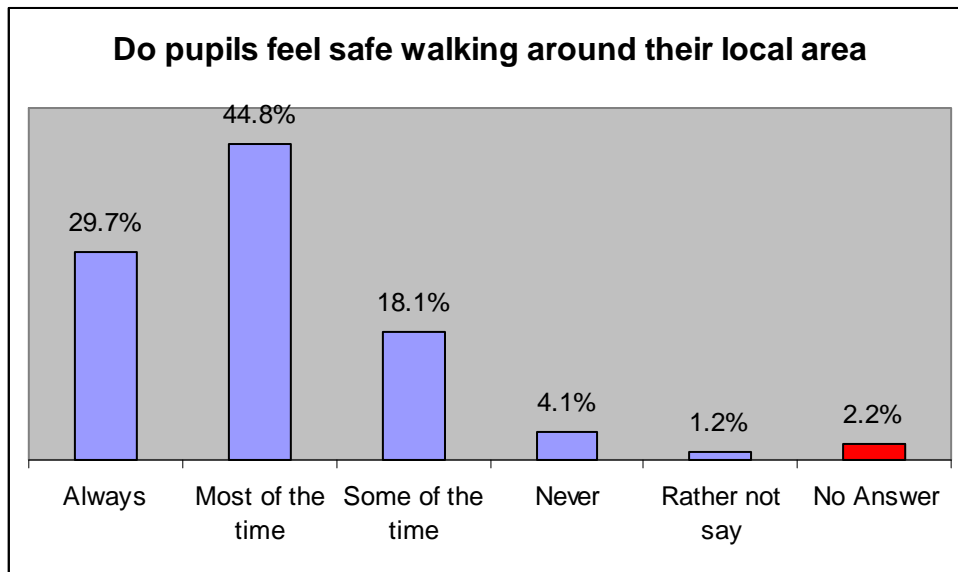


Graph 5.1 Feelings about local area

### Children generally feel safe in local area

Overall the children surveyed generally felt safe in their local area. 30% said they felt safe all of the time. 74% of children said they felt safe always or most of the time. 18% children said they only feel safe "some of the time" when walking round their local area, and 4% said they never felt safe in their local area.

Question 16: "Do you feel safe walking around your local area?" Responses: Always / Most of the time / Some of the time / Never / I'd rather not say

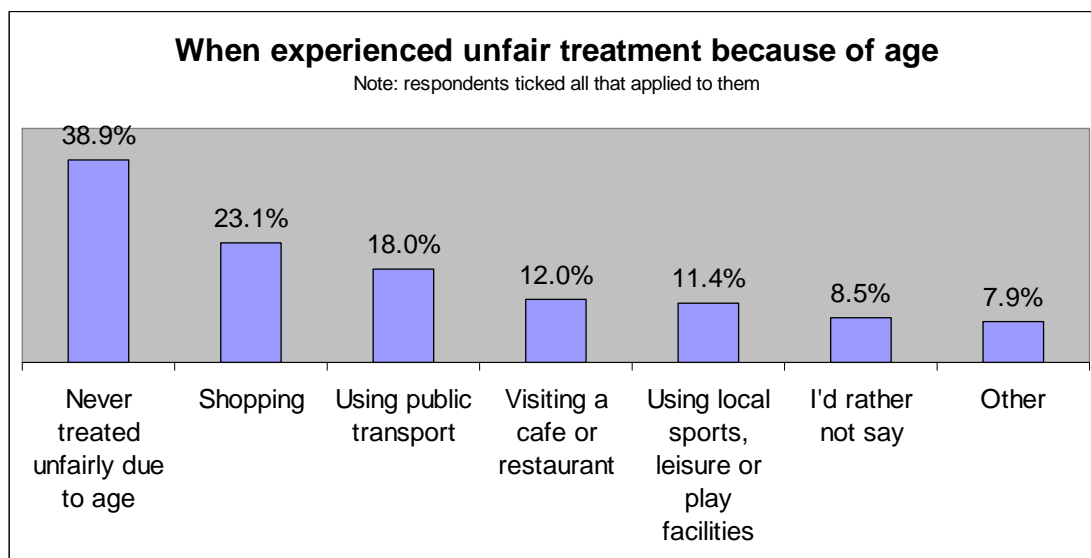


Graph 5.2 Perceived safety in local area

**1 out of 5 say they were treated unfairly due to age in a shop**

23% of children of those answering the question said they have been treated unfairly when shopping.

Question 17: "Have you ever been treated unfairly because of your age when doing any of the following:" Responses: Shopping / Using public transport / Using local sports, leisure or play facilities / Visiting a cafe or restaurant / I have not been treated unfairly because of my age / I'd rather not say / Other



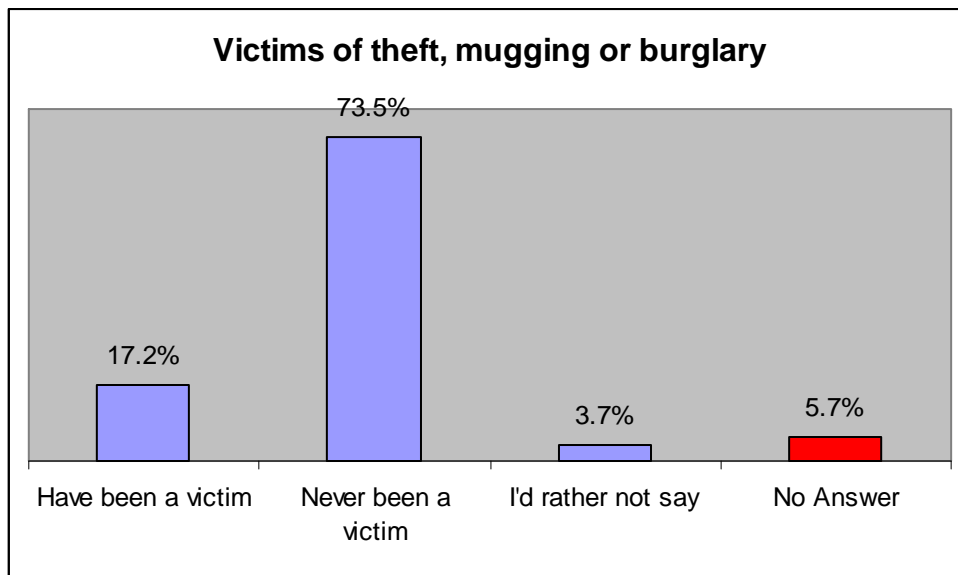
Graph 5.3 Unfair treatment due to age

**Most have never been robbed, mugged or burgled**

More than 1 in 6 children said they had been a victim of theft, mugging or burglary; 73% have never been a victim of these types of crime.



Question 18: "Have you ever been a victim of theft, mugging or burglary?" Responses: Yes / No / I'd rather not say

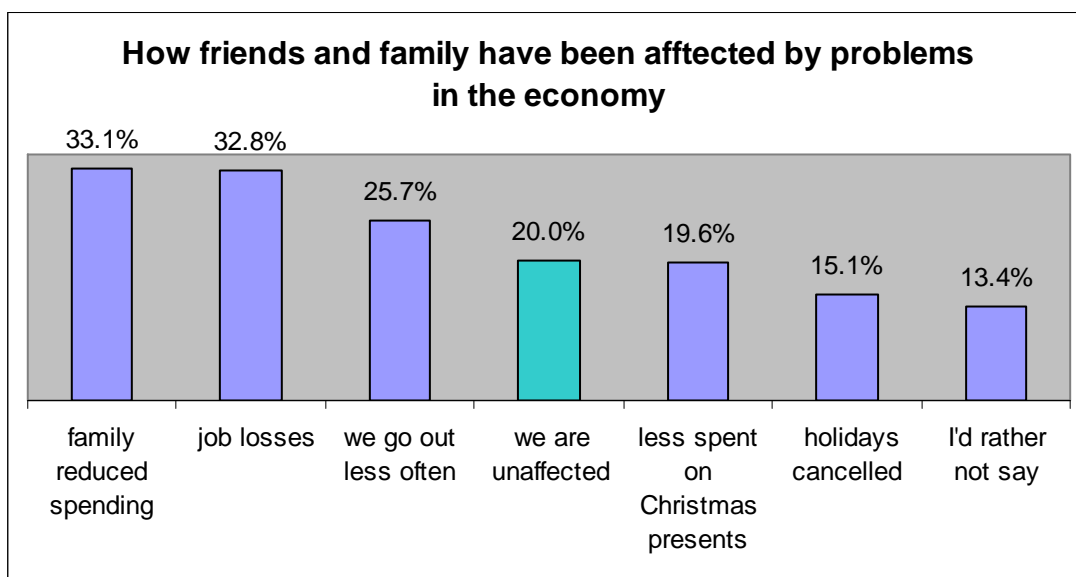


Graph 5.4 Victims of crime

**A third know someone who has lost their job, and a third say their family has cut down on spending due to problems in the economy**

33% of children say they know someone who has lost their job, 33% say their family has had to cut back on spending and 1 in 5 (20%) say less money was spent on their Xmas presents in 2010.

Question 19: "Have you, your friends or family been affected by problems in the economy? Tick all that are true for you." Responses: I know someone who has lost their job / I know someone who has had to cancel a holiday / Less money was spent on my presents this Christmas / My family has had to cut back on spending / My friends, family and I go out less often e.g. cinema or meal out / My friends and family have not been affected by problems in the economy / I'd rather not say



Graph 5.6 Effects of problems in the economy

### **Section 6: Tell us your views**

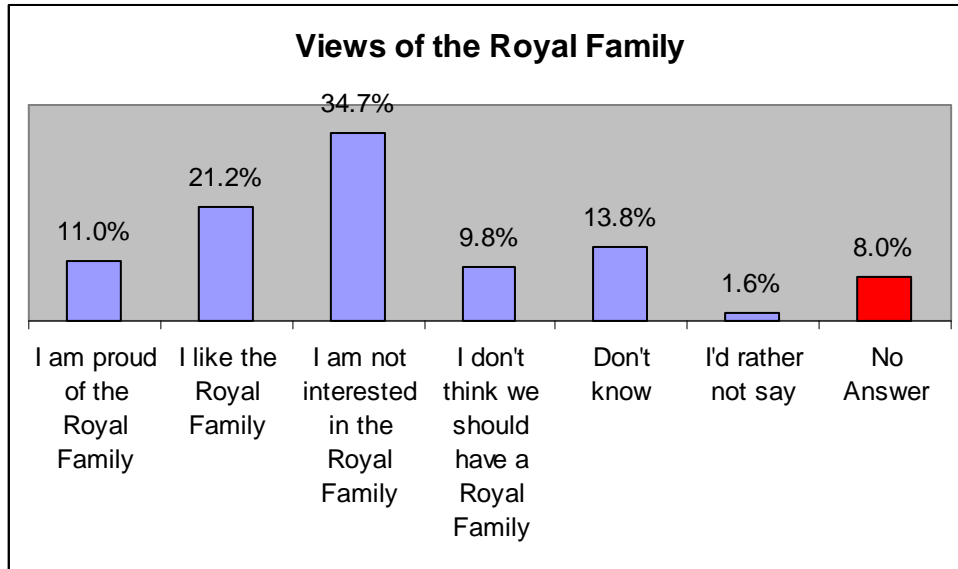
The young people's views on topical national issues were gathered

- 44% are not interested in, or do not think we should have, a Royal Family.
- 48% said they will vote when they are 18.
- The respondents say that contacting their MP is the best way to get their voices heard.
- Two thirds of respondents are interested in the Olympics
- 34% say they have no religion.
- Half say they belong to a religion where God(s) are central but only 40% say they believe in God(s).
- Most commonly identified as the biggest threats to the world are: terrorism, climate change and nuclear weapons.
- The most commonly identified threats to pupils are: crime, alcohol and drugs and terrorism.

### **Mixed support for monarchy**

More than 4 in 10 children are not interested in, or do not want, the Royal Family. Just over 3 in 10 were proud of, or liked, the Royal Family.

Question 20: "Which one of the following best describes how you view the Royal Family?"  
 Responses: I am proud of the Royal Family / I like the Royal Family / I am not interested in the Royal Family / I don't think we should have a Royal Family / Don't know / I'd rather not say

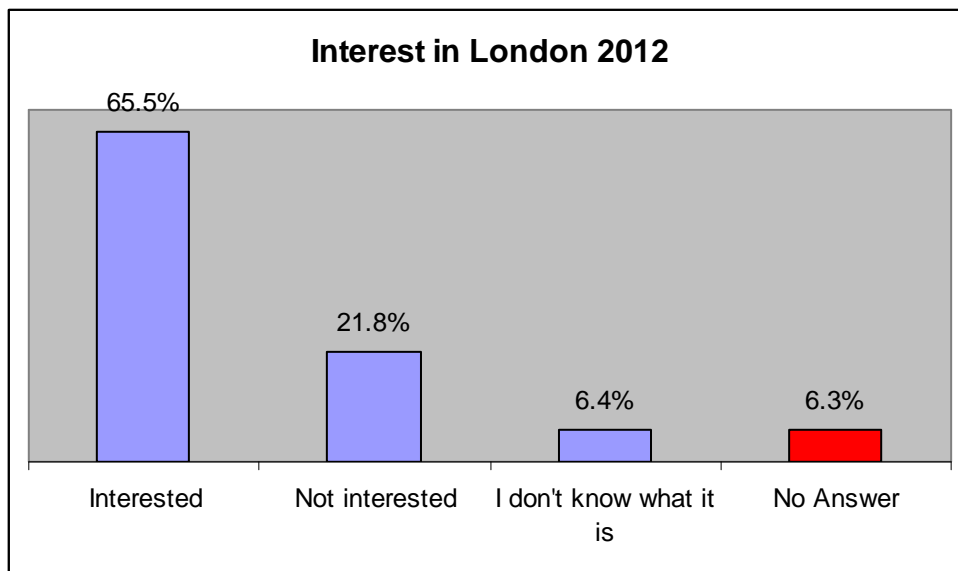


Graph 6.1 Views of the Royal Family

### General interest in London 2012

1 in 5 children are not interested in London 2012; 66 % are interested in London 2012. 13% did not answer the question, or ticked the box 'I don't know what it is.'

Question 21: "Are you interested in London 2012? Choose one of the following answers:"  
Responses: Yes / No / I don't know what it is

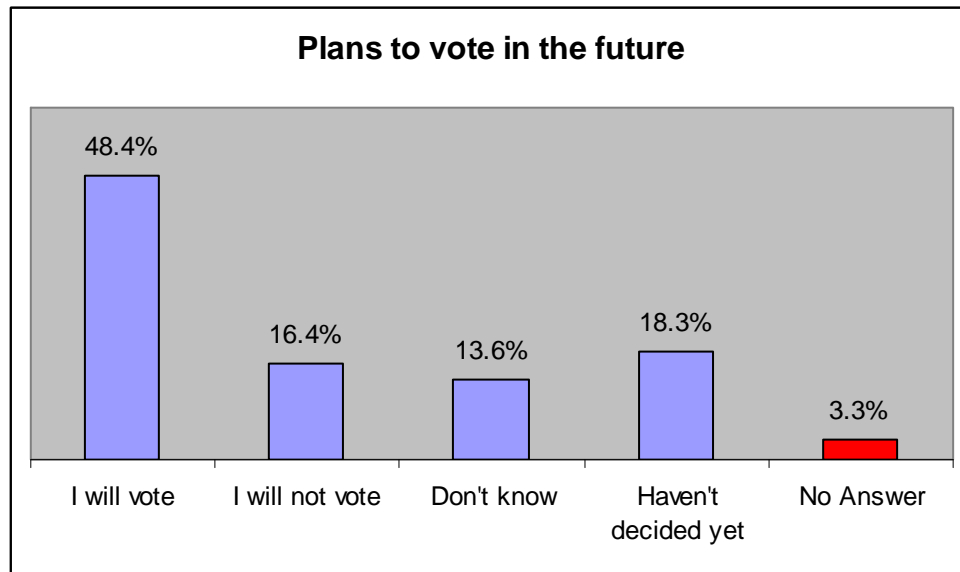


Graph 6.2 Interest in London 2012

### Almost half will vote when old enough

Just under half will vote when they are old enough; 18% hadn't decided, 16% said they will not vote.

Question 22: "Do you plan to vote in political elections when you are old enough (18)?"  
 Responses: Yes / No / Don't know / Haven't decided yet

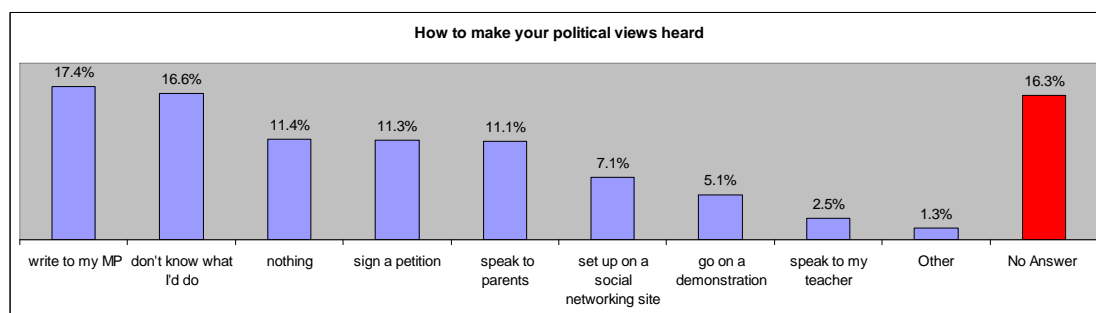


Graph 6.3 Voting plans for the future

### Substantial proportion do not know how to make their political opinions heard

17% of children said they did not know what they would do to get their voices heard, 11 % would do nothing and 16% didn't answer the question. Of those children choosing an action, the most popular were traditional forms of political engagement: contacting their MP, signing a petition or talking to their parents. Only 5% chose going on a demonstration.

Question 23: If you have a strong feeling about a political issue which one of the following do you think would be the best way of making your voice heard? Responses: I would sign a petition / I would speak to my teacher / I would speak to my parents / I would write to my MP / I would set up something on a social networking site / I would go on a demonstration / I don't know what I would do / I would do nothing / Other

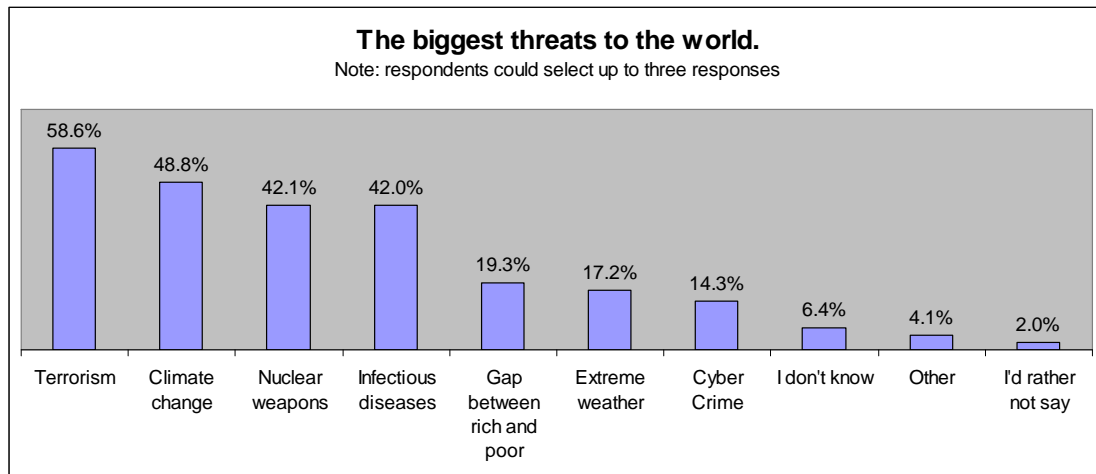


Graph 6.4 How to express political opinion

### Terrorism seen to pose the biggest threat to the world

The issues that were seen as posing the biggest threats to the world were terrorism, climate change and nuclear weapons. Infectious disease, such as swine flu and AIDS, was also a common response.

Question 24: "What do you think poses the biggest threats to the world right now? Choose up to 3 of the following answers:" Responses: Climate change / Nuclear weapons / Infectious diseases such as Swine flu, AIDS etc / Gap between rich and poor / Terrorism / Cyber Crime / Extreme weather / I don't know / Other / I'd rather not say

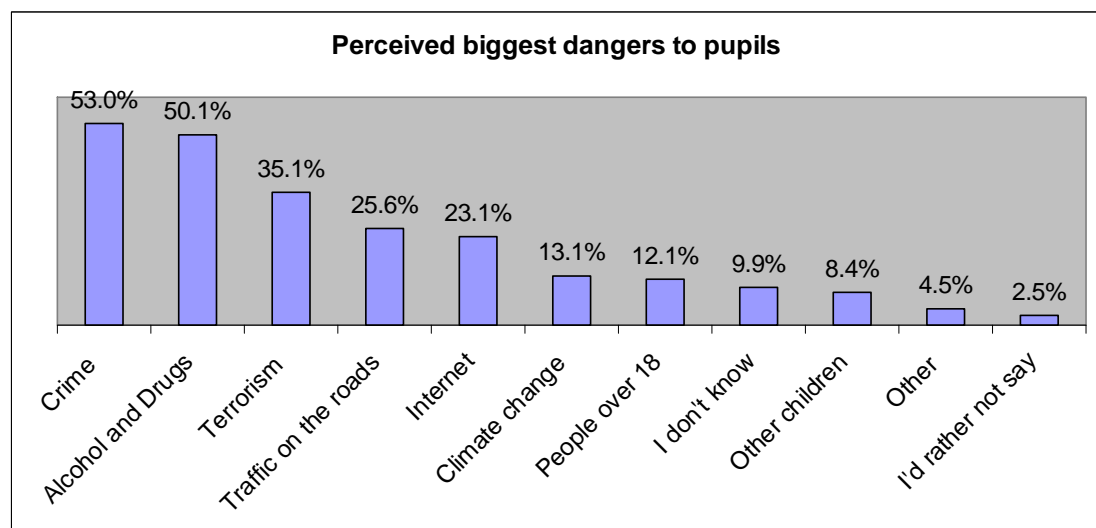


Graph 6.5 Biggest threat to the world

### Crime, and alcohol and drugs seen as biggest threat to 11-16 year olds

The most commonly identified dangers to respondents were crime, alcohol and drugs, then terrorism. Traffic was the fourth most common answer.

Question 25: "What do you think poses the biggest dangers to you? Choose up to 3 of the following answers:" Responses: Internet / Traffic on the roads / Crime / Terrorism / Alcohol and Drugs / Climate change / Other children / People over 18 / I don't know / Other / I'd rather not say



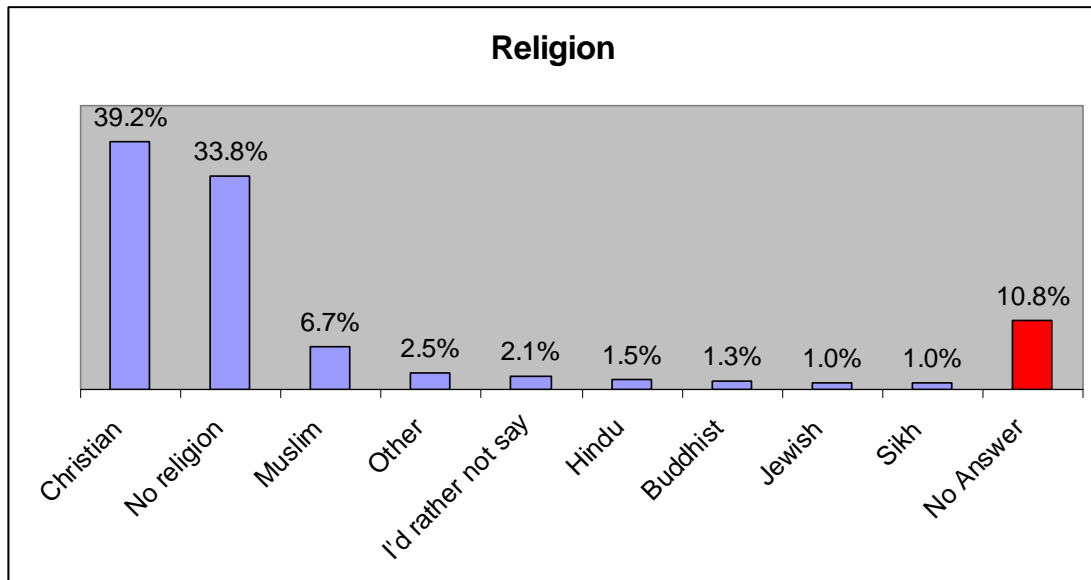
Graph 6.6 Perceived biggest danger to pupils

### A third of children are not religious

53% of the children surveyed are from a faith background (51% are faiths listed in the Census, 2% are "other") 4 in 10 children are Christian. Slightly

more than 3 in 10 said they had no religion. Less than 1 in 10 are Muslim. 34% said they had no faith

Question 26: "What is your religion?" Responses: Buddhist / Christian (including Catholic, Protestant and all other Christian denominations) / Hindu / Jewish / Muslim / Sikh / No religion / I'd rather not say / Other

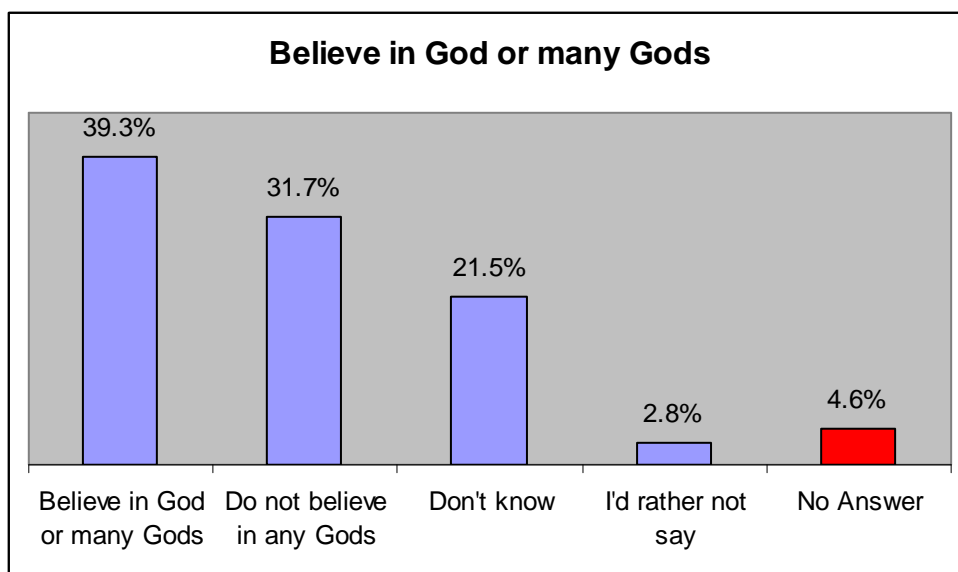


Graph 6.7 Religion

### Three out of ten say they don't believe in God(s)

4 in 10 believe in a God or many Gods. 3 in 10 do not believe in God or Gods. Over 2 in 10 do not know.

Question 27: "Do you believe that a God (or many Gods) exist?" Responses: Yes / No / Don't know / I'd rather not say



Graph 6.8 Belief in God or many Gods

## Section 7: Hopes for the future

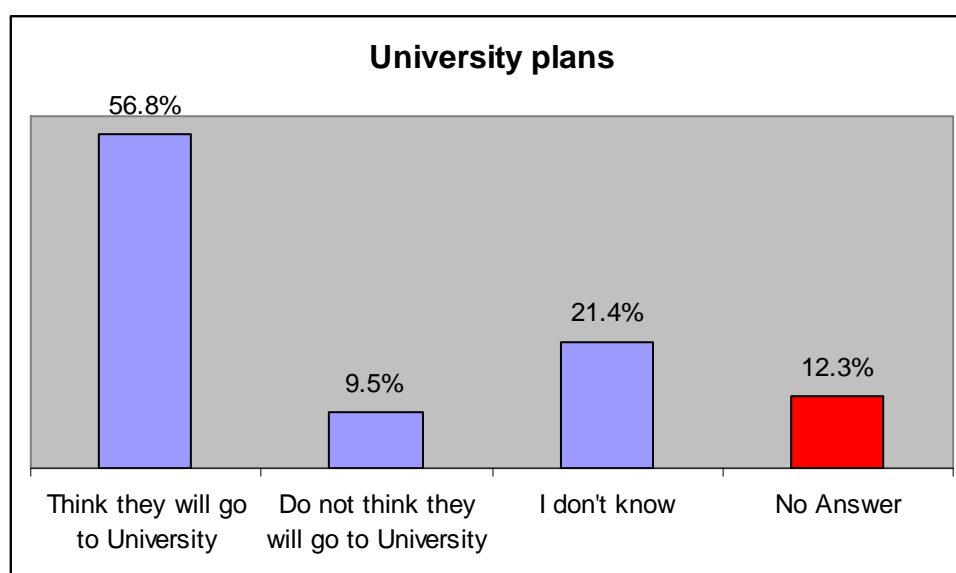
Questions about aspirations were included in the survey to gauge the future goals of the young people. Young people consulted on the survey questions were particularly keen to answer question 29.

- More than half think they will go to University.
- A house, earning a lot of money and being married/having a partner were the most common goals to reach by the age of 30 years old.

### More than half think they will go to University

More than half of children surveyed think they will go to University. Just under 1 in 10 think they will not go to University. Over 2 in 10 do not know. A larger proportion of children from London say they think they will go to university (64%), compared to the rest of the UK (56%).

Question 28: "Do you think you will go to university?" Responses: Yes / No / I don't know



Graph 7.1 University plans

EVERYWHERE BUT LONDON

55.70% ... Rounded up to **56%**

11679 children out of a possible total number of 20967

LONDON ONLY

64.46%.. Rounded down to **64%**

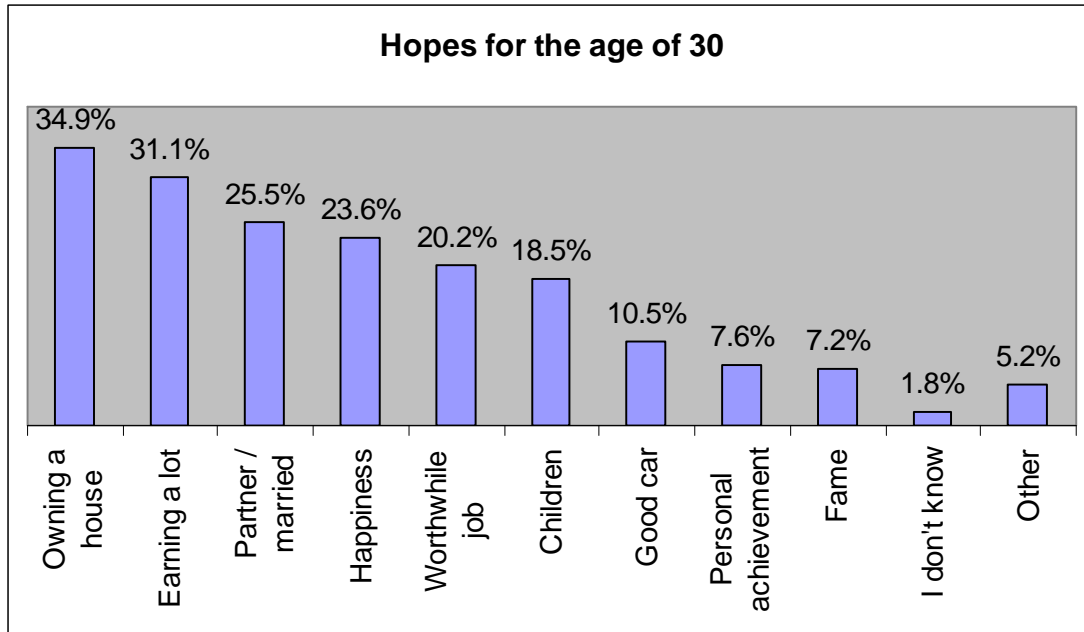
1988 children out of possible 3084

### Home ownership by 30 is the biggest goal

The most popular attributes to have achieved by the age of 30 were owning a house (35%) and earning a lot of money (31%). This was followed by being

married or having a partner (26%), being happy (24%) and having a worthwhile job (20%).

Question 29: "By the time you are thirty, which two of the following would you most like to achieve?" Responses: Owning your own house / Having a good car / Earning a lot of money / Having a worthwhile job / Having children / Having a partner or being married / Being famous / Having a personal achievement in sport, the arts or travel etc / Happiness / I don't know / Other



Graph 7.2 Hopes for the age of 30



## Appendix 1: Tabulated data

Where respondents could select more than one option the percentages reported add up to more than 100%.

### 1. How old are you? (years)

11	11.8%
12	24.5%
13	24.0%
14	18.4%
15	12.1%
16	6.7%
No Answer	2.5%
Total	100.0%

### 2. What gender are you?

Male	46.0%
Female	51.9%
No Answer	2.1%
Total	100.0%

### 3. Where were you born?

UK or Ireland	87.1%
Europe (not including UK or Ireland)	4.0%
Africa	1.9%
Asia	2.4%
Americas	0.7%
Australasia	0.3%
No Answer	3.5%
Total	100.0%

### 4. How many people live in your household including yourself?

2	3.1%
3	10.7%
4	24.6%
5	13.2%
6	5.3%
7	2.0%
8	0.8%
9	0.3%
10	0.2%

11	0.1%
12	0.1%
13	0.0%
14	0.0%
15	0.0%
16	0.0%
17	0.0%
18	0.0%
19	0.1%
20	0.7%
Over 20	0.0%
No Answer	38.8%
Total	100.0%

**5. Who do you live with? (tick any that apply)**

Mum	92.9%
Dad	69.7%
Step Mum	3.1%
Step Dad	10.5%
Brother(s)	50.4%
Sister(s)	47.6%
Step Brother(s)	2.8%
Step Sister(s)	2.4%
Half Brother(s)	3.5%
Half Sister(s)	3.1%
Grand parent(s)	4.2%
Other relative(s)	2.4%
Other adult(s)	2.4%
Other children	1.9%
I'd rather not say	3.0%

**6. How many languages do you use in conversation with your family and friends?**

1	72.0%
2	17.8%
3	4.1%
4	0.9%
5	1.7%
No Answer	3.5%
Total	100.0%

**7. How did you travel to school today? (select one only, for the longest part of the journey to school)**

Underground, metro, light rail, tram	1.2%
Train	1.8%
Bus, minibus or coach	29.6%
Taxi	0.8%

Car	27.0%
Bike	1.9%
On foot	35.5%
Other	0.9%
No Answer	1.3%
Total	100.0%

**8. How long (approximately) did your total journey to school take today?**

5 minutes or less	14.7%
10 minutes	20.5%
15 minutes	17.9%
20 minutes	13.5%
25 minutes	7.5%
30 minutes	8.0%
35 minutes	3.7%
40 minutes	3.2%
45 minutes	3.2%
50 minutes	1.2%
55 minutes	0.5%
1 hour	1.8%
1 hour and 5 minutes	0.4%
1 hour and 10 minutes	0.3%
1 hour and 15 minutes	0.3%
1 hour and 20 minutes	0.2%
1 hour and 25 minutes	0.0%
1 hour and 30 minutes	0.2%
1 hour and 35 minutes	0.0%
1 hour and 40 minutes	0.0%
1 hour and 45 minutes	0.0%
1 hour and 50 minutes	0.0%
1 hour and 55 minutes	0.1%
2 hours or more	1.4%
No Answer	1.3%
Total	100.0%

**9. How much sport or exercise did you do in school last week? (hours)**

None	6.2%
up to 1	12.9%
1 to 2	37.3%
2 to 3	18.1%
3 to 4	9.3%
4 to 5	4.8%
5 to 6	2.6%
6 to 7	1.5%
7 to 8	0.9%
8 to 9	0.4%
9 to 10	0.5%
More than 10	2.1%

No Answer	3.4%
Total	100.0%

**10. How much sport or exercise did you do outside of school last week? (hours)**

None	11.6%
up to 1	17.7%
1 to 2	16.8%
2 to 3	13.5%
3 to 4	10.4%
4 to 5	7.5%
5 to 6	4.9%
6 to 7	2.9%
7 to 8	2.2%
8 to 9	1.2%
9 to 10	1.7%
More than 10	5.6%
No Answer	4.0%
Total	100.0%

**11. Since you were 11 have you acted, sung, played a musical instrument or danced in front of an audience?**

Yes at school	27.3%
Yes out of school	12.0%
Yes both out of school and in school	28.5%
No	27.8%
No Answer	4.3%
Total	100.0%

**12a. Do you have access to a computer at home?**

No	2.0%
With Internet	94.7%
Without Internet	1.7%
No Answer	1.7%
Total	100.0%

**12a. Do you have access to a mobile phone at home?**

No	3.4%
With Internet	67.5%
Without Internet	26.7%
No Answer	2.4%
Total	100.0%

**12a. Do you have access to a games console at home?**

No	7.8%
With Internet	61.9%
Without Internet	26.5%
No Answer	3.8%
Total	100.0%

**12b. Do you have access to gadgets that allow you to take photos?**

No	2.9%
With Internet	55.1%
Without Internet	39.2%
No Answer	2.9%
Total	100.0%

**12b. Do you have access to gadgets that allow you to record video?**

No	4.8%
With Internet	52.0%
Without Internet	39.2%
No Answer	4.0%
Total	100.0%

**12b. Do you have access to gadgets that allow you to record audio?**

No	9.0%
With Internet	49.2%
Without Internet	35.2%
No Answer	6.6%
Total	100.0%

**13. When you are not with your friends how do you like to stay in touch with them? Choose your favourite three.**

Talk using phone (not mobile)	15.8%
Talk using mobile phone	49.6%
Talk using Skype or equivalent	8.1%
Text message	70.3%
E-mail	12.2%
Social networking site e.g. Facebook/Bebo	66.6%
Instant messaging	20.6%
I prefer to wait until I see them next	10.2%
Other	6.2%

No Answer 0.0%

**14. Have you ever helped the adults in your family go online? Tick all that apply.**

Yes, I've helped them with e-mail	47.7%
Yes, I've helped them find websites	60.5%
Yes, I've helped them upload photos	44.8%
Yes, I've helped them do something else	49.2%
No, I haven't	12.9%

**15. How much do you enjoy living in your local area? By area we mean within a mile or 20 minutes**

Not at all	6.3%
A bit	41.7%
A lot	45.4%
I'd rather not say	2.7%
No Answer	3.8%
Total	100.0%

**16. Do you feel safe walking around your local area?**

Always	29.7%
Most of the time	44.8%
Some of the time	18.1%
Never	4.1%
I'd rather not say	1.2%
No Answer	2.2%
Total	100.0%

**17. Have you ever been treated unfairly because of your age when doing any of the following? Choose all that apply.**

Shopping	23.1%
Using public transport	18.0%
Using local sports, leisure or play facilities	11.4%
Visiting a cafe or restaurant	12.0%
I have not been treated unfairly because of my age	38.9%
I'd rather not say	8.5%
Other	7.9%
No Answer	0.0%

**18. Have you ever been a victim of theft, mugging or burglary?**

Yes	17.2%
No	73.5%

I'd rather not say	3.7%
No Answer	5.7%
Total	100.0%

**19. Have you, your friends or family been affected by problems in the economy? Tick all that are true for you.**

I know someone who has lost their job	32.8%
I know someone who has had to cancel a holiday	15.1%
Less money was spent on my presents this Christmas	19.6%
My family has had to cut back on spending	33.1%
My friends, family and I go out less often e.g. cinema or meal out	25.7%
My friends and family have not been affected by problems in the economy	20.0%
I'd rather not say	13.4%

**20. Which one of the following best describes how you view the Royal Family?**

I am proud of the Royal Family	11.0%
I like the Royal Family	21.2%
I am not interested in the Royal Family	34.7%
I don't think we should have a Royal Family	9.8%
Don't know	13.8%
I'd rather not say	1.6%
No Answer	8.0%
Total	100.0%

**21. Are you interested in London 2012? Choose one of the following answers:**

Yes	65.5%
No	21.8%
I don't know what it is	6.4%
No Answer	6.3%
Total	100.0%

**22. Do you plan to vote in political elections when you are old enough (18)?**

Yes	48.4%
No	16.4%
Don't know	13.6%
Haven't decided yet	18.3%
No Answer	3.3%
Total	100.0%

**23. If you have a strong feeling about a political issue which one of the following do you think would be the best way of making your voice heard?**

I would sign a petition	11.3%
I would speak to my teacher	2.5%
I would speak to my parents	11.1%
I would write to my MP	17.4%
I would set up something on a social networking site	7.1%
I would go on a demonstration	5.1%
I don't know what I would do	16.6%
I would do nothing	11.4%
Other	1.3%
No Answer	16.3%
Total	100.0%

**24. What do you think poses the biggest threats to the world right now? Choose up to 3.**

Climate change	48.8%
Nuclear weapons	42.1%
Infectious diseases such as Swine flu, AIDS etc	42.0%
Gap between rich and poor	19.3%
Terrorism	58.6%
Cyber Crime	14.3%
Extreme weather	17.2%
I don't know	6.4%
Other	4.1%
I'd rather not say	2.0%

**25. What do you think poses the biggest dangers to you? Choose up to 3**

Internet	23.1%
Traffic on the roads	25.6%
Crime	53.0%
Terrorism	35.1%
Alcohol and Drugs	50.1%
Climate change	13.1%
Other children	8.4%
People over 18	12.1%
I don't know	9.9%
Other	4.5%
I'd rather not say	2.5%

**26. What is your religion?**

Buddhist	1.3%
Christian (including Catholic, Protestant and all other Christian denominations)	39.2%
Hindu	1.5%
Jewish	1.0%
Muslim	6.7%
Sikh	1.0%



No religion	33.8%
I'd rather not say	2.1%
Other	2.5%
No Answer	10.8%
Total	100.0%

**27. Do you believe that a God (or many Gods) exist?**

Yes	39.3%
No	31.7%
Don't know	21.5%
I'd rather not say	2.8%
No Answer	4.6%
Total	100.0%

**28. Do you think you will go to university?**

Yes	56.8%
No	9.5%
I don't know	21.4%
No Answer	12.3%
Total	100.0%

**29. By the time you are thirty, which two of the following would you most like to achieve?**

Owning your own house	34.9%
Having a good car	10.5%
Earning a lot of money	31.1%
Having a worthwhile job	20.2%
Having children	18.5%
Having a partner/being married	25.5%
Being famous	7.2%
Having a personal achievement in sport, the arts or travel etc	7.6%
Happiness	23.6%
I don't know	1.8%
Other	5.2%

## Appendix 2: Background of participating schools

The survey was completed by over 300 schools from across the UK.

Description	Total
Number of Respondents	24052
Number of Schools	329

Table A.2.1 Overview of participating schools

### Free School Meals

Average % of pupils known to be eligible for Free School Meals in 278 of the schools who completed the survey is 17.6%, this compares to an average for England of 15.4.

### School Types

Schools completing the survey come from a wide range of types of school including: Academy Comprehensive, Community Comprehensive, Community Middle, Community Secondary Modern, Community Special, Foundation Selective, Hospital, Independent Selective, Voluntary aided Comprehensive, Voluntary Aided Selective, Voluntary Controlled Comprehensive.

### Denomination

Schools completing the survey come from a range of religious backgrounds. Most schools are not religious but those religious schools taking part in the survey include: Church of England, Jewish and Roman Catholic.

### Geographical Spread

Schools completing the survey are from across the whole of the UK – from every BBC English Region and Nation. Schools come from a range of cities, towns and more rural areas. Regional breakdowns of the results will not be given where there are fewer than 500 responses. (See table below for regional and national breakdown).

BBC Region	Pupils
London	3084
East	3042
North West	3639
Yorkshire	1861
South East	1167
North East and Cumbria	1345
Scotland	1250
West	928
East Midlands	907
South	1947
West Midlands	2097
South West	1361
Wales	640
East Yorkshire and Lincolnshire	382
Guernsey and Jersey	1
Northern Ireland	340
Unknown	61
<b>Total</b>	<b>24052</b>

Table A.2.2 Respondents by BBC region

- ends -