

YouGov Survey Results

Sample Size: 565

Fieldwork: 9th - 13th July 2007

For detailed results, [click here](#)

%

Please tell us, do you have any children or step-children in the following age groups? [Please tick all that apply]

0 to 5	14
6 to 10	29
11 to 16	89
17 to 18	33
19 or older	26
I do not have any children	0

Thinking about your child/ children aged from 11 to 18, which, if any, of the following options describe their current education status? [Please tick all that apply]

[All with children aged 11 to 18]

Attending a State/ maintained school (e.g. a comprehensive, a grammar school, a city academy)	92
Attending an independent school (i.e. a public/ private school)	3
Attending a State-funded Sixth Form College or Further Education College	17
Attending a private Sixth Form or Further Education College	1
Attending a Higher Education College/ University	4
Other	1
Not in education	0

[The following questions are all asked of respondents with children aged 11 to 18 in state education]

The next set of questions is about your child/ children's State secondary education whether it be secondary school, Sixth Form College or Further Education College.

Please base your answers according to the place that your child/ children currently attend(s).

Below is a list of things about State secondary school education. Keeping your own children's secondary school in mind please rate how satisfied or dissatisfied you are with each one. Please select one answer per row.

The education which your child(ren) is receiving in this school or schools

Very satisfied	27
Fairly satisfied	48
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	11
Fairly dissatisfied	9
Very dissatisfied	4
Don't know	0
Mean	3.86

The amount of school discipline

Very satisfied	20
Fairly satisfied	39
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	16
Fairly dissatisfied	16
Very dissatisfied	8
Don't know	0
Mean	3.47

The physical condition of the school, i.e. the state of the buildings, the facilities and so on

Very satisfied	23
Fairly satisfied	41
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	19
Fairly dissatisfied	10
Very dissatisfied	6
Don't know	1
Mean	3.64

Below is a list of things which some people have said happen to some children in school. Please click which of these, if any, have happened to any of your children while at school. [Please select all that apply]

Had one or more possessions stolen	31
Received serious physical or emotional intimidation from another child	28
Been physically assaulted by another child where no weapon was used	23
Been physically assaulted by another child where a weapon was used	3
None of these	48
Prefer not to say	1

As far as you can tell, can your child/ all your children that attend State secondary school(s) read, write and add up properly?

Yes, my child/ all my children can	87
No, my child/ all my children cannot	4
Each of my children is at a different level	8
Don't know	0
Prefer not to say	1

Most State secondary schools in Britain today are comprehensive but a few counties in Britain still have grammar schools where entrance is through the eleven plus exam.

Please click on the option below which most closely describes your views about grammar schools and the eleven plus.

I think that all secondary schools should be comprehensive with no grammar schools	30
I think that all secondary school aged children who wish to should be able to go to grammar school if they pass an exam	59
Don't know	11

Have you ever considered changing, or actually changed, any of your children's State secondary schools because you were dissatisfied with the one they were at?

Yes	26
No	72
Don't know	2

Have you considered moving house, or actually moved house, to be in the catchment area of a particular State secondary school?

Yes	20
No	78
Don't know	2

Assuming that money and/ or location were not obstacles, would you consider sending your child or children to private school?

Yes	59
No	32
Don't know	9

Below is a list of statements about State secondary school education. For each one, please click on how much you agree with each one. Please select one answer per row.

The school curriculum adequately caters for both academic and non-academic pupils

Strongly agree	8
Tend to agree	33
Neither agree nor disagree	21
Tend to disagree	26
Strongly disagree	10
Don't know	2
Mean	3.03

The school curriculum should be laid down by individual schools rather than the Government to allow teachers to teach as they think best

Strongly agree	15
Tend to agree	32
Neither agree nor disagree	18
Tend to disagree	23
Strongly disagree	10
Don't know	2
Mean	3.20

School children should be encouraged to participate in competitive sports

Strongly agree	31
Tend to agree	40
Neither agree nor disagree	20
Tend to disagree	7
Strongly disagree	2
Don't know	0
Mean	3.92

There is enough opportunity for me to discuss my child's/ children's performance in secondary school with their teachers

Strongly agree	15
Tend to agree	37
Neither agree nor disagree	21
Tend to disagree	20
Strongly disagree	6
Don't know	1
Mean	3.36

There is enough opportunity for parents to have a say in how the school is run

Strongly agree	5
Tend to agree	25
Neither agree nor disagree	29
Tend to disagree	28
Strongly disagree	10
Don't know	2
Mean	2.85

The amount of information I receive about what is going on in my child's/ children's secondary school(s) and what is taught in class is adequate

Strongly agree	10
Tend to agree	30
Neither agree nor disagree	24
Tend to disagree	28
Strongly disagree	8
Don't know	1
Mean	3.06

Teachers should supervise children for after-school activities as part of their job and not expect to be paid extra for it

Strongly agree	8
Tend to agree	20
Neither agree nor disagree	23
Tend to disagree	26
Strongly disagree	20
Don't know	2
Mean	2.68

I am more satisfied now with the education which children generally are receiving in State secondary schools that I was a few years ago

Strongly agree	8
Tend to agree	22
Neither agree nor disagree	38
Tend to disagree	17
Strongly disagree	13
Don't know	3
Mean	2.94

There is too much political bias in my child's/ children's teaching at secondary school

Strongly agree	9
Tend to agree	17
Neither agree nor disagree	37
Tend to disagree	19
Strongly disagree	12
Don't know	5
Mean	2.93

Teachers should be paid according to how well they perform

Strongly agree	17
Tend to agree	43
Neither agree nor disagree	25
Tend to disagree	9
Strongly disagree	6
Don't know	2
Mean	3.57

The number of text books provided to children for various subjects in secondary school is adequate

Strongly agree	5
Tend to agree	25
Neither agree nor disagree	29
Tend to disagree	24
Strongly disagree	13
Don't know	5
Mean	2.84

Below is a list of topics which some children may be taught during the course of their secondary school education. For each topic and, keeping your own children's State secondary schools in mind, please click on whether you think there is too much or too little emphasis or whether you think the emphasis is about right. Please select one answer per row.

Sex education

Too much	7
About right	66
Too little	16
Don't know	11

Homosexuality

Too much	17
About right	41
Too little	15
Don't know	27

Sexually transmitted diseases including AIDS

Too much	2
About right	53
Too little	27
Don't know	18

Alcohol/ drug awareness

Too much	2
About right	51
Too little	34
Don't know	14

Managing personal finances

Too much	0
About right	12
Too little	73
Don't know	15

Do you think that parents should be allowed to withdraw pupils from classes about sex education and homosexuality?

Yes - withdraw from classes about sex education including homosexuality	21
Yes - withdraw from classes about sex education only	0
Yes - withdraw from classes about homosexuality only	10
No - not withdraw at all	62
Don't know	7

Do you think that school children should be taught mainly about Christianity, equally about other religions or not be taught religion in schools at all?

Mainly Christianity	36
Equally about other religions	40
Not taught religion at all	21
Don't know	3

Thinking generally, would you say that you are in favour or not in favour of Faith schools?

In favour	31
Not in favour	52
Don't know	17

In general, do you think that religious clothing requirements should override school uniform rules?

Yes	10
No	83
Don't know	7

Below is a list of possible options relating to the assessment of a child's school performance. Please click on the option which you would like to see in operation for secondary school children.

Continuous assessment followed by exams marked internally by the teachers	18
Continuous assessment followed by exams marked by external examiners i.e. people who do not know the children personally	60
Continuous assessment only with no exams	12
No continuous assessment and only exams marked internally	1
No continuous assessment and only exams marked externally	5
Don't know	3

In your opinion, is/ are your secondary school child(ren) given too much, too little or about the right amount of homework?

Too much	11
About right	50
Too little	36
Don't know	3

Would you say that your child/ children's school size is too large, too small or about the right size?

Too large	28
About right	66
Too small	2
Don't know	4

And would you say that your child/ children's class size in secondary school is too large, too small or about the right size?

Too large	45
About right	48
Too small	1
Don't know	6