



Building the Evidence Base Strand 1
Student Data
Technical
Appendices













Building the Evidence Base – Strand 1 Student data

Final report - Technical appendices

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Appendix 1 – Number of students and schools taking part in the survey

	No of students taking part in the survey	No of schools taking part in the survey
Primary	1012	37
Secondary	1807	29
Total	2819	66

Appendix 2 - Secondary sample characteristics

QCA sample schools were compared to those not in the sample on a range of pupil background characteristics, including school size, SEN and FSM status, percentage of pupils achieving level 2 threshold (5A*-C) at GCSE, percentage pupils achieving any qualification at GCSE, Value added performance, and authorised and unauthorised absences. Results are given in table 1.

Table 1: Mean school population factors QCA sample compared to non-sample schools

		Mean	t	Significance
Number of pupils on roll	Non-	728	-2.1	.004
	sample			
	QCA	925		
	sample			
Percentage of pupils with SEN	Non-	2.9%	0.6	.536
statements	sample			
	QCA	2.7%		
	sample			
Percentage pupils eligible for	Non-	13.0%	0.7	.598
Free School Meals	sample			
	QCA	13.3%		
	sample			
Pct pupils achieving Level 2	Non-	52.5	0.9	.367
threshold	sample			
	QCA	48.8		
	sample			







		Mean	t	Significance
Pct pupils achieving any	Non-	94.3	0.3	.751
qualifications	sample			
	QCA	93.7		
	sample			
value added measure	Non-	995.9	0.3	.721
	sample			
	QCA	994.1		
	sample			
Pct authorised absence	Non-	6.8%	0.2	.812
	sample			
	QCA	6.7%		
	sample			
Pct unauthorised absence	Non-	1.6%	0.8	.446
	sample			
	QCA	1.3%		
	sample			

From table 1 it is clear that there are few major differences between the QCA sample and other schools. The only significant difference was found in school size, where QCA schools were significantly larger on average than the national picture.

In table 2, the ethnic make up of QCA schools was compared to the national picture.

Table 2: Ethnic groups - QCA sample and National data

	QCA Sample	National
Asian	5.6%	7.4%
Black	2.4%	4.1%
Chinese	0.2%	0.4%
Mixed	3.1%	3.0%
Other	5.8%	1.0%
White	82.9%	82.5%







From this table it is clear that there is a slight underrepresentation of Asian and Black pupils in the sample, and an overrepresentation of the category 'other'. Overall, the sample represents all ethnic groups however.

Appendix 3- Primary- What is learning like in your school?

Agree a	
---------	--

		lot	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Disagree a	lot
1	I never use the internet at school	7.3	2.4	14.4	37.3	38.6	I often use the internet at school
2	I often do group work with other students in class	31.7	15.2	32.5	15.2	5.3	I always work by myself or as part of the whole class
3	Teachers are good at finding out what I already know about	31.5	39.8	15.9	8.6	4.2	Teachers don't bother to find out what I know already about
4	We often get people from outside the school coming in to work with us	32.3	16.9	22.7	18	10	We only work with teachers or classroom assistants
5	We always do the same things in our lessons	6.2	3.6	14.2	34.9	41.1	We do a lot of different things in our lessons
6	We do a lot of practical activities	38	28.6	21.1	9.1	3.2	We never do practical activities
7	We often get to see examples from videos or DVDs or television during lessons	34.2	15.9	21.6	19.2	9.1	We never get to see examples from videos or DVDs or television during lessons
8	Lessons are often too difficult for me	13.2	3.9	51.8	23.7	7.4	Lessons are often too easy for me
9	I often use what I have learnt at school in my life outside of school	38.2	29.4	17.5	10.2	4.7	I never use anything I have learnt at school in my life outside of school
10	My teachers like me to bring things from home into lessons	31.1	19.9	27.1	13.5	8.4	My teachers don't like me to bring things from home into lessons







Appendix 4 – Primary- In the future, what would you like school to be like?

Agree

		a lot	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Disagre	Disagree a lot		
11	In the future, I would like to do a lot of practical activities	30.9	46.3	16.1	4	2.7	In the future, I would like to We never do practical activities		
12	In the future, I would like mostly to do a lot of group work with other students	32.9	27.8	21.8	10.1	7.4	In the future, I would like to mostly work on my own or with the whole class		
13	In the future, I would like to get people from outside the school coming in to work with us	31.7	35.1	19.7	6.9	6.6	In the future, I would like to only work with teachers or classroom assistants		
14	In the future, I don't want to have to bring things from home into lessons	10.7	10.3	20.7	28.6	29.8	In the future, I would like to get to bring things from home into lessons		
15	In the future, I would like to get to see examples from videos or DVDs or television during lessons	25.5	55.1	13.2	3.2	3	In the future, I don't want to see examples from videos or DVDs or television during lessons		
16	In the future, I would like lessons to be easier	13.2	13.6	37.5	24	11.6	In the future, I would like lessons to be more difficult		
17	In the future, I would like to use what I have learnt at school in my life outside of school	29.4	40.4	20	5.8	4.4	In the future, I don't want to have to use anything I have learnt at school in my life outside of school		







Agree

		a lot	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Disagree a lot			
18	In the future, I would like to use the internet at school	19.1	62.9	13.6	2	2.4	In the future, I don't want to use the internet at school		
19	In the future, I would like teachers to be good at finding out what I already know about	27.7	47.2	16.6	4.5	4	In the future, I don't want teachers to bother finding out what I know already about before they try and teach me something new		
20	In the future, I would like to do the same things in each lesson	2.6	3.5	16.2	20	57.8	In the future, I would like to do a lot of different things in lessons		





the school day

learn about in

lessons

I have a say in what I

28



Appendix 5 – Primary- Experience of autonomy and influence.

		Agree a					
		lot	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Disagree a	lot
21	I don't have a say in how much homework I get	19.6	46.4	18.2	7.9	8.2	I have a say in how much homework I get
22	I get to choose who to work with in lessons	22.1	14.1	30.6	20.4	12.8	I don't get to choose who I work with in lessons
3	I can choose to do some of my learning online	18.7	15.6	18.6	16.8	30.3	I am told when I have to work online and when in the class
24	I sometimes get to mark my own and/or other pupils' work at school	32.6	42.8	15.6	4.6	4.4	I never get to mark my own and/or other pupils' work at school
25	Teachers often ask me what I am finding difficult	33.2	41.4	13.7	6.9	4.7	Teachers never ask me what I am finding difficult
26	I have a say in how I am taught at school	18.7	11.9	27	18.9	23.6	I don't have a say in how I am taught at school
27	I have to be at school all the time during	15.3	61.8	13.7	5.7	3.5	I can choose to do some of my



13.9

9.8

21.5

19.7

35.1

learning at home
The teachers decide

what I should learn

about in lessons





Appendix 6 – Primary- Autonomy and influence wanted in the future

		Agree a lot	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Disagree a	lot
29	In the future, I would like to have a say in how I am taught	27.8	40.3	17.6	6.7	7.6	In the future, I would like the teachers to decide how I am taught
30	In the future, I would like to have a say in what I learn about in lessons	27.5	39.3	18.6	7	7.6	In the future, I would like the teachers to decide what I should learn about in lessons
31	In the future, I don't want to have a lot of choice of subjects in this school	7.6	8.4	15.7	22	46.2	In the future, I would like to have a lot of choice in what subjects I want to do
32	In the future, I would like to mark my own and/or other pupils' work	21.3	37.2	18.7	9.5	13.3	In the future, I don't want to have to mark my own and/or other pupils' work
33	In the future, I would like to be able to choose to do some of my learning online	27.1	48.2	13.8	4.1	6.8	In the future, I would like to be told when I have to work online and when in the class
34	In the future, I would like to get to choose who to work with in lessons	19.8	59.1	13.4	3	4.7	In the future, I would like teachers to choose who I work with in lessons
35	In the future, I would like to have to be at school all the time during the school day	13.8	19.7	24.3	18.3	23.8	In the future, I would like to be able to choose to do some of my



learning at home





36	In the future, I would	11.4	13.7	16.1	18.5	40.3	In the future, I
	like the teachers to						would like to have
	decide how much						a say in how much
	homework I get						homework I get
37	In the future, I would	20.9	54.9	15.9	3.9	4.3	In the future, I don't
	like teachers to ask						want teachers to
	me about what I am						ask me what I am
	finding difficult						finding difficult

Appendix 7- Primary- People who encourage me.

		Agree a lot	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Disagree a	lot
42	My parents put too much pressure on me	10.4	19.4	48.5	12.5	9.3	My parents don't put enough pressure on me
43	My parents expect me to do well at school	64.1	21.8	11.8	1.2	1.4	My parents think I won't do well at school
44	My friends expect me to do well at school	32.5	32.2	26.8	4.3	4.2	My friends think I won't do well at school
45	My friends want me to work hard at school	31.6	28	29.2	6.5	4.6	My friends don't want me to work hard at school

Appendix 8 - Primary- Analyses of gender differences

Analyses of gender differences – primary

Daniel Muijs, University of Manchester

1. Introduction

Of the 1012 primary responses received, 954 (94.3%) provided their gender. Of these 479 were boys and 475 were girls. It is these respondents that will be included in these analyses, with missing values excluded.

For the 'slider' items we used the independent samples T-test. This tests whether any difference found between the means of two groups is likely to be the result of an existing difference in the population of primary pupils







rather than being the result of idiosyncracies in the sample. As the slider items were intended to be continuous, the five scale points can be considered as quasi-continuous. The items relating to health behaviours cannot be considered to be continuous, so cross tabulation was used with the Chi Square test which tests whether or not the distribution of responses in each cell (e.g. boy-true, girl-true, boy-false, girl-false) is significantly different from what you would expect if there was no difference in responses between girls and boys.

2. What is learning like in your school?

Table 1: Mean differences by gender, significant differences at the .05 level in Italics

		Mean	Std. Deviation
QUESTION 1	Girl	1.03	1.059
	Воу	1.10	1.035
QUESTION 2	Girl	43	1.177
	Воу	27	1.231
QUESTION 3	Girl	-1.03	1.100
	Воу	91	1.226
QUESTION 4	Girl	37	1.318
	Воу	17	1.295
QUESTION 5	Girl	1.17	1.020
	Воу	.99	1.156
QUESTION 6	Girl	85	1.119
	Воу	76	1.122
QUESTION 7	Girl	35	1.267
	Воу	22	1.252
QUESTION 8	Girl	.09	.939
	Воу	.30	.940
QUESTION 9	Girl	85	1.217
	Воу	70	1.252
QUESTION 10	Girl	52	1.202
	Воу	30	1.295







Some significant, though generally weak, differences were found between girls and boys on the items related to what learning is like in their school. The strongest difference was found on question 8, on difficulty of lessons. Boys were significantly more likely to say that lessons were often too easy for them than girls (t=3.4, p<.001). Boys are also more likely to say that teachers don't want them to bring items in from home (t=-2.8, p<.01, question 10). Significant differences were also found on question 5, with girls more likely to say they do a lot of different things in lessons (t=2.5, t=2.5, t=2.5), question 4, with boys more likely to say they only work with teachers or classroom than girls, and question 2, with boys more likely to say they usually work on their own or in the whole class rather than in group (t=-2.1, t=2.5).

There is therefore a tendency for boys to see lessons as somewhat more traditional than girls, though it has to be pointed out that the differences are small.

3. What would you like your school to be like?

Table 2: what would you like your school to be like, mean differences between boys and girls

		Mean	Std. Deviation
QUESTION 11	Girl	-1.15	1.119
	Воу	-1.16	1.196
QUESTION 12	Girl	62	1.291
	Воу	66	1.269
QUESTION 13	Girl	90	1.253
	Воу	74	1.302
QUESTION 14	Girl	.79	1.294
	Воу	.44	1.445
QUESTION 15	Girl	-1.29	1.151
	Воу	-1.28	1.172
QUESTION 16	Girl	.10	1.126
	Воу	.09	1.357
QUESTION 17	Girl	-1.01	1.169
	Воу	93	1.241







		Mean	Std. Deviation
QUESTION 18	Girl	-1.41	1.168
	Воу	-1.39	1.198
QUESTION 19	Girl	-1.20	1.188
	Воу	-1.02	1.289
QUESTION 20	Girl	1.44	1.009
	Воу	1.23	1.124

Less differences were found on the questions about what pupils would like their school to be like. Girls were significantly more likely to say they would like to bring more objects from home into school in the future (t=3.9, p<.001). They were also more likely to say that in future they would like to do a lot of different things in lessons (t=3.0, p<.01), and to say that in future they would like teachers to be good at finding out about what they already know (t=-2.2, p<.05)

4. Pupil autonomy and influence

Table 3: Pupil autonomy and influence by gender, significant differences at the .05 level in Italics

		Mean	Std. Deviation
QUESTION 21	Girl	93	1.450
	Boy	87	1.404
QUESTION 22	Girl	.00	1.224
	Boy	08	1.331
QUESTION 23	Girl	.41	1.514
	Boy	.17	1.528
QUESTION 24	Girl	-1.20	1.186
	Boy	94	1.217
QUESTION 25	Girl	-1.04	1.206
	Воу	-1.01	1.214
QUESTION 26	Girl	.33	1.466







		Mean	Std. Deviation
	Boy	.20	1.348
QUESTION 27	Girl	-1.32	1.238
	Boy	-1.24	1.260
QUESTION 28	Girl	.69	1.357
	Воу	.51	1.414

Again relatively few significant differences between boys and girls were found. Girls were more likely to say they often got to mark their own or others' work (t=3.4, p<.001, question 24). Girls were also more likely to say that they could choose to do some of their learning online (t=2.4, p<.05, question 23), and that teachers decide what they should do in lessons (t=2.0, p<.05, question 28). However, these differences were rather weak.

Table 4: Desired pupil autonomy and influence by gender, significant differences at the .05 level in Italics

		Mean	Std. Deviation
QUESTION 29	Girl	84	1.412
	Boy	91	1.377
QUESTION 30	Girl	83	1.384
	Boy	85	1.393
QUESTION 31	Girl	1.07	1.234
	Воу	.87	1.413
QUESTION 32	Girl	73	1.427
	Воу	48	1.533
QUESTION 33	Girl	-1.09	1.264
	Воу	-1.05	1.389
QUESTION 34	Girl	-1.33	1.206
	Воу	-1.21	1.309
QUESTION 35	Girl	.08	1.495
	Воу	.22	1.506









		Mean	Std. Deviation
QUESTION 36	Girl	.59	1.482
	Boy	.67	1.510
QUESTION 37	Girl	-1.29	1.252
	Воу	-1.11	1.303

Similar responses are found with regards to pupils' views on their desired states. Girls are more likely to want to mark their own or others' work (t=-2.6, p<.01, question 32), are more likely to want more choice of subjects (t=-2.3, t=-2.2, t=-2

5. Looking after myself and others

With regards to healthy eating, boys were significantly more likely to agree that they had never been told about healthy eating at school (Chi Square=13.5, p<.001), while girls were somewhat more likely to say they already ate healthily (Chi Square=4.1, p<.05).

Boys were also more likely to say that teachers had never encouraged them to take more exercise (Chi Square=7.2, p<.01), while girls were more likely to say that they had been encouraged to take more exercise at school (Chi Square=5.9, p<.05).

Boys were more likely to say that some of their friends have started to deal better with stress because of what they have learnt about it at school (Chi Square=9.7, p<.01) than girls. No differences were found on the extent to which they said they had learnt about stress or talked about it at school.

Boys were somewhat more likely to say that teachers don't know anything about bullying (Chi Square=4.6, p<.05).







6. People who encourage me

Table 5: who encourages pupils: responses by gender. Significant differences at the .05 level in Italics.

		Mean	Std. Deviation
QUESTION 42	Girl	03	1.089
	Boy	13	1.164
QUESTION 43	Girl	-1.47	1.058
	Boy	-1.49	1.088
QUESTION 44	Girl	93	1.219
	Воу	75	1.220
QUESTION 45	Girl	91	1.211
	Воу	59	1.263

While no differences were found between boys and girls in their perceptions of parental encouragement, boys were more likely than girls to say that their friends don't want them to work hard at school (t=-4.1, p<.001, question 45), and that their friends don't think they will do well at school (t=-2.2, p<.05).

7. Conclusion

Overall, in this primary sample, gender differences are limited in number and generally weak. However, where they exist, there is a tendency for girls to respond more positively with regards to present practices in schools, and to be more enthusiastic about changes to the curriculum in future. They also appear less likely to be subject to negative peer pressure.







Appendix 9 – Secondary- What is learning like in your school?

Agree a

		lot	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Disagree a	a lot
1	I never use the internet at school	2.1	6	13.4	37.7	41	I often use the internet at school
2	I often do group work with other students in class	11.1	32.9	28.6	20.6	7	I always work by myself or as part of the whole class
3	Teachers are good at finding out what I already know about	12.4	31.9	27.7	19.5	8.6	Teachers don't find out what I know already about an area
4	We often get people from outside the school coming in to work with us	9.3	21.7	21.5	28.1	19.5	We only ever work with teachers or classroom assistants
5	We always do the same type of activities in our lessons	9.5	16.7	18.5	35.3	20.2	We do a mix of different activities in our lessons
6	Teachers often make connections between different subjects	12.2	36.4	23.5	19.6	8.4	Subjects at school seem very separate and not connected to each other
7	We do a lot of practical activities	15.6	35.4	24.7	19.4	5	We never do practical activities
8	We often get to see examples from videos or DVDs or television during lessons	12.6	31.4	23.6	21.9	10.7	We never get to see examples from videos or DVDs or television during lessons
9	Lessons are often too difficult for me	4.7	12.7	51.5	22.8	8.4	Lessons are often too easy for me
10	I often use what I have learnt at school in my life outside of school	18	34.3	23.9	14.6	9.2	I never use anything I have learnt at school in my life outside of school







		Agree a					
		lot	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Disagree a	a lot
11	Lessons are never connected to my own experiences	8.7	19.9	32.3	26.2	12.9	I often get to think about my own experiences during lessons

Appendix 10 - Secondary- In the future, what would you like your school to be like?

Agree a

		lot	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Disagree a	a lot
12	In the future, I would like to do a lot of practical activities	44	32.4	14.1	5.9	3.6	In the future, I don't want to have to do practical activities
13	In the future, I would like mostly to do a lot of group work with other students in class	25.8	32.7	21.2	13.2	7.1	In the future, I would like to mostly work on my own or with the whole class
14	In the future, I would like to get people from outside the school coming in to work with us	22.9	37.5	21.2	12.1	6.5	In the future, I would like to only work with teachers or classroom assistants
15	In the future, I don't want lessons to be connected to my own experiences	6.3	11.3	27.2	36.6	18.6	In the future, I would like to get to think about my own experiences during lessons
16	In the future, I would like teachers to make connections between different subjects	19.1	38	26.9	10.3	5.6	In the future, I don't want to be told about how different subjects are connected







Agree a

		lot	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Disagree a	a lot
17	In the future, I would like to get to see examples from videos or DVDs or television during lessons	49.9	27.1	14	5.1	3.9	In the future, I don't want to see examples from videos or DVDs or television during lessons
18	In the future, I would like lessons to be easier	15.4	18.3	39.2	20.4	6.7	In the future, I would like lessons to be more difficult
19	In the future, I would like to use what I have learnt at school in my life outside of school	29.2	33.8	25.1	7.4	4.6	In the future, I don't want to have to use anything I have learnt at school in my life outside of school
20	In the future, I would like to use the internet at school	52	22	18.1	4.2	3.7	In the future, I don't want to use the internet at school
21	In the future, I would like teachers to be good at finding out what I already know about an area	36.4	29.3	22.1	7.7	4.6	In the future, I don't want teachers to spend a lot of time finding out what I already know about an area before they try and teach me something new
22	In the future, I would like to do the same type of activities in each lesson	5.1	6.2	23.5	24.2	41.1	In the future, I would like to do a mix of different activities in lessons



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Appendix 11 – Secondary- pupil autonomy and influence.

Agree a

		lot	Agroo	Neutral	Disagree	Disagree a	a lot
34	I don't have a say	54.2	Agree 18.3	16.6	5.7	5.1	
54	I don't have a say in how much	54.2	10.5	10.0	5.7	5.1	I have a say in how much homework I
	homework I get						get
35	I get to choose	11.5	24.9	27.1	20.4	16	I don't get to choose
	who to work with						who to work with in
	in lessons						lessons
36	I can choose to do	9.9	18.4	20.4	20.4	30.9	I am told when I
	some of my						have to work online
	learning online						and when in the
							class
37	I don't have much	21.4	20.4	25.9	20.3	12.1	I get a lot of choice
	choice of subjects						in what subjects I
	in this school						want to do
38	I sometimes get to	25.6	40.7	18.4	9.4	6	I never get to mark
	mark my own						my own and/or
	and/or other						other pupils work at
	pupils work at						school
	school						
39	Teachers often ask	18.2	29.1	23	18.5	11.3	Teachers never ask
	me about what I						me what I am
	am finding difficult						finding difficult
40	I have a say in how	21.4	20.4	25.9	20.3	12.1	I don't have a say in
.0	I am taught		2011	23.3	20.5		how I am taught at
	r am taagme						school
41	I have to be at	21.4	20.4	25.9	20.3	12.1	I can choose to do
41	school all the time	21.4	20.4	23.9	20.3	12.1	
							some of my learning at home
	during the school						at HUIHE
	day						
42	I have a say in	6.4	9.1	22.4	18	44.1	The teachers decide
	what I learn about						what I should learn
	in lessons						about in lessons







Appendix 12 - Secondary- Autonomy and influence in the future.

		Agree a			5.	Disagree	
43	In the future, I would like to have a say in how I am taught	lot 44.4	Agree 27.6	Neutral 17.2	Disagree 6	a lot 4.9	In the future, I would like the teachers to decide how I am taught
44	In the future, I would like to have a say in what I learn about in lessons	39.8	30.1	18.6	6.9	4.7	In the future, I would like the teachers to decide what I should learn about in lessons
45	In the future, I don't want to have a lot of choice of subjects in this school	9.1	5.8	18.3	20.4	46.4	In the future, I would like to have a lot of choice in what subjects I want to do
46	In the future, I would like to mark my own and/or other pupils' work	22.3	19.8	26.9	14.2	16.9	In the future, I don't want to have to mark my own and/or other pupils' work
47	In the future, I would like to be able to choose to do some of my learning online	41.4	26.8	19.6	7.1	5.2	In the future, I would like to be told when I have to work online and when in the class
48	In the future, I would like to get to choose who to work with in lessons	57.2	17.7	17.2	4.6	3.5	In the future, I would like teachers to choose who I work with in lessons
49	In the future, I would like to have to be at school all the time during the school day	13.7	11.6	24	21.5	29.3	In the future, I would like to be able to choose to do some of my learning at home







		Agree a				Disagree	
		lot	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	a lot	
50	In the future, I would like the teachers to decide how much homework I get	10	7.4	18.7	21.7	42.4	In the future, I would like to have a say in how much homework I get
51	In the future, I would like teachers to ask me about what I am finding difficult	43.8	22.3	21.6	5.3	7	In the future, I don't want teachers to ask me what I am finding difficult

Appendix 13- Secondary- People who encourage me.

		Agree a lot	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Disagree a	a lot
67	Teachers in primary school expected more of me than my teachers in secondary school	13.4	9	21.2	20.1	36.4	Teachers in secondary school expect more of me than my teachers in primary school
68	Teachers in secondary school put more pressure on me than my teachers in primary school	39.4	24.7	21.7	8.4	6	Teachers in primary school put more pressure on me than my teachers in secondary school do
69	Teachers put too much pressure on me	17.9	26.3	38.5	11.5	5.9	Teachers don't put enough pressure on me
70	My parents put too much pressure on me	11.6	16.2	47.8	15.8	8.7	My parents don't put enough pressure on me







		Agree a					
		lot	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Disagree a	a lot
71	My parents expect me to do well at school	49.8	23.3	19.8	4.3	2.9	My parents think I won't do well at school
72	My friends expect me to do well at school	19.7	27.1	37	9.7	6.6	My friends think I won't do well at school
73	My friends want me to work hard at school	17.5	18.4	45.9	10.4	7.8	My friends don't want me to work hard at school

Appendix 14 – Secondary survey analysis by gender

Daniel Muijs- University of Manchester

1. Introduction

Of the 1807 responses received in the secondary sample, 1639 (90.7%) provided their gender. Of these, 830 were boys and 809 girls. It is these respondents that will be included in these analyses, with missing values excluded.

For the 'slider' items we used the independent samples T-test. This tests whether any difference found between the means of two groups is likely to be the result of an existing difference in the population of primary pupils rather than being the result of idiosyncracies in the sample. As the slider items were intended to be continuous, the five scale points can be considered as quasi-continuous. The items relating to health behaviours cannot be considered to be continuous, so cross tabulation was used with the Chi Square test which tests whether or not the distribution of responses in each cell (e.g. boy-true, girl-true, boy-false, girl-false) is significantly different from what you would expect if there was no difference in responses between girls and boys.

2. What is learning like in your school?

Table 1: Mean differences by gender, significant differences at the .05 level in Italics

	QUESTION 92	Mean	Std. Deviation
QUESTION 1	boys	1.1327	1.04916
	girls	1.0842	.94736
QUESTION 2	boys	2024	1.13609
	girls	2571	1.13371







	QUESTION 92	Mean	Std. Deviation
QUESTION 3	boys	2506	1.24059
	girls	1471	1.13315
QUESTION 4	boys	.3217	1.29447
	girls	.2002	1.28180
QUESTION 5	boys	.3771	1.30276
	girls	.4190	1.22320
QUESTION 6	boys	1807	1.22247
	girls	2930	1.12442
QUESTION 7	boys	3783	1.15254
	girls	3609	1.09714
QUESTION 8	boys	0265	1.24328
	girls	2732	1.19230
QUESTION 9	boys	.2241	.99232
	girls	.1310	.90386
QUESTION 10	boys	3349	1.26037
	girls	4326	1.20876
QUESTION 11	boys	.1193	1.18962
	girls	.1916	1.15683

Few significant differences between boys and girls emerged on the items on current learning in their school. Boys respondents were more likely to say they never used TV, DVD or videos in lessons (t=4.1, p<.001, question 8), and were more likely to say that lessons were too easy for them (t=2.0, p<.05, question 9).







3. What would you like your school to be like?

Table 2: what would you like your school to be like, mean differences between boys and girls

	QUESTION 92	Mean	Std. Deviation
QUESTION 12	Boys	-1.1940	1.06811
	Girls	-1.0111	1.11187
QUESTION 13	Boys	5952	1.24161
	Girls	5871	1.24285
QUESTION 14	boys	5108	1.22371
	girls	6885	1.15586
QUESTION 15	boys	.5072	1.17342
	girls	.5266	1.08869
QUESTION 16	boys	5181	1.16712
	girls	5785	1.06895
QUESTION 17	boys	-1.1614	1.15628
	girls	-1.1718	1.07464
QUESTION 18	boys	1036	1.20468
	girls	2027	1.09610
QUESTION 19	boys	8060	1.14338
	girls	7182	1.10116
QUESTION 20	boys	-1.1867	1.11685
	girls	-1.1681	1.06540
QUESTION 21	boys	8783	1.18836
	girls	8789	1.13240
QUESTION 22	boys	.8904	1.19661
	girls	.9951	1.13777







When asked what they would like their school to be liked, again few differences emerged between boys and girls secondary students. Girls were more likely to say that in future they didn't want to have to do practical activities (t=3.4, p<.001, question 12) and that they would like to work more frequently with people from outside the school (t=3.0, p<.01).

4. Pupil autonomy and influence

Table 3: Pupil autonomy and influence by gender, significant differences at the .05 level in Italics

	QUESTION 92	Mean	Std. Deviation
QUESTION 34	boys	-1.1181	1.24086
	girls	-1.1755	1.22225
QUESTION 35	boys	.1614	1.32634
	girls	0099	1.19163
QUESTION 36	boys	.4771	1.39578
	girls	.4203	1.39798
QUESTION 37	boys	2096	1.38557
	girls	1693	1.38047
QUESTION 38	boys	6675	1.18913
	girls	8084	1.11986
QUESTION 39	boys	2217	1.29265
	girls	2695	1.33649
QUESTION 40	boys	.0795	1.39478
	girls	1323	1.40845
QUESTION 41	boys	0422	1.40631
	girls	0185	1.430399
QUESTION 42	boys	.8492	1.30224
	girls	.9283	1.26933







Again relatively few significant differences were found. Boys are more likely to say they don't get to choose who they work with in lessons (t=2.8, p<.01, question 35), and that they never get to mark their own and other students' work (t=2.5, p<.05, question 38).

Table 4: Desired pupil autonomy and influence by gender, significant differences at the .05 level in Italics

	QUESTION 92	Mean	Std. Deviation
QUESTION 43	boys	-1.0157	1.20453
	girls	-1.1026	1.10718
QUESTION 44	boys	9614	1.18940
	girls	9827	1.13111
QUESTION 45	boys	.8506	1.37857
	girls	1.0260	1.26865
QUESTION 46	boys	1000	1.43567
	girls	2324	1.42133
QUESTION 47	boys	9373	1.22042
	girls	9716	1.22290
QUESTION 48	boys	-1.1843	1.13758
	girls	-1.3300	1.11186
QUESTION 49	boys	.3867	1.44579
	girls	.4747	1.41410
QUESTION 50	boys	.7084	1.42756
	girls	.9493	1.29590
QUESTION 51	boys	8699	1.27040
	girls	-1.0148	1.23872









Some more differences were found when students were asked about desired future states. Girls are more likely to say they want a lot of choice of subjects in future (t=-2.7, p<.01question 45) and have a say in how much homework they are to do (t=-3.6, p<.001, question 50) while boys are more likely to want a say in who they work with in future (t=2.6, p<.01, question 48). Girls are also more likely to want teachers to ask them about what they are finding difficult (t=2.3, p<.05, question 51).

5. Looking after myself and others

Boys were more likely than girls to say they had never been told about healthy eating in school (Chi Square = 15.9, p<.001). No significant differences were found on actual impact of school healthy eating policies and practices.

Boys were also more likely to say that their teachers don't know anything about drugs (Chi Square =8.3, p<.01), while girls were more likely to say that they were less likely to take drugs because of what they had learnt at school (Chi Square = 16.7, p<.001). By contrast, boys were more likely to say that some of their friends had stopped taking drugs because of what they had learnt about them at school (Chi Square = 11.7, p<.001).

A similar pattern emerges in the questions about alcohol. Boys were more likely to claim that their teachers don't know anything about drugs (Chi Square = 11.3, p<.001), while girls were more likely to claim they had stopped drinking alcohol because of what they have learnt at school (Chi Square = 6.4, p<.05). Again, boys were more likely to say that some of their friends had stopped drinking alcohol because of what they had learnt at school (Chi Square = 9.1, p<.01).

Boys were also more likely to claim that teachers didn't encourage them to take exercise (Chi Square = 32.3, p<.001), while girls by contrast were more likely to claim that they were encouraged to do exercise (Chi Square = 21.6, P<.001). No gender differences were found with respect to behaviour.

Following the pattern, boys were more likely to claim that teachers never talked to students about stress (Chi Square = 5.7, p<.05), though they were also more likely to claim that some of their friends had started to deal better with stress because of what they had learnt in school (Chi Square = 5.0, p<.05).

Boys again were more likely to claim that their teachers don't know anything about bullying (Chi square = 18.5, p<.001), while girls were more likely to say they know how to help other students if they are being bullied (Chi Square = 15.6, p<.001).







6. People who encourage me

Table 5: who encourages pupils: responses by gender. Significant differences at the .05 level in Italics.

	QUESTION 92	Mean	Std. Deviation
QUESTION 67	boys	.5313	1.49090
	girls	.6638	1.39862
QUESTION 68	boys	7747	1.27747
	girls	9716	1.21477
QUESTION 69	boys	3651	1.16150
	girls	4462	1.09449
QUESTION 70	boys	1193	1.13247
	girls	0185	1.11511
QUESTION 71	boys	-1.1783	1.08483
	girls	-1.2398	1.06443
QUESTION 72	boys	3470	1.19512
	girls	5414	1.12623
QUESTION 73	boys	2036	1.14697
	girls	3931	1.18520

Boys were more likely than girls to respond that teachers in primary school put more pressure on them than teachers in secondary school (t=3.2, p<.001, question 68). They were also more likely to feel that friends don't expect them to do well at school (t=3.4, p<.001, question 72) and that their friends don't want them to work hard at school (t=3.3, p<.001).

Conclusion

Overall, few significant differences were found between boys and girls in the secondary sample. Where differences were found, they point to a pattern of slightly more negative responses to their school experience among boys, especially evident in the questions about health. Boys also appear to experience more negative peer pressure. An interesting finding is that, on a number of the health related items girls are more likely to report changing their own behaviour, while boys are more likely to report changed behaviour of friends.







Appendix 15 – Secondary by attainment analyses

Introduction

Of the sample, 1513 (83.7%) provided their English KS level and 1471 (81.4%) their maths KS level. Correlation coefficients were calculated to look at the relationship between curriculum variables and KS level. However, one issue with KS level as a variable is that it is strongly related to grade (.36 with English and .35 with maths), meaning relationships could be confounded. Therefore, partial correlations including grade as a control variable were also calculated.

2. What is learning like in your school?

Table 1: Partial Correlations between KS levels and questions 1-11 controlling for grade

Control Variables			English KS level	Maths KS level
Grade	QUESTION 1	Correlation	005	012
		Significance (2-tailed)	.854	.636
	QUESTION 2	Correlation	.054	.021
		Significance (2-tailed)	.039	.426
	QUESTION 3	Correlation	.144	.113
		Significance (2-tailed)	.000	.000
	QUESTION 4	Correlation	.128	.136
		Significance (2-tailed)	.000	.000
	QUESTION 5	Correlation	114	115
		Significance (2-tailed)	.000	.000
	QUESTION 6	Correlation	.055	.048
		Significance (2-tailed)	.036	.069
	QUESTION 7	Correlation	.062	.072
		Significance (2-tailed)	.018	.006
	QUESTION 8	Correlation	.029	.015
		Significance (2-tailed)	.272	.573
	QUESTION 9	Correlation	.160	.191
		Significance (2-tailed)	.000	.000







Control Variables			English KS level	Maths KS level
	QUESTION 10	Correlation	.027	.037
		Significance (2-tailed)	.308	.159
	QUESTION 11	Correlation	006	005
		Significance (2-tailed)	.804	.842

As can be seen in table 1, above, a number of significant, albeit weak to modest, correlations emerged. The strongest were with question 9, indicating that students with higher KS levels were more likely to claim that lessons were too easy for them. Higher achievers were also more likely to claim that teachers don't find out what they already know (question 3), and were more likely to claim they always did the same types of things in lessons (question 5). A weak relationship exists between KS level and the item on practical activities, with students with higher KS levels somewhat more likely to say they never do practical activities (question 7).

3. What would you like your school to be like?

Table 2: Partial Correlations between KS levels and questions 12-22 controlling for grade

Control Variables			English KS	Maths KS
			Level	Level
Grade	QUESTION 12	Correlation	019	045
		Significance (2-tailed)	.464	.081
	QUESTION 13	Correlation	006	057
		Significance (2-tailed)	.823	.030
	QUESTION 14	Correlation	075	077
		Significance (2-tailed)	.004	.003
	QUESTION 15	Correlation	.115	.109
		Significance (2-tailed)	.000	.000
	QUESTION 16	Correlation	093	100
		Significance (2-tailed)	.000	.000







Control Variables			English I/C	Maths KS
Control variables			English KS	
			Level	Level
	QUESTION 17	Correlation	050	079
		Significance (2-tailed)	.057	.002
		,		
	QUESTION 18	Correlation	.206	.212
	Q02011011 10	Corrolation	.200	
		Significance (2-tailed)	.000	.000
		Significance (2-tailed)	.000	.000
	OUEOTION 40	O - marke C - m	400	440
	QUESTION 19	Correlation	138	148
		Significance (2-tailed)	.000	.000
	QUESTION 20	Correlation	042	102
		Significance (2-tailed)	.108	.000
	QUESTION 21	Correlation	098	099
	QUEUTION 21	Correlation	.030	.033
		Cimpificanas (O tailed)	000	000
		Significance (2-tailed)	.000	.000
	QUESTION 22	Correlation	.160	.119
	·	Significance (2-tailed)	.000	.000

As can be seen in table 2, a greater number of significant correlations emerge when looking at the relationship between what students would like their learning to be like and their KS levels. In order of strength of relationship, higher attainers are more likely to want lessons to be harder in future (question 18), more likely to want to use what they have learnt at school in my life outside of school (question 19), more likely to want to do a mix of different activities (question 22), and more likely to want to get to think about their own experiences during lessons (question 15). They are also somewhat more likely to want to be told about connections between subject (question 16), more likely to want teachers to be good at finding out what they already know about an area before they try and teach something new (question 21) and slightly more likely to want people from outside the school to come and work with them (question 14).







4. Pupil autonomy and influence

Table 3: Partial Correlations between KS levels and questions 34-42 controlling for grade

Control Variables			English KS	Maths KS
			level	level
Grade	QUESTION 34	Correlation	154	181
		Significance (2-tailed)	.000	.000
	QUESTION 35	Correlation	.020	003
		Significance (2-tailed)	.446	.896
	QUESTION 36	Correlation	.065	.040
		Significance (2-tailed)	.013	.128
	QUESTION 37	Correlation	.115	.089
		Significance (2-tailed)	.000	.001
	QUESTION 38	Correlation	068	051
		Significance (2-tailed)	.009	.050
	QUESTION 39	Correlation	.126	.113
		Significance (2-tailed)	.000	.000
	QUESTION 40	Correlation	.038	.032
		Significance (2-tailed)	.163	.221
	QUESTION 41	Correlation	.058	.074
		Significance (2-tailed)	.023	.004
	QUESTION 42	Correlation	.110	.126
		Significance (2-tailed)	.000	.000

A number of modest but significant relationships exist between KS level and views on current levels of autonomy within school. High attainers are less likely to feel they have a say in what homework they do (question 34), are less likely to feel that teachers ask them about what they are finding difficult (question 39), and are less likely to feel they have a say in what they learn about in lessons (question 42).







Some weak correlations exist with English KS level and questions 36 (high attainers are less likely to say they can do some of their learning online) and 38 (high attainers are less likely to say they never get to mark my own and/or other pupils work at school). Weak significant correlations were also found between higher attainment and a greater likelihood to respond that they have a greater choice in subjects (question 37) and are allowed to do more work at home (question 41).

Table 4: Partial Correlations between KS levels and questions 43-51 controlling for grade

Control Variables			English KS level	Maths KS level
Grade	QUESTION 43	Correlation	162	143
		Significance (2-tailed)	.000	.000
	QUESTION 44	Correlation	128	117
		Significance (2-tailed)	.000	.000
	QUESTION 45	Correlation	.222	.220
		Significance (2-tailed)	.000	.000
	QUESTION 46	Correlation	.056	.046
		Significance (2-tailed)	.033	.075
	QUESTION 47	Correlation	055	032
		Significance (2-tailed)	.034	.217
	QUESTION 48	Correlation	085	093
		Significance (2-tailed)	.001	.000
	QUESTION 49	Correlation	.098	.054
		Significance (2-tailed)	.000	.037
	QUESTION 50	Correlation	.142	.135
		Significance (2-tailed)	.000	.000
	QUESTION 51	Correlation	051	058
		Significance (2-tailed)	.051	.028









Some more weak to modest significant differences were found when students were asked about desired future states.

The strongest relationship found was between high attainment and wanting to have a lot of subject choice in future (question 45). High attainers are also more likely to want a say in how much homework they get (question 50), and would like to be able to choose to do some of their learning at home (question 49). By contrast, high attainers were less likely to want to have a say in how they are taught in future (question 43), in what they learn in lessons (question 44), or in who they work with in lessons (question 48) than lower attainers.

5. Looking after myself and others

Analysis of variance with Scheffe post-hoc tests was used to look at the relationship between attainment and the variables on looking after myself and others, controlling for grade.

Higher attainers were more likely to say they already ate healthily (F=5.1, p<.001, English; F=4.9, p<.001, maths). No other significant differences were found on the healthy eating variables.

Lower attainers were slightly more likely to claim that some of their friends have stopped taking drugs because of what they have learnt about them at school (F=3.0, p<.001, English, F=1.2, p>.05, maths), though the pattern wasn't altogether clear. No other clear differences emerged. A similar weak pattern emerged with respect to the questions about alcohol (F=3.3, p<.01, maths, F=3.4, p<.01, English).

High attainers were somewhat more likely to claim that teachers didn't encourage them to take exercise (F=4.3, p<.001, English, F=2.6, p<.05, maths), and were more likely to claim that teachers don't talk to them about stress (F=5.3, p<.001, English, F=2.4, p<.05, maths). Lower attainers in English were more likely to claim that they had learnt about stress and how to deal with it in their school (F=5.0, p<.001) and that some of their friends have started to deal better with stress because of what they had learnt in school (F=3.0, p<.05).

Students reaching level 8 in maths were somewhat more likely to claim that teachers don't know a thing about bullying (F=3.3, p<.01)







6. People who encourage me

Table 5: Partial Correlations between KS levels and questions 67-73 controlling for grade

Control Variables			English KS level	Maths KS level
Grade	QUESTION 67	Correlation	.128	.101
		Significance (2-tailed)	.000	.000
	QUESTION 68	Correlation	100	124
		Significance (2-tailed)	.000	.000
	QUESTION 69	Correlation	038	058
		Significance (2-tailed)	.143	.027
	QUESTION 70	Correlation	092	101
		Significance (2-tailed)	.000	.000
	QUESTION 71	Correlation	139	161
		Significance (2-tailed)	.000	.000
	QUESTION 72	Correlation	063	071
		Significance (2-tailed)	.015	.006
	QUESTION 73	Correlation	.008	018
		Significance (2-tailed)	.759	.486

A number of weak to modest significant correlations were found between attainment and the questions on people who encourage the students.

Low attainers were more likely to say their parents didn't expect them to do well at school (question 71), and that teachers in primary school expected more of them than my teachers in secondary school (question 67). However, they were also more likely to say that teachers in secondary school put more pressure on them than my teachers in primary school (question 68), and that their parents put too much pressure on them (question 70).

Conclusion

Once grade is taken into account, relationships between attainment in terms of KS level and the curriculum variables tended to be modest to weak. No clear response pattern emerges across the survey, with relationships varying across items.







Appendix 16 – Main focus group report

Pupil voice – learners and the curriculum

Focus group outcomes

As part of Strand 1 of QCA's Building the Evidence Base project, CUREE (the Centre for Use of Research and Evidence in Education) has carried out a series of four focus groups with secondary students to supplement the data arising from the national survey.

This report summarises the outcomes of the focus groups which were held in:

- a student voice conference in the North West (SSAT);
- a national student voice conference in Birmingham (QCA);
- a secondary school in the West Midlands; and
- two pupil referral units (PRUs) in the West Midlands.

The focus groups were designed to provide a deeper exploration of the issues addressed in and arising from the online survey. Specifically, they canvassed students' views on how teachers and schools could:

- increase the levels of challenge and inspiration within students' learning experiences;
- increase the degree of **flexibility and choice** that students encounter; and
- enable students to think and learn about ways of enhancing their physical, emotional and spiritual well being.

In addition we took the opportunity of the focus groups to explore in more depth intriguing data emerging from the survey. Specifically, we wanted to find out more about:

- students' experience of the mathematics curriculum; and
- what students felt they were the aspects of their school learning relevant to life outside of school.

The report presents a brief description of the students participating in the focus groups and their schools, and then draws on the data to answer the questions set by QCA.









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Participants

A/ Student voice conference Birmingham

22 students:

Years 7-9

attending two secondary schools in the West Midlands and one pupil referral unit in the North West

B/ Student voice conference North West

12 students:

8 male, 4 female

1x Y7, 2x Y8, 2x Y9, 6x Y10, 1x Y12

9x white English, 1x white other British, 2x Asian

C/ West Midlands secondary school

17 students:

11 male, 6 female

17x Y9

8x white English, 5x Asian, 1x white and Asian

D/ West Midlands pupil referral units

9 students:

9 male

6x KS3, 3x KS4

7x white English, 2x Asian







Challenge and inspiration

Engaging classroom activities

When the students were invited to discuss subjects in which practical work, problem-solving and group work took place it became clear that there was little consistency of practice within subject areas. Students provided examples of practical activities and group work in science, English, maths and PSHE, but equally they spoke of some teachers leading learning in these subjects in a way that was repetitive and focused mainly on bookwork.

In science, one group of three students (male, Y10) said that they did practical work in some physics lessons, but that it was not enough and they felt they were doing too much "sheet work". One student (male, Y9) from another school spoke of the inconsistency among teachers of chemistry in the amount of experimental tasks they set. He said that in one class students might spend about 80% of their time on experiments, and in the other about 20%. One group of three students said that giving presentations was a feature of their science lessons.

A high turnover of teachers in science was mentioned as a particular problem by one student (male, Y10).

English was consistently named as a subject where student-centred practice took place by students in focus groups B and C:

"There are a lot of practical activities in English – speaking, listening, role-playing."

Another student mentioned debates as an interesting part of his English lessons. One group of three students (male, Y10) also said that they had been doing more group work as they progressed in English, and felt that this was a strategy to help them get higher marks for GCSE.

On the other hand, it seemed that in English too not all teachers exploited the opportunity for interaction:

"The teacher usually gives us exercises and book work." (male, Y9)

The inconsistency of approach was highlighted by one group of four students who said that the head of English developed group work activities, but that this was not true of all teachers in the English department (male, Y9).

Students also mentioned the need for teachers to prepare group and project work well if it was to be successful. One group of eight students discussed the projects they participated in during English, for example food (Y9). The teachers arranged for the projects to be completed over four to five weeks, at the end of which students are expected to give a presentation. They felt these could be better planned and managed:

"The groups need to want to do it." (female, Y9)

"The teacher needs to set a schedule and make sure we're doing it." (female, Y9)

PE was named by three groups as a subject where there was a lot of group work. Students had a choice in which teams they played on, and in one case in the activities they did. One student said that in PE lessons the teacher









selected an individual to lead the drills and warm-ups (male, Y9, PRU). When asked about the amount of problem-solving that took place in PE, one student said that this did not feature (male, KS4, PRU).

Students' perceptions of levels of engagement in ICT were mixed:

"It is good when we can use computers to solve a problem on the board." (female, Y8)

"ICT is boring because we are doing things over and over again." (male, Y9)

Equally students seemed to have varying experiences of interactivity in MFL. One group of three students (mixed) said that they did a lot of activities in their language lessons. A second group (male, Y9) felt that their language lessons were long and drawn out. This group suggested lessons could be improved by:

- having a break (in the middle of a one hour session);
- making trips abroad available to the younger years, not just GCSE students (they thought this didn't happen because most families could not afford the cost); and
- using more ICT in French.

While maths was named by one group (male, KS3, PRU) as among the subjects with the least practical activities, two other groups (mixed, Y9) spoke about how they did a lot of problem solving in maths lessons. One of these, for example, was resolving the money problems of a hypothetical family.

Groups consistently named RE as a subject in which there were few practical activities or group discussions. One group of students said that although they learned about human rights and abortion in RE and PSHE, there was not much group discussion (mixed). Yet two students said there would be value in this:

"We could have discussions not just copy down."

"You've got to learn about other cultures."

Another student suggested visits to places of worship as a way of bringing the subject to life.

Overall, students saw benefits in more groupwork and practical activities. One group (mixed) discussed how working together would be more effective when they had difficult problems to solve. When asked what could be done to engage students more in the mainstream, one student (male, KS3, PRU) said that there should be more activities, practical work and teamwork.

Significant others

In discussing who the people were who were likely to help students achieve their goals and to keep them going it became clear that students looked to a variety of significant others to help them, and that different groups of significant others provided different kinds of help.

Teachers played a significant role for students across all of the focus groups. One student talked about the stress teachers can put them under:









"Teachers can make you stressed and feel that you want to give up but it is often a positive stress as it motivates me to revise for exams." (male, Y9)

This was backed up by another group of students, who agreed that teachers "make you learn stuff" and push you, but they also felt that parents pushed them harder (male, KS3, PRU).

The discussions also revealed the importance to students of their relationships with their teachers:

"Our design and technology teachers always find a way to motivate us." (Y9)

"Teachers are normally good at listening." (male, Y9)

In addition, teachers offered good support in music, drama and French:

"You can go to them with anything and they will try and help." (female, Y9)

These one-to-one relationships appeared to be of particular significance to students in the PRUs. One student (male, KS4, PRU), for example, spoke about one of the teachers in his previous school being an ally and helping him out of trouble when things had gone badly with other teachers. A second student (male, KS4, PRU) spoke about the arrangement he had come to with a teacher who took him out of a class when he was in trouble and allowed him to play basketball. Another student (male, KS3, PRU) spoke about how mainstream school was harder than the PRU, because teachers in the PRU gave you more information about what you needed to do.

The flipside of the support from certain teachers that PRU students spoke about was the sense of injustice they felt at their treatment by other teachers. Two students talked about what they perceived as aggressive behaviour by teachers. One complained that teachers grabbed and pushed students:

"If the teacher didn't touch me I'd be sound." (male, KS4, PRU)

Another student described the way that teachers "spit" (i.e. talk aggressively) at students:

"You're at the back of the room and the teacher spits at you halfway across the room." (male, KS3, PRU)

One student (male, KS3, PRU) said he walked out of a lesson because he had been blamed for something another student had done.

Two of the mainstream groups mentioned the specialist support they received from teachers, which they felt was not readily available elsewhere:

"Teachers' advice is important as no-one from my family has been to university." (female, Y12)

"Teachers will also help if you don't understand any homework tasks." (male, Y9)

"Teachers offer important advice that can help whether we have a problem at home or at school." (Y9)









Sometimes students did not feel they were being listened to. One group of students (male, Y10) complained that students in their school put suggestions to change to their head teacher when invited, but that he doesn't always act on them or explain why the school cannot implement them.

Across the focus groups students said that family was important in helping them achieve their goals. Students mentioned parents (two groups), siblings (two groups) and grandparents (male, Y9) as people who provide strong support. One group (Y9) repeated the theme discussed earlier that family pushed students a bit further because "they want to be proud of you." One student (male, KS3, PRU) mentioned that family encouragement of educational achievement came in the form of material reward; "they buy you your first car."

Friends were mentioned by students across the focus groups as important in keeping them going:

"Friends will encourage and support you to achieve." (Y9)

"Friends are always there to help." (male, Y9)

"Friends make you feel better emotionally and then 'egg' you on." (male, Y9)

"Friends, especially best friends." (male, Y9)

Other people mentioned by the students as keeping them going were musicians (two female students), sports coaches (one male student), televisions stars and famous people who are 'normal':

"Sports club coaches motivate you to get up and carry on." (male, Y9)

"Musicians calm you down and give you the time to think about how you can be strong again." (female, Y9)

Finally two groups from different schools felt that whether they achieved their goals or not was their own responsibility:

"We are old enough to support ourselves." (Y9)

Flexibility and choice

Students across the focus groups were clear that choice and variety in the classroom were an important element of making schools engaging. One student (male, KS4, PRU) said that school would be easier if you had more choice over what you did. One student (male, KS4, PRU) talked about the variety of options in his former school, and felt there were "more chances in the mainstream."

Two groups complained about the amount of repetition they had to do; one in French lessons, where they felt they had little say on how they were taught, and the other in mathematics:









"We have to go over things again and again." (male, Y7)

In maths, at least, this seemed to be down to the teacher's focus on preparing the students for external examinations. Another group mentioned the lack of say that students had in what activities they did in PE:

"If football is what the teacher has planned, football is what we play." (male, KS4, PRU)

The discussions also revealed the variety of what students understood by the concept of 'choice' in school. These were broadly:

- options for KS4;
- students typically named subjects such as MFL or art as ones in which they experienced most choice in what they did, because they had the option to drop them at age 14.
- choosing who they worked with in groups;
- "It is better if we can choose our own group you need to be with friends to be comfortable."
- One student (female, Y9) had not enjoyed a maths project because she had had to work with someone she did not like.
- deciding which materials/resources to work with; and
- "We can choose which instrument we play with in music."
- vocational learning/increased flexibility via options for study at college
- "Plumbing and bricklaying would be useful skills to learn in school for the outside." (male, KS3, PRU)
- One student (male, KS4, PRU) had said that attending college once a week on an increased flexibility programme
 had been good, and that he had made progress. He said that had been taken off the programme, however,
 because of his misbehaviour in school.

When asked what additional elements mainstream schools should be offering to make them more engaging, PRU students gave a couple of examples. The KS3 group said they would like to know how to build/fix things so if they ever owned their own house they could do some of the work themselves. One student suggested school should have more football pitches and set up a power league. One student asked what the point was of discussing different things that schools could introduce and did not think they could change.

Well being

When discussing nutrition and exercise the thing that the largest number of students said influenced their thinking was seeing overweight people, either on the street or on television; this was raised by four groups:

"If you go past fat people it makes you conscious of being healthy." (male, Y10)

"Sometimes when you see people who are struggling to walk, get up stairs, it makes you think about exercise." (female, Y9)









One student mentioned an episode in *Coronation Street* in which a man died of a heart attack because he was so overweight. Another said that programmes like *Benidorm* made her conscious about being overweight.

One group also spoke about the influence internet channels such as *You Tube* have on lifestyle choices. One student (Y9) said that images of overweight people were posted as entertainment, but that these really made you think about exercise. They also mentioned that, on the other hand, social networking sites provided an opportunity to join groups with common exercise interests.

Two students spoke about their parents' influence on their diet:

"You either like it or lump it." (male, Y10)

"Food is given to me and I am expected to eat it whether I want it or not." (Y9)

While one student (female, Y12) said that advertisements on television were powerful and made her think about what to eat, another student (male, Y10) talked about the cynicism of sponsors of sports events whose products had nothing to do with a healthy lifestyle.

Jamie Oliver was mentioned by two students as an influence on their eating habits. Both said that this influence had come indirectly via their parents, and in one case had led to her family changing their purchasing habits to organic and fair trade food.

In terms of the impact of unhealthy eating, two students (male) in different groups believed this was not a problem as long as they exercised:

"I wouldn't go on a diet – if I eat unhealthy stuff I'll do something to work it off." (male, Y10)

On the issue of drugs education, there was consensus in three groups that what their schools were doing was not very effective. One group (mixed, Y9) said there was a need for better PSHE lessons, as they believed this focused too much on sex education and not enough on drugs education. A second group (mixed) believed that drugs education was too dry and needed graphic images of the damage drugs can do. They also suggested it would be more effective if a student in the school who was on drugs would speak to their peers during PSHE lessons. When this suggestion was put to a third group (mixed, Y9), they agreed but felt it would be better if an ex-student came into the school. They believed that if the school knew of a particular pupil who was taking drugs, the school would report him to the police.

Mathematics curriculum

An intriguing finding from the survey was the polarity of student opinion as to whether mathematics was a subject in which they mentioned as both the easiest and least easy subject, as the hardest and least hard subject, and as the subject teachers are best and worst at finding out what they already know about the subject.









It is a subject where students are least likely to use audiovisual media, do practical activities, get outside people into the classroom, or make connections with different subjects. Group work is also not seen as common.

We explored this further in the focus groups. While the question of how students experienced the maths curriculum was posed in a neutral way, only one of the comments we recorded revealed a positive attitude. All other comments suggested students felt more should be done to make maths a more enjoyable subject. This may have something to do with the time of year, June, in which the focus groups were carried out. This was certainly the case for two students from different schools who felt maths became more boring in the approach to examinations:

"Maths gets more boring the closer we get to end of term tests – we spend time cramming." (male, Y10)

Another wash back effect of examination was repetition of important processes in the classroom:

"When you learn something the teachers make you do it over and over to make sure it's in your head." (male, Y7)

In contrast, four other students (male) complained that their maths teacher progressed too fast in some subjects, leaving students too little time to understand the concepts:

"The teacher goes through one or two examples and then expects us to do the problems straight." (Y9)

"The maths teacher does everything for you." (male, Y10)

One student's comments suggested that students were not always being prepared well enough for problemsolving in mathematics where questions are not set in a way they have been trained to recognise:

"We need more guidance on applying methods. We learn processes in the classroom but the questions are disguised in exams." (male, Y10)

Another student (Y9) illustrated how teachers can miss opportunities to discuss with students the nature of maths processes. In class the student couldn't understand why one group was allowed to use calculators and another group not. In this case the teacher had simply said that these were the instructions in the textbook.

Classroom management was also touched upon by two students:

"Teachers sometimes pick on children so they can get anxious." (Y9)

"Our maths teacher skips things we should be learning because he spends a lot of time concentrating on those who are talking." (male, Y9)

When asked what could be done to help students get more out of maths lessons, the focus groups offered a variety of suggestions:

more problem solving (2 students);









- "there could be more problem-solving which takes you outside of the classroom to make maths more fun."
 (male)
- trips on a maths theme (2 students);
- more practical work (1 student); and
- more explanations (1 student).

Another student (female, Y10) said that she had found the film '21' interesting and that it had brought maths to life.

Relevance of learning to life outside of school

Maths, ICT and English were the subjects students most mentioned as being relevant to them outside of school.

Four groups spoke about the importance of maths in helping you deal with money:

"Maths is important to make sure you're not ripped off." (male, KS3, PRU)

One group (Y9) felt maths was the most relevant school subject to life outside of school as you need it for working out finances and tax.

One student dissented from this consensus:

"Maths is only useful if you want to be an accountant. I don't use maths any other time." (female, Y9)

While students spoke enthusiastically about the need for ICT skills, they had mixed views about the value of ICT instruction in schools. Three groups said that learning how to operate things such as Microsoft programmes, the internet and e-mail at school was useful at home or in the workplace. However, one student (female, Y10) questioned the value of learning how to work with spreadsheets. One group (male, Y9) felt that in addition to skills learned during school ICT lessons, they had learned important operations outside of school, such as how to unblock websites and where to find useful information on the internet. One PRU group only mentioned how to use a memory stick as being something they had learned in ICT in school that they could use outside. Otherwise, the things they wanted to do with ICT, such as entering competitions and playing games, they had learned outside. One student (male, KS3, PRU) also mentioned hacking as a useful skill learned outside of school.









Three groups spoke about the importance the English they learned in school to their lives outside of school, in terms of:

- speaking (formally);
- spelling;
- "English helps you to spell right so you don't look like an idiot." (male, Y10)
- having an expanded vocabulary; and
- being able to write letters and invoices in a business context.

Activities used during the focus groups to elicit student comments

Activity 1 - Family Fortunes

This activity is designed to explore:

- students' perceptions of the different approaches taken to teaching and learning in different subjects;
- their understanding and experiences of problem solving activities; and
- their perceptions of the amount of influence they had over their learning.

The students were allocated to teams of 3-4 and shown the same statements that appeared in the online survey – e.g. which subject is most/least applicable to the statement, "We do a lot of practical activities". They were asked to name the subjects they expected to appear in the top five responses. The teams took it in turns to identify the subjects they expected to find in the top five responses, getting a point for each one they got right. Students were asked to explain the reasons for the subjects they chose.

Activity 2 - Call my bluff

The aim of this activity was to:

- collect students' perceptions of how their learning at school is changing;
- understand the value that they place on practical experience in comparison to formal academic learning; and
- understand the types of support they value and the types of support they perceive they are getting.







Teams were given a word or phrase and three possible meanings for it. They then worked together to figure out which of the three meanings they thought was true. For example:

Word or	Meaning 1	Meaning 2	Meaning 3
phrase			
Supportive learning environment	Getting help from my teachers and friends when I'm feeling down is just as important as getting practical support when I'm finishing school work off or when I'm stuck.	Getting practical support when I'm finishing school work off or when I'm stuck is more important that getting help from my teachers and friends when I'm feeling down.	Getting help from my teachers and friends when I'm feeling down is more important that getting practical support when I'm finishing school work off or when I'm stuck.

Activity 3 - Blankety Blank

This activity was designed to elicit students' perspective on:

- the ways they are supported in adopting a healthy lifestyle (exercise and healthy eating); and
- who the significant others are who will support them in achieving their aspirations.

One member from each team chose a word/words to fill the blank in a given sentence, for example 'People who inspire me are...' They could choose their response from a list of suggestions or choose their own phrase. Each of the remaining team members had to guess what their teammate had written and every time they matched their teammate's answer they scored a point.

Activity 4 - Kyle's progress

This activity was designed to encourage PRU students to discuss the factors which can contribute to disengaged teenagers getting back on track. Students were asked to consider the vignette (based on a newspaper story) and describe what happened at the juncture where the question mark appears.







KYLE

grew up on an estate in Northampton

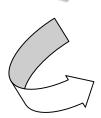
All there was to do was smoke weed and fight, and get chased by the coppers.

People just saw us as asbo kids they did stereotype us, but we played up to it.



was arrested at 16 for possession of drugs

was excluded from school twice for being disruptive in some of his classes



At 20 Kyle now helps his friend run a construction business

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Appendix 17- Primary Questionnaire- Your views about the curriculum

Thank you for taking part in this national survey that aims to collect your views about the curriculum and your life at school.

Through this online survey we hope to find out more about:

- your current experiences of learning;
- the opportunities that your school offers you; and
- what you would like your school to be like.

Your responses to this survey are anonymous and won't be passed to anyone other than the research team.

Once you have completed the survey you will be able to download and print a certificate to show that you have taken part.

We are also offering a number of prizes for students who complete this survey:

- 1 x £250 Amazon voucher; and
- 75 x £10 Amazon vouchers.

If you would like a chance of winning one of these prizes, or would like to get involved in follow up discussions, you will need to provide us with your contact details at the end of the survey. We won't use them for any purpose other than to contact you.

The survey will take about 20-30 minutes to complete.









How to fill in the survey

Most of the questions ask you to move a slider towards one of two options to reflect your view. For instance:

We do a lot of practical	0	0	0	0	0	We never do practical activities
activities						

Move the slider this way if you get to do practical activities.

If you get to do some practical activities move the slider somewhere near the middle.

Move the slider this way if you don't get to do practical activities.

Some questions ask you to select one or more option from a list.

What have I learnt about exercise?

- a. Teachers don't encourage us to take exercise
- b. In my school we have had a lot of encouragement to take exercise
- c. Some of my friends have started to do more exercise outside of school because of what they have learnt about it at school.

Some questions ask you to choose from a drop down list.

I am in year DROP DOWN 5 6

A few questions ask you to type an answer.

How long have you been at this school?.....years







Here and now – what is learning like in your school?

Please move the slider closest to what you think.

1.	I never use the internet at school	0	0	0	0	0	I often use the internet at school
2.	I often do group work with other students in class	0	0	0	0	0	I always work by myself or as part of the whole class
3.	Teachers are good at finding out what I already know about	0	0	0	0	0	Teachers don't bother to find out what I know already about
4.	We often get people from outside the school coming in to work with us	0	0	0	0	0	We only work with teachers or classroom assistants
5.	We always do the same things in our lessons	0	0	0	0	0	We do a lot of different things in our lessons
6.	We do a lot of practical activities	0	0	0	0	0	We never do practical activities
7.	We often get to see examples from videos or DVDs or television during lessons	0	0	0	0	0	We never get to see examples from videos or DVDs or television during lessons
8.	Lessons are often too difficult for me	0	0	0	0	0	Lessons are often too easy for me
9.	I often use what I have learnt at school in my life outside of school	0	0	0	0	0	I never use anything I have learnt at school in my life outside of school
10.	My teachers like me to bring things from home into lessons	0	0	0	0	0	My teachers don't like me to bring things from home into lessons



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In the future – what would you like your school to be like?

Please move the slider closest to what you think.

11.	In the future, I would like to do a lot of practical activities	0	0	0	0	0	In the future, I would like to We never do practical activities
12.	In the future, I would like mostly to do a lot of group work with other students	0	0	0	0	0	In the future, I would like to mostly work on my own or with the whole class
13.	In the future, I would like to get people from outside the school coming in to work with us	0	0	0	0	0	In the future, I would like to only work with teachers or classroom assistants
14.	In the future, I don't want to have to bring things from home into lessons	0	0	0	0	0	In the future, I would like to get to bring things from home into lessons
15.	In the future, I would like to get to see examples from videos or DVDs or television during lessons	0	0	0	0	0	In the future, I don't want to see examples from videos or DVDs or television during lessons
16.	In the future, I would like lessons to be easier	0	0	0	0	0	In the future, I would like lessons to be more difficult
17.	In the future, I would like to use what I have learnt at school in my life outside of school	0	0	0	0	0	In the future, I don't want to have to use anything I have learnt at school in my life outside of school
18.	In the future, I would like to use the internet at school	0	0	0	0	0	In the future, I don't want to use the internet at school



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19.	In the future, I would	0	0	0	0	0	In the future, I don't want teachers to
	like teachers to be						bother finding out what I know already
	good at finding out						about before they try and teach me
	what I already know						something new
	about before they try						
	and teach me						
	something new						
20.	In the future, I would	0	0	0	0	0	In the future, I would like to do a lot of
20.	· ·	U	U	U	U	U	
	like to do the same						different things in lessons
	things in each lesson						

I get the chance to... Teachers tell me to...

Please move the slider closest to what you think.

21.	I don't have a say in how much homework I get	0	0	0	0	0	I have a say in how much homework I get
22.	I get to choose who to work with in lessons	0	0	0	0	0	I don't get to choose who I work with in lessons
23.	I can choose to do some of my learning online	0	0	0	0	0	I am told when I have to work online and when in the class
24.	I sometimes get to mark my own and/or other pupils' work at school	0	0	0	0	0	I never get to mark my own and/or other pupils' work at school
25.	Teachers often ask me what I am finding difficult	0	0	0	0	0	Teachers never ask me what I am finding difficult
26.	I have a say in how I am taught at school	0	0	0	0	0	I don't have a say in how I am taught at school
27.	I have to be at school all the time during the school day	0	0	0	0	0	I can choose to do some of my learning at home
28.	I have a say in what I learn about in lessons	0	0	0	0	0	The teachers decide what I should learn about in lessons







In the future – what would you like your school to be like?

Please move the slider closest to what you think.

29.	In the future, I would like	0	0	0	0	0	In the future, I would like the
23.	to have a say in how I am		O	J	U	U	teachers to decide how I am taught
	taught						S
30.	In the future, I would like	0	0	0	0	0	In the future, I would like the
	to have a say in what I						teachers to decide what I should
	learn about in lessons						learn about in lessons
31.	In the future, I don't want	0	0	0	0	0	In the future, I would like to have a
	to have a lot of choice of						lot of choice in what subjects I want
	subjects in this school						to do
32.	In the future, I would like	0	0	0	0	0	In the future, I don't want to have to
	to mark my own and/or						mark my own and/or other pupils'
	other pupils' work						work
33.	In the future, I would like	0	0	0	0	0	In the future, I would like to be told
	to be able to choose to do						when I have to work online and
	some of my learning online						when in the class
34.	In the future, I would like	0	0	0	0	0	In the future, I would like teachers to
	to get to choose who to						choose who I work with in lessons
	work with in lessons						
35.	In the future, I would like	0	0	0	0	0	In the future, I would like to be able
	to have to be at school all						to choose to do some of my learning
	the time during the school						at home
	day						
36.	In the future, I would like	0	0	0	0	0	 In the future, I would like to have a
	the teachers to decide how						say in how much homework I get
	much homework I get						
37.	In the future, I would like	0	0	0	0	0	In the future, I don't want teachers
	teachers to ask me about						to ask me what I am finding difficult
	what I am finding difficult						_





Looking after myself and others

How good is my school at getting me to look after myself and others? Choose all the answers that are true for each question.

38. Do I eat healthily at school?

- a. I've never been told about healthy eating at school
- b. I've been told about healthy eating at school
- c. I have started eating more healthily because of what I have learnt at school
- d. I already eat healthily
- e. Some of my friends have started to eat more healthily because of what they have learnt at school

39. What have I learnt about exercise?

- a. Teachers don't encourage us to take exercise
- b. In my school we have had a lot of encouragement to take exercise
- c. Some of my friends have started to do more exercise outside of school because of what they have learnt about it at school.

40. What have I learnt about stress?

- a. Teachers don't talk to us about stress
- b. In my school we have learnt about stress and how to deal with it
- c. Some of my friends have started to deal better with stress because of what they have learnt about it at school

41. What have I learnt about bullying?

- a. Teachers don't know a thing about bullying
- b. In my school we have learnt a lot about bullying
- c. I know how to help other students if they are being bullied





People who encourage me

Please move the slider closest to what you think

42.	My parents put too much pressure on me	0	0	0	0	0	My parents don't put enough pressure on me
43.	My parents expect me to do well at school	0	0	0	0	0	My parents think I won't do well at school
44.	My friends expect me to do well at school	0	0	0	0	0	My friends think I won't do well at school
45.	My friends want me to work hard at school	0	0	0	0	0	My friends don't want me to work hard at school

46.	What does my school do to help me learn?
47.	What could my school do more to help me to learn?





About me

If you would like to know why we are collecting this information click here.

Рор ир

We are collecting this information to find out how many students from different groups are taking part, for example how many students who take part are:

- boys or girls;
- from different year groups;
- from different part of the country;
- from different ethnic groups.

48. My ethnicity is DROP DOWN SEE LIST (as in census)
49. I am a boy/girl (please circle the right answer)
50. I am years old
51. I am in year DROP DOWN 5 6
52. My home postcode is
53. How long have you been at this school?years
54. How many other schools have you been at since you were 6?
55. What level are you achieving in Literacy?
56. What level are you achieving in Numeracy?







If you are interested in being involved in follow up discussions about the curriculum please clic	ck
here.	

Pop up Please provide us with your contact details. These will only be used to contact you about involvement in a focus group. Name: Email address: Phone number: What type of focus group would you like to be involved in? **□**Online ☐ face to face (with peers) □ phone (1:1)

If you would like to be entered into a prize draw to win the £250 Amazon voucher or one of the £10 Amazon vouchers please click here.

Pop up



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Please provide us with your contact details. These will only be used to contact you if you are a winner.

Name:
Email address:
Phone number:

Appendix 18- Secondary Questionnaire- Your views about the curriculum

Thank you for taking part in this national survey that aims to collect your views about the curriculum and your life at school.

Through this online survey we hope to find out more about:

- your current experiences of learning;
- the opportunities that your school offers you; and
- what you would like your school to be like.

Your responses to this survey are anonymous and won't be passed to anyone other than the research team.

Once you have completed the survey you will be able to download and print a certificate to show that you have taken part.

We are also offering a number of prizes for students who complete this survey:

- 1 x £250 Amazon voucher; and
- 75 x £10 Amazon vouchers.

If you would like a chance of winning one of these prizes, or would like to get involved in follow up discussions, you will need to provide us with your contact details at the end of the survey. We won't use them for any purpose other than to contact you.

The survey will take about 20-30 minutes to complete.







How to fill in the survey

Most of the questions ask you to move a slider towards one of two options to reflect your view. For instance:

We do a lot of practical	0	0	0	0	0	We never do practical activities
activities						

Move the slider this way if you get to do practical activities.

If you get to do some practical activities move the slider somewhere near the middle.

Move the slider this way if you don't get to do practical activities.

Some questions ask you to select one or more option from a list.

What have I learnt about exercise?

- a. Teachers don't encourage us to take exercise
- b. In my school we have had a lot of encouragement to take exercise
- c. Some of my friends have started to do more exercise outside of school because of what they have learnt about it at school.

Some questions ask you to choose from a drop down list.

I am in year DROP DOWN 7 8 9 10 11 12 13

A few questions ask you to type an answer.

How long have you been at this school?.....years





Here and now – what are your current experiences of learning?

Please move the slider closest to what you think.

1.	I never use the internet at school	0	0	0	0	0	I often use the internet at school
57.	I often do group work with other students in class	0	0	0	0	0	I always work by myself or as part of the whole class
58.	Teachers are good at finding out what I already know about	0	0	0	0	0	Teachers don't find out what I know already about an area
59.	We often get people from outside the school coming in to work with us	0	0	0	0	0	We only ever work with teachers or classroom assistants
60.	We always do the same type of activities in our lessons	0	0	0	0	0	We do a mix of different activities in our lessons
61.	Teachers often make connections between different subjects	0	0	0	0	0	Subjects at school seem very separate and not connected to each other
62.	We do a lot of practical activities	0	0	0	0	0	We never do practical activities
63.	We often get to see examples from videos or DVDs or television during lessons	0	0	0	0	0	We never get to see examples from videos or DVDs or television during lessons
64.	Lessons are often too difficult for me	0	0	0	0	0	Lessons are often too easy for me
65.	I often use what I have learnt at school in my life outside of school	0	0	0	0	0	I never use anything I have learnt at school in my life outside of school





60	6.	Lessons are never	0	0	0	0	0	I often get to think about my own
		connected to my own						experiences during lessons
		experiences						

In the future – what would you like your school to be like?

Please move the slider closest to what you think.

67.	In the future, I would like to do a lot of practical activities	0	0	0	0	0	In the future, I don't want to have to do practical activities
68.	In the future, I would like mostly to do a lot of group work with other students in class	0	0	0	0	0	In the future, I would like to mostly work on my own or with the whole class
69.	In the future, I would like to get people from outside the school coming in to work with us	0	0	0	0	0	In the future, I would like to only work with teachers or classroom assistants
70.	In the future, I don't want lessons to be connected to my own experiences	0	0	0	0	0	In the future, I would like to get to think about my own experiences during lessons
71.	In the future, I would like teachers to make connections between different subjects	0	0	0	0	0	In the future, I don't want to be told about how different subjects are connected
72.	In the future, I would like to get to see examples from videos or DVDs or television during lessons	0	0	0	0	0	In the future, I don't want to see examples from videos or DVDs or television during lessons





73.	In the future, I would like lessons to be easier	0	0	0	0	0	In the future, I would like lessons to be more difficult
74.	In the future, I would like to use what I have learnt at school in my life outside of school	0	0	0	0	0	In the future, I don't want to have to use anything I have learnt at school in my life outside of school
75.	In the future, I would like to use the internet at school	0	0	0	0	0	In the future, I don't want to use the internet at school
76.	In the future, I would like teachers to be good at finding out what I already know about an area before they try and teach me something new	0	0	0	0	0	In the future, I don't want teachers to spend a lot of time finding out what I already know about an area before they try and teach me something new
77.	In the future, I would like to do the same type of activities in each lesson	0	0	0	0	0	In the future, I would like to do a mix of different activities in lessons

What's happening where?

Which subject is **most** like this? Which subject is **least** like this? (Please choose a subject from the drop-down list. If the subject you want to choose is not in the list, please write it down in the box)

No.		Subject most like this	Subject least like this
78.	We do a lot of practical activities		
79.	We often do group work with other students		
80.	We mostly learn from		





	books	
81.	I often find this subject hard	
82.	We often get people from outside the school coming in to work with us	
83.	I use what I have learnt at school in my life outside of school	
84.	The Internet is most useful in	
85.	I usually find this subject easy	
86.	Teachers often make connections between different subjects	
87.	We often get to see examples from video's, DVD's or television during lessons	
88.	Teachers are good at finding out what you already know about an area before they try and teach you something new	





I get the chance to... Teachers tell me to...

Please move the slider closest to what you think.

89.	I don't have a say in how much homework I get	0	0	0	0	0	I have a say in how much homework I get
90.	I get to choose who to work with in lessons	0	0	0	0	0	I don't get to choose who to work with in lessons
91.	I can choose to do some of my learning online	0	0	0	0	0	I am told when I have to work online and when in the class
92.	I don't have much choice of subjects in this school	0	0	0	0	0	I get a lot of choice in what subjects I want to do
93.	I sometimes get to mark my own and/or other pupils work at school	0	0	0	0	0	I never get to mark my own and/or other pupils work at school
94.	Teachers often ask me about what I am finding difficult	0	0	0	0	0	Teachers never ask me what I am finding difficult
95.	I have a say in how I am taught	0	0	0	0	0	I don't have a say in how I am taught at school
96.	I have to be at school all the time during the school day	0	0	0	0	0	I can choose to do some of my learning at home
97.	I have a say in what I learn about in lessons	0	0	0	0	0	The teachers decide what I should learn about in lessons





In the future – what would you like your school to be like?

Please move the slider closest to what you think.

98.	In the future, I would like to have a say in how I am taught	0	0	0	0	0	In the future, I would like the teachers to decide how I am taught
99.	In the future, I would like to have a say in what I learn about in lessons	0	0	0	0	0	In the future, I would like the teachers to decide what I should learn about in lessons
100.	In the future, I don't want to have a lot of choice of subjects in this school	0	0	0	0	0	In the future, I would like to have a lot of choice in what subjects I want to do
101.	In the future, I would like to mark my own and/or other pupils' work	0	0	0	0	0	In the future, I don't want to have to mark my own and/or other pupils' work
102.	In the future, I would like to be able to choose to do some of my learning online	0	0	0	0	0	In the future, I would like to be told when I have to work online and when in the class
103.	In the future, I would like to get to choose who to work with in lessons	0	0	0	0	0	In the future, I would like teachers to choose who I work with in lessons
104.	In the future, I would like to have to be at school all the time during the school day	0	0	0	0	0	In the future, I would like to be able to choose to do some of my learning at home
105.	In the future, I would like the teachers to decide how much homework I get	0	0	0	0	0	In the future, I would like to have a say in how much homework I get
106.	In the future, I would like teachers to ask me about what I am finding difficult	0	0	0	0	0	In the future, I don't want teachers to ask me what I am finding difficult





What's happening where?

Which subject is **most** like this? Which subject is **least** like this? (Please choose a subject from the drop-down list. If the subject you want to choose is not in the list, please write it down in the box)

No.		Subject most like this	Subject least like this
107.	I have a say in how I am taught		
108.	I have a say in what topics I do in lessons		
109.	Teachers often ask me about what I am finding difficult		
110.	I get a lot of choice in what subjects I want to do		
111.	I have a say in how I am tested		
112.	I can choose to do some of my learning online		
113.	I can choose to do some of my learning at home		
114.	I have a say in how much homework I get		
115.	I get to choose who to work with in lessons		





Looking after myself and others

How good is my school at getting me to look after myself and others? Choose all the answers that are true for each question.

- 116. Do I eat healthily at school?
 - a. I've never been told about healthy eating at school
 - b. I've been told about healthy eating at school
 - c. I have started eating more healthily because of what I have learnt at school
 - d. I already eat healthily
 - e. Some of my friends are eating more healthily because of what they have learnt at school
- 117. What has my school taught me about drugs?
 - a. Teachers don't know anything about drugs
 - b. In my school we have had a lot of information about drugs
 - c. I'm less likely to take drugs because of what I've learnt about them at school
 - d. Some of my friends have stopped taking drugs because of what they have learnt about them at school
- 118. What has my school taught me about alcohol?
 - a. Teachers don't know anything about alcohol
 - b. In my school we have had a lot of information about alcohol
 - c. I'm less likely to drink alcohol because of what I've learnt about it at school
 - d. Some of my friends have stopped drinking alcohol because of what they have learnt about it at school
- 119. What have I learnt about exercise?
 - a. Teachers don't encourage us to take exercise
 - b. In my school we have had a lot of encouragement to take exercise
 - c. Some of my friends have started to do more exercise outside of school because of what they have learnt about it at school.
- 120. What have I learnt about stress?
 - a. Teachers don't talk to us about stress
 - b. In my school we have learnt about stress and how to deal with it
 - c. Some of my friends have started to deal better with stress because of what they have learnt in school
- 121. What have I learnt about bullying?
 - a. Teachers don't know a thing about bullying
 - b. In my school we have learnt a lot about bullying





c. I know how to help other students if they are being bullied

People who encourage me

Please move the slider closest to what you think

122.	Teachers in primary school expected more of me than my teachers in secondary school	0	0	0	0	0	Teachers in secondary school expect more of me than my teachers in primary school
123.	Teachers in secondary school put more pressure on me than my teachers in primary school	0	0	0	0	0	Teachers in primary school put more pressure on me than my teachers in secondary school do
124.	Teachers put too much pressure on me	0	0	0	0	0	Teachers don't put enough pressure on me
125.	My parents put too much pressure on me	0	0	0	0	0	My parents don't put enough pressure on me
126.	My parents expect me to do well at school	0	0	0	0	0	My parents think I won't do well at school
127.	My friends expect me to do well at school	0	0	0	0	0	My friends think I won't do well at school
128.	My friends want me to work hard at school	0	0	0	0	0	My friends don't want me to work hard at school

129.	What does my school do to help me learn?
130.	What could my school do more to help me learn?





131.	I think that GCSEs should be based on 100% exams	0	0	0	0	0	I think that GCSEs should be based on a mixture of exams and coursework for each subject
132.	I think that the coursework I do is a good example of my level of understanding of a subject	0	0	0	0	0	I don't think that the coursework I do is a good example of my level of understanding of a subject
133.	I don't think that there is a problem with copying and cheating in coursework	0	0	0	0	0	I think that there is a problem with copying and cheating in coursework
134.	The level of help for coursework differs across my subjects	0	0	0	0	0	The level of help for coursework is the same across my subjects
135.	GCSEs are most suited for people who want to go into employment	0	0	0	0	0	GCSEs are most suited for people who want to go into higher education
136.	Applied GCSEs are most suited for people who want to go into employment	0	0	0	0	0	Applied GCSEs are most suited for people who want to go into higher education
137.	A-levels are most suited for people who want to go into employment	0	0	0	0	0	A-levels are most suited for people who want to go into higher education
138.	BTECs are most suited for people who want to go into employment	0	0	0	0	0	BTECs are most suited for people who want to go into higher education





Diploma's

		Yes	No
139.	My school is offering the opportunity to do a Diploma from September 2008		

If you have answered question 85 with yes, please go to question 86. If you have answered no, please go to question 93.

140.	I have received a lot of information and guidance about the Diploma	0	0	0	0	0	I haven't received any informand guidance about the Dip	
141.	The information I have received about the Diploma has been very helpful	0	0	0	0	0	The information I have rece about the Diploma has not helpful	
142.	My teachers know a lot about the Diplomas	0	0	0	0	0	My teachers don't know ar about the Diplomas	ything
143.	My teachers have encouraged me to take a Diploma	0	0	0	0	0	My teachers have not enco	uraged

		Yes	No
144.	I have chosen to do a diploma		

If you have answered yes, go to question 91 (and skip 92), if you have answered no, go to question 92.





145.

If answered Yes

I have chosen a Diploma because (please tick all the answers that are true for you)

The content appeals to me
It is practical rather than book learning
I like the fact that it's like a real job.
I think I'm more likely to get a job if I have a diploma
I like the way diploma's are assessed
Other (please write down your reason)

If answered No

I decided against the Diploma because

I don't find the content appealing
I don't want to move between schools / colleges outside my school
I think it's worth less than a GCSE/A-level
I don't think universities will take it as seriously as A-levels
Other (please write down your reason)





About me

If you would like to know why we are collecting this information click here.

Pop up

We are collecting this information to find out how many students from different groups are taking part, for example how many students who take part are:

- boys or girls;
- from different year groups;
- from different part of the country;
- from different ethnic groups.

146.	My ethnicity is DROP DOWN SEE LIST (as in Census)
147.	I am male/female (please circle the right answer)
148.	I am years old
149.	I am in year DROP DOWN 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 other
150.	My home postcode is
151.	How long have you been at this school?years
152.	How many other secondary schools have you been at?
153.	What level are you achieving in English?
154	What level are you achieving in Maths?





155. What is your best subject? What level are you achieving in that subject?
156. What is your worst subject? What level are you achieving in that subject?
If you are interested in being involved in follow up discussions about the curriculum please click here.
Please provide us with your contact details. These will only be used to contact you about involvement in a focus group.
Name:
Email address:
Phone number:
What type of focus group would you like to be involved in?
Online
☐ face to face (with peers)
□ phone (1:1)
If you would like to be entered into a prize draw to win the £250 Amazon voucher or one of the £10 Amazon vouchers please click here.
Please provide us with your contact details. These will only be used to contact you if you are a winner.
Name:
Email address:
Phone number:





CUREE would like to thank the following schools for their participation:

Primary

Acle St Edmund Primary School Christopher Rawlins C of E Primary School

All Saints CE Primary School Coney Hill Community School

Amble Links First School **Deedmore Primary School**

Ashton Gate Primary School **Drapers Mills Primary School**

Ashton Vale Primary School **Dundry Primary School**

Badsworth C of E School East Worlington Primary

Finham Primary School Bailey's Court School

Bansgore C of E Primary School Frederick Bird

Beacon CE Primary School Gloucester Road Primary School

Bealings Primary School Grimley and Holt CE Primary School

Becket Primary School Grove School

Birdwell Primary School Halterworth Community Primary School

Bishop Loveday CE School Harwell Primary School

Bolsover CE Junior School Haydn Primary School

Bolton Parish Church School Hebden Green School

Bournville Junior School Hilton Primary School

Braishfield Primary School Holy Family School

Broadmeadow Junior School Honiton School

Brookside School Jenyns First School

Castle Cary Primary School Kingshill Primary School

Cheddar Grove Primary School **Kingston School**

Kingsway J M School





Launton C of E Primary School St Nicholas Chantry Primary School

Linden Primary School St Pauls C of E Voluntary Aided Primary School

Lyngford Park Primary School St Peters Primary School

Manor Park Primary St Thomas CE Chequerbent School

Marpool Primary School St Vigor & St John Primary School

Meysey Hampton C of E Primary School St. Matthew's CE Primary School

Misterton First School Surlingham CP School

Newington Green School Tackley C of E Primary School

Newlands Spring School Tarleton Community Primary School

North Baddesley Junior School Tredworth Junior School

North Petherton Junior Walsgrave CE Primary School

Northdown Primary School Wellow School

Parson Street Primary School Wheatfield School

Potter's Green Primary School Whitley Abbey Primary School

Ridgewell CP School Whittle-le-Woods CE Primary School

Sidegate CP School Whoberley Hall Primary School

Skelmersdale Trinity CE/Methodist Primary School Widden Primary School

St Andrews Primary School Woodstock C OF E Primary School

St Annes Primary School Worlebury St Pauls

St Christopher's Primary Wrington Primary School

St Joseph's Junior School Wyche CE School

St Leonard's CE Primary School Wylam First School

St Mary's Primary School

St Michael's RC Primary School





Secondary

Alleyne's High School Hayward School

Archbishop Blanch School Haywood Engineering College

Aylestone School Heath Park Business and Enterprise College

Balshaws C of E High Hebden Green School

Barnfield West Academy Highfields Science Specialist School

Birchwood High School Holden Lane High School

Brockworth Enterprise School Kesgrave High School

Cardinal Wiseman Catholic Technology College King Ethelbert School

Central Technology College Kings Norton Girls School

Chailey School Lady Bridge High School

Charlton School Lawrence Sheriff School

Church Stretton Secondary School Longton High School

The Corbet School Technology College Lostock Hall Community High

Da Vinci Community College Mount St Joseph Business and Enterprise College

Eastbourne Technology College Murray Park Community School

Elgar Technology College Noel Baker Community School and Languages College

Elmfield School for Deaf Children Old Swinford Hospital

Ormskirk School **Endon High School**

Etone Technology Language and Vocational College Our Lady's R.C. High School

Fazakerley High School Philip Morant School and College

Forest Oak School President Kennedy School

Four Dwellings High School Queen Elizabeth's School

Hardwick Middle School Rainhill High School





Regents Park Community College

Rivington and Blackrod High School

S. Peter's Collegiate School

Saint George's Church of England Secondary School

Sandringham School

Selly Oak School

Severn Vale School

Shevington High School

South Chadderton School

Swavesey Village College

Tenbury High School

The Towers School

Thomas Wolsey School

Tile Hill Wood School and Language College

Turton High School

Willenhall School Sports College

Wodensborough Community Technology College

Wrockwardine Wood Arts College

