School and College Panel

Technical report: 2022 to 2023 academic year

February 2023

IFF Research

Contents

List of Tables

1. Overview

The School and College Panel (SCP) has run for two academic years. It was launched at the start of the academic year 2021/2022 to provide rapid feedback on issues affecting schools during recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, and to help shape the Department's policies during this critical time.

School leaders and teachers that agreed to join the panel have been invited to take part in a series of short (5-7-minute) online surveys twice termly since October 2021.[1]

This technical report covers:

- The methodology used to recruit panellists (Chapters 2 and 3);

- The process through which the panel survey questionnaires are developed (Chapter 4);

- The response rate to the surveys (Chapter 5);

- The approach taken to data cleaning and analysis (Chapter 6); and

- How the data has been weighted to be representative of the school and teacher populations (Chapter 7).

Methodological overview

The research was structured in two broad stages:

- Stage 1 – the recruitment survey: selected school and college leaders and teachers were invited to a 2-3-minute registration survey, covering key demographic information and job role (see Appendix C). School leaders and teachers were sampled from the 2021 School Workforce Census (SWFC) database, which is detailed further in Chapter 2. Detail of college leader and teacher sampling can be found in Chapter 3.

- Stage 2 – the panel surveys: once registered, panellists have been invited to complete short (5-7-minute) online surveys. These surveys have run twice termly in autumn 2022, and are scheduled to continue, twice per term, throughout the 2022/23 academic year.

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[1] A small number of panel members were also invited to join an advisory group run by the Department for Education to provide feedback on the surveys and make suggestions for improving engagement and response rate.

Participants that joined the panel signed up to be invited to surveys for an initial period of up to two years. Participation is voluntary, and participants can leave the panel at any time.

Table 1 shows the fieldwork dates for each phase and wave of the panel, as well as the fieldwork reference period for each survey completed to date.

Table 1 Dates of the School and College Panel (SCP)

Wave	Fieldwork period
Autumn recruitment drive	October 2022 - current
September 2022	26 September – 3 October 2022
November 2022	7 November – 14 November 2022

Measuring changes over time

The Department is interested in tracking changes in leaders' and teachers' opinions over time, so some questions in the School and College Panel are repeated across waves.

Before the School and College Panel, the Department used to collect evidence from school leaders and teachers on a range of topical issues in education via:

- The School Snapshot Survey (Winter 2017 – Summer 2020). This was a bi-annual survey of leaders and teachers.[2] The survey adopted a random sampling approach to select schools from the eligible population.[3] Roughly 800 leaders and 1,000 teachers took part in the survey each wave.

- The Department for Education Panel of School Leaders and Teachers (July, September and December 2020). This was a panel of roughly 3,500 leaders and teachers developed from the School Snapshot Survey. Participants who took part in the Winter 2018, Summer 2019 and Winter 2019 waves of the School Snapshot Survey were invited to be part of the panel.

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[2] School snapshot survey: summer 2019 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
[3] Mainstream local authority-maintained and academy schools, in primary and secondary settings.

- The School Snapshot Panel (February 2021 – July 2021). This was a panel of over 4,300 leaders and teachers. Leaders and teachers were selected to be invited to join the panel via the School Workforce Census.[4] A series of short online surveys were administered to panel members every 2-4 weeks between February 2021 and July 2021.[5]

The differences in the sampling methodology between each of the panels (Schools and College Panel, School Snapshot Survey and the Panel of School Leaders and Teachers) means that caution should be taken when comparing the results from the School and College Panel questions with those from these data sources.

For instance, on the School and College Panel, leaders and teachers were randomly selected from the Schools Workforce Census (SWFC) and then contacted directly and asked to participate. However, for the earlier School Snapshot Survey and the Panel of Leaders and Teachers, the sample source was the Get Information About Schools (GIAS), and the sample of teachers was obtained through asking schools to nominate and provide details of teachers to participate (a form of clustered random sampling).

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[4] Some participants involved in the DfE's Panel of School Leaders and Teachers may have been invited to join the School Snapshot Panel. If they agreed, they were subsequently removed from the Panel of School Leaders and Teachers.

[5] The SSP reports, including the technical report, can be found at: School snapshot panel: COVID-19 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

2. Panel Recruitment: Schools

Panel recruitment: sampling (schools)

The panellists for the survey work in the 2022/23 academic year comprised of existing panellists that had taken part in the 2021/22 academic year, plus new panellists recruited in September 2022. The aim of this recruitment was to establish a panel totalling around 9,500 leaders and teachers in mainstream schools in England.[6] For the Autumn 2022/23 recruitment beginning in September 2022, the school leaders and teachers that were invited to take part in the School and College Panel were selected using the latest data available from the 2021 School Workforce Census.

Prior to the Autumn 2022/23 recruitment activity for the School College Panel, any existing panel members who had been on the panel for the entire 2021/22 academic year and did not do at least one survey were removed. Moreover, members of the existing panel were checked against the 2021 School Workforce Census (SWFC) and any panellists no longer teaching were also removed. The below table shows the number of panellists removed following this exercise. Any panellists that were to be removed (but were still teaching) were emailed and were provided an opportunity to opt back in.

Table 2 Number of 2021/22 panellists removed from the panel prior to the Autumn 2022/23 recruitment activity

	Primary leader	Secondary leader	Primary teacher	Secondary teacher
Number of respondents removed from the panel	805	652	802	778

Following the removal exercise, 8,124 respondents remained on the panel. Some of these had signed up to the earlier School Snapshot Panel and agreed to remain as respondents in the 2022/23 academic year. Full details of the recruitment of these panel members can be found in the published School Snapshot technical report.[7]

Table 3 presents the target number of School and College Panel members, broken down by phase and level, alongside the number of existing panel members, and the number of "new recruits" needed to reach this target.

Table 3 Targets for the recruitment phase of School College Panel

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[6] Further details on the definition of 'mainstream schools' and which establishment types were excluded from the research are detailed further in the report under Panel Exclusions

[7] School snapshot panel: COVID-19 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

	Primary leader	Secondary leader	Primary teacher	Secondary teacher
Target number of panel members	**2,424**	**2,857**	**2,272**	**2,000**
Existing SCP panel members following removal as described above[8]	2,056	1,211	2,386	2,471
New recruits needed	368	1,646	500[9]	500[7]

This target panel number would allow achieved responses from around 1,000 primary teachers, 1,000 secondary teachers, 800 primary leaders and 800 secondary leaders each wave. The expected response rate for each of the four groups (and hence the panel number needed) was set based on each group's achieved response rate in the 2021/22 academic year. Higher numbers of secondary leaders were required on the panel as this group had the lowest response rate on the SCP in the previous academic year.

The Department for Education set these response targets (800 for leader groups, 1,000 for teacher groups) to achieve high levels of statistical confidence in survey results (+/- 3.1% on a survey result of 50% among primary or secondary teachers, and +/- 3.5% among primary or secondary leaders).

A panel of this size also allows for attrition across waves of the survey (i.e., the gradual loss of responses from a sample over time) while maintaining reliable results. It is also large enough to allow for the panel to be split in half into "A" and "B" groups in waves where the Department for Education requires a lot of questions to be asked[10], while still providing reliable results and maintaining an adequate number of respondents by phase and level in each group (+/- 4.1% on a survey result of 50% if primary or secondary teachers are split evenly between an A and a B panel, and +/- 4.9% for each of primary and secondary leaders if they are split evenly between an A and a B panel).

Furthermore, a panel of this size enables robust comparative analysis between subgroups. The key comparative groups included for routine analysis each wave were:

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[8] A small number opted back in to the panel after they were notified that they were about to be removed, these are included in the existing panel members figures

[9] Though the target in both primary and secondary teachers have been achieved without any further recruitment, to account for attrition over the course of the year, we targeted a further 500 respondents to recruit

[10] School leaders and teachers were assigned to one of two groups (termed "panel A" or "panel B"), with these two groups being shown different questions in the survey waves. Splitting questionnaire coverage between those assigned to panel A and panel B allows for more extensive coverage (more questions can be asked each wave), whilst keeping within the desired 5-7 minute survey length for individual respondents.

- Phase

- Level

- Free School Meal (FSM) quintile

- Academy status.

The assumed response rate for the recruitment phase was also set based on the recruitment response rate in the 2021/22 academic year and for all groups was between 8-11%.

Drawing school leader sample

To achieve the target number of complete survey responses, up to two leaders[11] from every in-scope secondary school in England were selected from the 2021 SWFC. For primary leaders, sufficient sample was available so that one leader was invited from each randomly selected school.

The leader sample draw was restricted to ensure that a maximum of two leaders per school were able to join the panel, with one assigned to panel A, the other to panel B (this was to prevent the views of two leaders at one school in effect being double-counted if they both responded to the same set of panel questions).

Academy status was not factored into the leader sample draw, allowing this to fall out naturally. The leader types for inclusion in the panel surveys were:

- Headteacher;

- Assistant headteacher; and

- Deputy headteacher.

A simple random sample within each school was conducted, meaning any of the above leader types could be drawn from each school, excluding existing panellists or those removed prior to the recruitment drive. This approach was adopted to be representative of the school leader population as a whole.

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[11] Two leaders from each secondary school were selected where possible. However, if one leader from the school was already on the panel, only one leader from that school could be selected, to maintain a maximum of two leaders from the same school on the panel at any one point.

Drawing classroom teacher sample

For the Autumn 2022/23 recruitment drive, the eligible teacher population was split into 'primary school' and 'secondary school' strata. Sample was then drawn from these two groups using random sampling technique, whereby each individual within the primary and secondary strata had an equal chance of being selected from the total population of teachers in the 2021 SWFC. This means that schools selected for the leader element may or may not have been drawn for the teacher element. Some schools had no teachers selected, whereas other schools had one or multiple teachers drawn (to a maximum of 5 teachers per school).

To achieve the targets presented in Table 2, teachers were drawn from the SWFC, based on an estimated 9% response rate for primary teachers and 11% response rate for secondary teachers.

Academy status was not factored into the teacher sample draw, and was allowed to fall out naturally. The selected teacher sample, by phase and academy status, is outlined in Table 5.

Table 4 Sample drawn from the 2021 SWFC for Autumn 2022/23 teacher recruitment – phase by academy status

	Primary	Secondary	Total
Academy	1,916	4,040	5,956
Non-academy	3,074	936	4,010
Total	4,990	4,976	9,966

Panel recruitment: exclusions (schools)

As with previous incarnations of the omnibus panels undertaken for the Department for Education with school leaders and teachers in mainstream primary and secondary settings, the following school types were excluded from the panel:

- Special schools;

- Post-16 providers;

- Pupil Referral Units (PRUs) / Alternative Providers (APs);

- Nurseries ; and

- Independent/non-maintained schools.

The above school types were excluded because the questions in the School and College Panel are aimed at mainstream schools that are funded by the local authority (local authority-maintained schools) or directly by government (academies and free schools). Survey questions would not necessarily be suitable for the above school types.

Panel recruitment: fieldwork (schools)

Fieldwork for the Autumn 2022/23 panel recruitment was launched in September 2022 and as of the publication of this technical report, is still ongoing (the recruitment survey remains open). The process for the recruitment exercise was as follows:

- E-mail invitations were sent to central school email addresses (e.g., info@primaryschool.org). The subject line of the email requested that it be forwarded to the named leader or teacher to complete the online survey (September 2022).

- Three separate reminder emails were sent by IFF Research to non-responding leaders and teachers via the central school email address (September and October 2021).

- Reminder letters were sent to all secondary leader non-respondents (October 2022).

Reminder letters were only sent to secondary leaders as this group required the greatest number of new recruits to reach the target numbers outlined in Table 3. After sending 3,743 letters, 206 secondary leaders signed up to the panel, a response rate of 6% for the letter alone, compared to a total response rate of 7% among secondary leaders following the initial invite and reminder emails.

A copy of the Autumn 2022/23 recruitment invitation email can be found in Appendix A, and the reminder letter to secondary leaders in Appendix B.

Panel recruitment survey: survey coverage

The recruitment survey collected key information about leaders and teachers and their school or college, alongside personal contact information (email address and phone number) to enable alternative ways of contact for future panel surveys. Data was also

appended to individual records from the SWFC (with consent from respondents) and the Get Information about Schools (GIAS) database. The variables appended from these two databases are detailed below.

The SWFC provided key demographic information, including leaders' and teachers':

- Age;

- Gender;

- Ethnicity; and

- Qualification date.

The GIAS database provided key school-level information such as:

- Academy status (including membership of Multi-Academy Trusts)

- Ofsted rating;

- School size (i.e., number of pupils);

- Percentage of pupils entitled to Free School Meals; and

- Gender type (of pupils).

The recruitment survey focused on variables not covered or which may be out of date in the above datasets, including:

- Job role;

- Length of time in current role;

- Key Stage taught (teachers only);

- Subject area taught (secondary teachers only); and,

- Health status.

Some information in the SWFC database, such as leaders' and teachers' job role, may have been out of date by the point at which they were recruited to the panel. This led to some movement between leader and teacher status during the recruitment phase. The recruitment survey identified where leaders and teachers had moved to roles of greater or lesser responsibility, meaning they would receive questions relevant to their current role.

A copy of the recruitment survey questionnaire can be found in Appendix C.

Panel recruitment survey: profile

The following tables show the response rate for the recruitment phase of the panel by school phase. As of end of December 2022, 1,696 leaders and teachers had registered for the panel, a response rate of 9% based on the starting sample of 18,569 for the Autumn 2022/23 recruitment.[12] Leaders were slightly more likely to register for the panel than teachers.

Table 5. Panel recruitment phase response rate, by school phase for the Autumn 2022/23 recruitment

	Primary Leaders	Secondary Leaders	Primary Teachers	Secondary Teachers	Total
Starting sample	4,577	4,026	4,990	4,976	18,569
Joined the panel	357	486	446	407	1,696
Response rate	**8%**	**12%**	**9%**	**8%**	**9%**

Profile of current panel following Autumn 2022/23 recruitment drive

Tables 8-12 show the breakdown of panel members according to key subgroup variables, as well as the proportions found in the population of schools (for school phase and academy status) or individual leaders and teachers (for level and job role).

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[12] The total number invited is slightly lower than the number selected due to faulty or missing email addresses. Email addresses were not available at the time of sampling.

Table 6. School panel composition by level compared with the overall population[13]

	Number on panel	Proportion of panel (all)	Proportion in the population (2021/22)[14]
Leader	4,172	40%	9%
Teacher	6,337	60%	91%

Table 7. School panel composition by school phase compared with the overall population

	Number joined panel	Proportion of panel (all)	Proportion of panel (leaders)	Proportion of panel (teachers)	Proportion in the population (2021/22)
Primary	5,696	54%	62%	49%	52%
Secondary	4,813	46%	38%	51%	48%

Table 8. School panel composition by academy status compared with the overall population

	Number joined panel	Proportion of panel (all)	Proportion of panel (leaders)	Proportion of panel (teachers)	Proportion in the population (2021/22)
Academy	6,062	58%	55%	60%	47%
Non-academy	4,447	42%	45%	40%	53%

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[13] While panel recruitment involved a roughly equal number of leaders and teachers, this does not reflect the population (where teachers dominate).
[14] The proportions presented here for level are taken from the School Workforce Census (SWFC) 2021. The proportions for Phase, Academy Status, FSM quintile and Ofsted rating are taken from Get Information About Schools (GIAS) database in the Autumn term of 2022.

Table 9. School panel composition by FSM status compared with the overall population

	Number joined panel	Proportion of panel (all)	Proportion of panel (leaders)	Proportion of panel (teachers)	Proportion in the population (2021/22)
Quintile 1	1,085	10%	11%	10%	11%
Quintile 2	1,516	14%	12%	15%	15%
Quintile 3	2,098	20%	18%	20%	19%
Quintile 4	2,563	24%	21%	25%	22%
Quintile 5	3,247	31%	27%	31%	32%

Please note columns do not always sum to 100% due to rounding.

Table 10. School panel composition by Ofsted status compared with the overall population

	Number joined panel	Proportion of panel (all)	Proportion of panel (leaders)	Proportion of panel (teachers)	Proportion in the population (2021/22)
Outstanding	1,379	13%	13%	13%	12%
Good	6,582	63%	64%	62%	64%
Requires improvement	913	9%	8%	9%	7%
Serious weaknesses	50	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%
Special measures	32	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%
Unknown	1,553	15%	14%	15%	16%

Please note that the columns in the tables above do not always sum to 100% due to rounding.

3. Panel Recruitment: Colleges

The predecessor studies to the School and College Panel (the School Snapshot Survey and the Department for Education Panel of School Leaders and Teachers described earlier) had not included FE college leaders and teachers. The addition of this group meant college leaders and teachers needed to be newly recruited to join the School and College Panel. The recruitment of college leaders and teachers began in November 2021 and remains ongoing. In this chapter, we discuss the new recruitment that has taken place since September 2022.

Autumn 2022/23 Panel recruitment of leaders and teachers: sampling and fieldwork (colleges)

All Further Education (FE) colleges in England that teach student aged 16-19 years were in scope for the survey. In a very similar approach to the school recruitment, college leaders completed a short 5-minute registration survey to collect basic information about themselves and their college (this was very similar to the registration survey for school respondents, as detailed in Appendix C). The registration survey asked leaders to confirm if their college taught 16-19-year-olds, and they were excluded from the panel if they did not.

College leaders and teachers recruited in 2021/22 academic year remained on the panel. Further recruitment for colleges in the 2022/23 academic year has differed compared to the 2021/22 academic year,[15] and has used an open link for college leaders and teachers to join the panel. The open link was promoted by Department for Education and shared by the Association of Colleges (AoC). The link was first shared on the Department for Education's social media channels on 11th October. Validation checks were conducted to ensure those that signed up through the open link were eligible to join the panel. These involved checking the domain name of the work email address provided to ensure that belonged to a college in scope. Those that signed up also received an email to verify their email address. A copy of this can be found in Appendix D.

As of the publication of this technical report, the recruitment link remains open and those who join are added to the panel on a rolling basis. As it is not possible to track the number of college leaders and teachers who have seen the open link, it is not possible to determine a response rate.

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[15] Details of how panel recruitment for colleges ran for the 2021/22 academic year can be found here: School and college panel: omnibus surveys for 2021 to 2022 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk). In the 2021/22 academic year, college leaders were identified through desk research carried out by IFF Research and invited to take part through telephone calls and email follow-up. Recruited college leaders were asked to refer teachers.

The recruitment process allows for multiple leaders from an institution. At the time of writing, there were no more than three from any one college.[16]

From September to end of December 2022, 21 college leaders and 12 teachers have joined the panel. The total panel numbers for these groups can be found in Table 13 below.

Table 11. Numbers of college leaders and teachers currently on the SCP Panel

	Leaders	**Teachers**
2021/22 academic year recruits	92	206
Number added to panel through the open link	21	12
Total panel number	113	218

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[16] During a wave, for questions asked at a college level, one leader response is allowed per institution. If more than one leader answers from one college, only the first response is counted.

4. Questionnaire Development

Panel surveys: questionnaire development

This section outlines how panel questionnaires have been developed and tested.

Questionnaire review

For each wave of the survey, an initial proposed list of questions and their target audience (by phase and level) was provided by the Department for Education, based on priorities from relevant policy teams (e.g., SEND team, Mental Health and Wellbeing team). These questions were initially reviewed, improved and prioritised internally by the Department for Education. The draft questions were then reviewed by IFF Research, who provided feedback on the survey content, for example, by suggesting amendments to question wording, suggesting a different audience (e.g. a question more suited to leaders than teachers) or identifying potential candidates for deletion if the survey is too long.[17] Once changes were agreed, the surveys were then cognitively tested.[18]

Cognitive testing

New questions that are submitted each wave, undergo cognitive testing. In a typical wave (such as November 2022) which had a panel A and B split, and included FE leaders and teachers, a total of 25 cognitive interviews were conducted. The aim was to achieve 20 interviews with school respondents with an equal split of respondents by level (leaders vs. teachers) and phase (primary vs. secondary); and 5 interviews with college leaders and teachers. As shown in Table 14, school respondents are also randomly assigned to either panel A or panel B to reflect the main survey design and minimise the number of questions each individual has to answer. The target number of interviews are as follows.

Table 12. Target number of cognitive interviews per wave

	Panel A Primary	Panel A Secondary	Panel B Primary	Panel B Secondary	College	Total
Leader	2 - 3	2 - 3	2 - 3	2 - 3	2-3	10-15
Teacher	2 – 3	2 - 3	2 - 3	2 - 3	2-3	10-15
Total	5	5	5	5	5	25

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[17] Panel participants had committed to regular, 5-7-minute surveys, so all panel surveys needed to adhere to these survey length parameters.
[18] Cognitive testing is a form of user testing whereby the survey questions are asked 'live' with eligible participants and follow-up questions are used to gauge participants' understanding of them.

In September 2022, colleges were not included in main survey and therefore cognitive testing with this group was not required. The number of cognitive interviews carried out was also limited in the September wave (to a total of 8 leaders and 4 teachers) as cognitive testing fieldwork was halted following the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Cognitive interviews were undertaken by telephone. Those who had not taken part in cognitive testing in a previous wave were prioritised to reduce burden on participating leaders and teachers. The sample for cognitive testing was taken from the previous Leader and Teacher Panel, consisting of respondents who agreed to be recontacted for this purpose.

The cognitive interviews typically lasted for between 20 and 45 minutes.

Cognitive reporting

Following the cognitive testing fieldwork at each wave, a short summary document was produced highlighting overarching themes emerging from the cognitive testing, focusing on question clarity, relevance and survey flow. In addition, IFF Research provided a question-by-question breakdown of the cognitive findings to raise any issues with specific questions and suggest recommended changes.

Following this feedback, the Department for Education and IFF Research agreed a final set of questions for inclusion in each wave.

5. Fieldwork and response rates

This section outlines the fieldwork process for the panel surveys, and the response rate achieved.

The duration of fieldwork for each wave is one calendar week. Fieldwork dates for all panel surveys conducted since September 2022 are shown in Table 15.

Each wave involved an initial invitation email being sent to panellists, followed by two reminder emails to all non-responders. In the November wave, text reminders were also sent half-way through fieldwork, in addition to the two reminder emails. The survey invitation emails can be found in Appendix E for September and Appendix F and G for November.

No monetary incentives are offered to participants of the School and College Panel.

Table 13. Fieldwork dates

	Launch & invite sent	Reminder email (1)	Reminder email (2)	Survey close
September 2022	26 September	28 September	30 September	3 October
November 2022	7 November	9 November	11 November	14 November

Incoming contact

A dedicated email address is available for respondents to use to get in touch with the IFF Research team. This can be used for general queries about the survey, technical issues about accessing the survey, and respondents updating their contact details and opt-outs. Respondents are also given the Department for Education Omnibus Surveys team's email address if they have wider queries about the research.

Response rates

Table 16 shows the overall response rate among school leaders and teachers for both waves of the School and College Panel survey this academic year.

Table 14. Response rates for each wave of the panel survey (schools)

	September 2022	November 2022
Starting sample	9,112	10,525
Complete surveys	3,040	4,138
Response rate	**33%**	**39%**

Response rates by some key subgroup variables are shown in Table 17-21.

Table 15. Response rates by level (schools)

	September 2022	November 2022
Leader	30%	35%
Teacher	36%	42%

Table 16: Response rates by phase (schools)

	September 2022	November 2022
Primary	34%	39%
Secondary	33%	40%

Table 17: Response rates by school phase and level (schools)

	September 2022	November 2022
Primary Leader	31%	35%
Primary Teacher	36%	42%
Secondary Leader	26%	35%
Secondary Teacher	36%	43%

Table 18: Response rates by academy status (schools)

	September 2022	November 2022
Academy	33%	39%
Non-academy	34%	39%

Table 19: Response rates by job role (school leaders)

Job role	September 2022	November 2022
Headteacher	34%	38%
Assistant headteacher	25%	32%
Deputy headteacher	31%	36%

In November 2022, college leaders and teachers were also invited to take part in the survey. The response rates for these groups were as follows:

- 35 out of 80 college leaders responded (a response rate of 44%)

- 93 out of 208 college teachers responded (a response rate of 45%).

6. Panel surveys: data processing and analysis

Data processing

Following fieldwork each wave, data processing involves:

- Creating detailed specifications for the creation of the SPSS file, data tables and codeframe, which together outline how survey data should be coded and presented in final data outputs.

- Incorporating personal and school-level variables from SWFC and the GIAS to enable comparison between groups in the survey (for schools only).

- Cleaning and processing the raw survey data to ensure it is presented in the most accessible and useful format for users, including:
  - Rebasing questions so they reflect the experiences of the most relevant group of leaders and teachers.
  - Creating derived variables from raw survey responses (e.g., net agree/disagree variables).
  - Editing data where requests have been made by the respondent (for example, they wanted to change their answer to a question after they submitted their survey responses).

Data analysis

Following data cleaning the data is analysed to draw out key findings from each wave of the research. This is achieved by first assessing the findings based on all respondents, and then by looking at differences between key subgroups. The key subgroups explored in the surveys are:

- Phase (for schools only - primary vs. secondary)

- Level (leader vs. teacher)

- FSM status (for schools only)

- Academy status (for schools only).

Additional subgroups are explored for individual questions at the request of Department for Education policy analysts.

IFF Research tables apply z-tests on sub-group percentages, or t-tests on sub-group means to determine whether significant differences are present in the dataset.

Differences between sub-groups and between previous waves are only commented on in the text if they are statistically significant at the 95 percent confidence level, unless otherwise stated, i.e. statistically we can be 95% confident that the differences are 'real' differences and not a result of the fact that the findings are based on a sample of schools rather than a census of all schools.

Although the leader sample and the teacher sample have been weighted to be nationally representative (by school type and by teacher demographics),[19] the data is still subject to sampling error. The extent of sampling error depends on:

- The sampling approach. The closer it is to a random sample, the lower the sampling error. A stratified random sample is preferable as this helps to balance characteristics that may impact the representativeness of the sample.

- The sample size. Larger samples have lower sampling errors.

- The survey result. Statistics closer to 50% have a higher standard deviation compared to those further away (e.g., 80%).

Sampling error for different groups of schools in the 2022/23 surveys, based on survey findings of 50%, and 20% or 80%, are shown in Appendix H.

These sampling errors were calculated using the following formula:

$$Sampling\ error\ =\ Zx\ \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{(n)}}$$

Where:

- Z is the Z value (which for the 95% confidence level is 1.96)
- σ=Population standard deviation
- n=Size of the sample.

Standard deviation was calculated using the following formula:

$$x \pm z = \frac{s}{\sqrt{(n)}}$$

Where:

- X is the mean value or percentage
- Z is the Z-value (which for the 95% confidence level is 1.96)

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[19] College data is not weighted.

- s is the standard deviation

- n is the base size.

Data tables

From the September 2022 survey wave, the Department for Education also published accessible data tables alongside each School and College Panel report.

These data tables show full results for each survey question, with analysis breaks (subgroups) such as

- Phase

- Level

- Academy status

- School gender

- FSM quintile

- Ofsted rating

- Region.

IFF tables apply z-tests on sub-group percentages, or t-tests on subgroup means. Differences are only marked when the tests show that a difference is statistically significant at the 95% confidence level, or higher.

Where the test determines that there is a significant difference between a particular subgroup figure and the average of the other subgroups, this will be flagged on the tables through an asterisk * next to that subgroup percentage/mean.

In the row below the figure, letters are used to denote that the percentage/mean for that subgroup is significantly different to the other subgroup(s), indicated by the letter corresponding to the column labels.

Further information on interpreting the tables, including which weighting has been applied to each survey question, can be found within the dataset itself.

7. Panel survey: weighting

Due to the small base size, weighting was not applied to data from college leaders. Weighting was only applied to data collected from school leaders and teachers.

Two types of weighting were applied to the data, depending on whether questions were asking for school-level or individual-level answers from leaders and teachers.

School-level weighting

At the analysis stage, the school-level (leaders) data was grossed up to the overall population of schools. This process corrects for the over-sampling of secondary schools (relative to the proportion of the population that they represent) so that the findings can be interpreted as being representative of all (in scope) state-funded schools. The population data for weighting was drawn from GIAS. The following population figures were used:

Table 20. Population data (from Get Information about Schools) used as profile for school-level weighting

Number of schools	Primary[20]	Secondary[21]	Total
Academy converter	4,801	1,647	6,448
Academy sponsor led	1,659	790	2,449
Community school	5,601	296	5,897
Foundation school	531	159	690
Free schools	255	228	483
Studio schools	0	21	21
University technical college	0	46	46
Voluntary aided school	2,338	197	2,535
Voluntary controlled school	1,600	26	1,626
Total	**16,785**	**3,410**	**20,195**

---

[20] Includes middle deemed primary schools.
[21] Includes all through and middle deemed secondary schools.

No responses were achieved from studio schools in September or November 2022. The data was therefore weighted to be representative of all in scope state-funded schools *excluding* secondary studio schools. As shown in Table 23, secondary studio schools comprise 0.1% of the total school population.

Individual weighting

For the analysis on a individual rather than a school base, the responses from leaders and classroom teachers were combined and weighted together to the overall population of teachers. The population data for the teachers weighting was taken from the School Workforce Census based on July 2022 data (the most up to date available data).

Weighting by phase and level ensures results reflect the relative proportion of each group within the population. This means that questions weighted to an individual-level better capture the views of teachers at an overall level (i.e. when not disaggregated by level), given the population is skewed heavily to teachers.

The calculations for this element of the weighting are shown in Tables 25-27 below (using Panel A of the November 2022 wave as an example):

Table 21. Population data (from School Workforce Census)

Phase	School teachers	School leaders	Total
Primary	205,754	41,121	246,875
Secondary	199,659	23,983	223,642
Total	**405,413**	**65,104**	**470,517**

Table 22. Achieved Panel A staff-level interviews in the November survey (unweighted)

Phase	School teachers	School leaders	Total
Primary	655	429	1,084
Secondary	693	288	981
Total	**1,348**	**717**	**2,065**

Table 23. Grossing factors by cell in the November survey (individual-level)

Phase	School teachers	School leaders
Primary	1.379	0.421
Secondary	1.264	0.365

When weighting data, it is important to weight to as few variables as possible to reduce the risk that the weighting of one variable will confuse or interact with others. It is also important to consider the balance between the impact weighting by multiple variables will have on effective sample size and the difference weighting makes to the overall results. As such, school-level weighting was limited to establishment type by school phase, and teacher-level weighting by level and phase. Weighting by additional variables (for instance, school-level data by region, and teacher-level data by gender) was considered but the profile, once weighted by the variables above, were considered sufficiently close to the proportions of those variables in the population to not warrant additional weighting.

Approach to weighting Panel A and Panel B

For both the September and November surveys, school leaders were allocated either to Panel A or B, with each group receiving a different set of questions. School teachers were also split into Panel A or B, with the exception of primary teachers in September 2022.

Table 24 Assignment of school leaders and teachers to panel A/B

Wave	School leaders split into A/B panels	Primary teachers split into A/B panel	Secondary teachers split into A/B panels
September 2022	Yes	No	Yes
November 2022	Yes	Yes	Yes

Weights were calculated separately for panel A and panel B respondents to ensure results reported from either panel A or B were representative of the overall population. This resulted in four weights being created across both surveys:

- Panel A school-level

- Panel B school-level

- Panel A individual

- Panel B individual.

In September, two additional weights were created to account for questions asked of audiences split across panels. They were:

- Individual combined weight

- Individual weight for 'Panel B primary leaders, secondary leaders, and all teachers'.

Appendix A. Panel recruitment invitation email - schools

DfE need your views to inform education policies

Dear <contact>,

We are inviting you to take part in the Department for Education's (DfE) School and College Panel, which collects vital information from schools and colleges via regular short easy-to-complete surveys.

Thousands of teachers and leaders are currently taking part. To ensure that findings are representative of [schools / teachers] across England, we need more [PHASE] [schools / teachers] in [area] like you to take part. By completing the survey, your responses will provide the Department for Education with timely information about key issues impacting schools. You can join the panel today, by following the steps below.

Next steps:

1. **Sign up to the panel using the link below:** Click on the link in the green box below to complete the short (5-minute) registration survey to join the panel. This survey asks for top-of-mind information about you and your school.
2. **Every 4-6 weeks**: Once on the panel, you will be invited to take part in short (5-minute) online surveys every 4-6 weeks. These surveys will ask about topical education issues and help us understand the most important issues schools are facing. You don't need to complete every survey to be on the panel so if you need to skip a wave - that's okay!
3. **Occasionally:** We may invite you to optional focus groups or stakeholder discussions on specific topics to enable more nuanced understanding of the issues that matter most to schools and colleges. Any participation would be completely voluntary.

Click now to join the School and College Panel

What policies has the School and College Panel already informed?

DfE policies informed by the School and College Panel to date include:

- The development and extension of the COVID Workforce Fund for schools and colleges to help with staff absences

- The DfE's education recovery packages and guidance

- The SAFE Taskforces, a school-based programme to reduce serious youth violence
- The mental health and wellbeing support package which is supporting around 2,000 school leaders

For more information on the impact of the panel so far, and recent publications, visit https://www.iffresearch.com/school-college-panel/

Why have other teachers and leaders taken part?

"Great opportunity to collect school's perspective on key areas in order to inform future policies and practices" **Secondary leader**

"Quick and simple to answer questions" **Primary teacher**

Do you have any queries?

If you have any questions about the research, please email the IFF team: schoolcollegepanel@iffresearch.com. Alternatively, if you wish to discuss the research with DfE, please contact omnibus.surveys@education.gov.uk.

We thank you for your time and hope you will join this essential research.

Kind Regards,

Lorna Adams,   Vicky Petrie
Director,   Chief Social Researcher
IFF Research   Department for Education

Additional information

- We are aware of the pressures schools are experiencing and in line with DfE's commitment to reduce the burden on schools, the research panel will only cover essential information that will be used to inform policy decisions.

- Participation in the Panel is completely voluntary and you can ask to leave any time. For reference, teachers and leaders are randomly selected by IFF research to take part using the School Workforce Census.

- Please be reassured that your answers will be anonymised and will not be shared with anyone from your school.

- All published data will be reported in aggregate form so you and your school will not be identifiable.

- The panel database is owned by DfE, and is used for research purposes only. This means details about you and your school will only be shared with researchers in DfE and our research contractors.

- The research is being conducted strictly in accordance with the Market Research Society Code of Conduct, and any information you provide will be handled securely in line with the UK Data Protection Act and the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

- You have a right to have a copy of your data, change your data, or withdraw from the research at any point. If you'd like to do this, or want and more information on data protection, please visit our website at: www.iffresearch.com/gdpr

Appendix B. Panel recruitment letter to secondary leaders

Would you like to help inform the Department for Education's (DfE) policies?

Dear [Contact],

We're inviting you to join the DfE School and College Panel.

The Panel collects vital information from schools and colleges via **regular, short, easy-to-complete surveys**. Whilst thousands of teachers and leaders are currently taking part, **we need more secondary school leaders in [area], like you,** to take part to ensure that findings are representative of schools across England. By joining the Panel, your responses will provide the DfE with critical information about key issues impacting schools.

Please join the Panel today, by following the steps below:

1. Go to www.iffresearch.com/SCP

2. Enter your unique ID: [ID]

3. Complete a 5-minute registration survey about you and your school.

What to expect when you have joined the panel

Every 4-6 weeks: you will be invited to take part in a short (5-7 minute) online survey. You don't need to complete every survey to be on the panel, so if you need to skip a wave - that's okay!

Occasionally: We may invite you to join focus groups or stakeholder discussions on specific topics to enable more nuanced understanding of the issues that matter most to schools and colleges. Any participation would be voluntary.

What happens next: Detailed reports are produced which are **used across the DfE to inform policy decisions**. For more information and recent publications, visit www.iffresearch.com/school-college-panel

1. A new COVID Workforce Fund for schools and colleges to help with staff absences
2. The development and refinement of the National Tutoring Programme
3. The SAFE Taskforces, a school-based programme to reduce serious youth violence
4. The mental health and wellbeing support package taken up by ~2,000 school leaders

Do you have any queries?

If you have any questions about the research, please email Marie Gallagher at schoolcollegepanel@iffresearch.com. Alternatively, if you wish to discuss the research with DfE, please contact omnibus.surveys@education.gov.uk

We thank you for your time and hope you will join this essential research.

Kind Regards,

Lorna Adams,   Vicky Petrie

Director,   Chief Social Researcher

IFF Research   Department for Education

Additional information

How are the DfE researchers and IFF Research working together to reduce burden on schools?

We are mindful of the pressures schools are experiencing and in line with DfE's commitment to reduce the burden on schools the research panel will only cover essential information that will be used to inform policy decisions.

Am I required to take part?

Participation in the Panel is voluntary, and you can ask to leave any time. For reference, teachers and leaders are randomly selected to take part using the School Workforce Census.

How is my data protected?

Please be reassured that the findings from the panel research are strictly confidential and **will not be shared with anyone from your school.** All published data will be reported in groups so **individuals and schools will not be identifiable.** The panel database is owned by DfE and is used for research purposes only**.** This means details about you and your school will only be shared with researchers in DfE and our research contractors.

The research is being conducted strictly **in accordance with the Market Research Society Code of Conduct** (www.mrs.org.uk/standards/code-of-conduct), and any information you provide will be handled securely in line with the UK Data Protection Act and the EU General Data Protection Regulation (**GDPR**). You have a right to have **a copy of your data, change your data, or withdraw** from the research at any point. If you'd like to do this, or want and more information on data protection, please visit our website at: www.iffresearch.com/gdpr

Appendix C. Panel recruitment survey

School and College Panel – Recruitment Phase – School Registration Survey

Landing page

Welcome to the School and College Panel registration survey.

The Department for Education (DfE) is recruiting school leaders and classroom teachers to join our research panel. The data collected from these surveys will allow us to collect robust evidence in a speedy manner, and in turn will be used to inform key policy decision-making and monitor the impact of existing policies in the department to help schools and pupils.

This short registration survey only collects key information about you and your school. We very much hope you will register your interest. We know how busy teachers and leader are, so your responses will really be appreciated, and will inform key policies across the Department for Education.

This survey will take less than 5 minutes to complete. It is being conducted on the Department's behalf by IFF Research, an independent research company.

When completing the survey please only use the 'previous' and 'next' buttons at the bottom of the page, not the 'back' and 'forward' buttons in your browser. It is best viewed in Microsoft Internet Explorer.

To take part in this survey, please click 'Next' below to begin.

Responses to this survey will be kept entirely confidential, in line with the Code of Conduct of the Market Research Society and GDPR. The panel database is controlled by the Department, meaning your personal details and those of your school will not be shared with anyone outside of IFF Research and the Department. You have a right to have a copy of your data, change your data, or withdraw from the research at any point. If you'd like to do this, you can consult our website at: iffresearch.com/gdpr. If you would like to know more about how we will be using the data we collect through these surveys, you can review our privacy notice here: https://www.iffresearch.com/privacy-notice-school-college-panel/ *. If you would like further information or would like to contact someone about the research, please click 'further information'.*

If clicks 'further information':

further information

The survey will take less than 5 minutes to complete.

Please note that all data will be reported in aggregate form in all reporting. Your answers will not be shared with anyone else from your school.

If you wish to confirm the validity of the survey or get more information about its aims and objectives, you can call:

IFF: Anya Karadia or James Taylor: schoolcollegepanel@iffresearch.com

DfE: Omnibus Survey's team omnibus.surveys@education.gov.uk

Market Research Society: 0800 975 9596

Confirmation of respondent

ask all

Before we begin, we would like to confirm that we have reached the correct school leader or teacher. We are inviting this person to be part of the panel: <contact name>

Is this you?

Singlecode.

Yes	1	ASK B1
No	2	ASK A2

if not the right contact (a1=2)

For the purpose of the School and College Panel, we are collecting details for the named individual. If you know the email address of the person, please could you enter it here. We will send them a link to the registration form for them to complete.

ds: please update sample

message if type in email: Thank you for providing the email for the correct person at your school. We will be in touch if we require any more information.

email address: @		V	ASK B1
Don't know		1	ASK A3

if not sure (a2=CoDe1)

Please could you forward the email invitation on to the named contact so they can complete the survey. Thank you for your assistance.

thank and close.

Agreement to take part

ask all

Thank you for confirming we have reached the correct person. Before we collect some information about you, we would just like to confirm that the School and College Panel is something you are interested in being a part of.

Through short, easy-to-complete surveys, you will be providing the Department for Education with timely information about key issues impacting schools. Your contributions over the next few months will be vital in informing the Department's activities throughout the next few years.

Are you interested in helping the Department for Education by becoming a panellist in this important research?

singlecode.

message if B1=2: We're sorry to hear that you aren't interested in being part of the panel. We will not contact you any further about this particular research project.

| Yes | 1 | ASK B2 |
| No | 2 | THANK AND CLOSE |

if interested in taking part (b1=1)

Thank you for agreeing to take part. We would like to confirm the best way to get in touch with you about future surveys. Please enter your contact information below.

If possible, we would like your work and personal email address, so we have an alternative way of contacting you if you leave the school you are currently working at, or your work email mailbox is full. This will allow us to contact you if you move schools or leave the profession.

We have also received feedback from teachers and leaders that, due to busy work schedules, they appreciate being sent a text reminder to let them know when the survey is closing. Your telephone number would not be used for any other purpose. You can opt out of these communications at any time.

Our surveys are optimised to allow completion on mobile phones. This means if you receive an email from us on your mobile, you can complete it 'on the go'.

ds: allow skip on personal email address.

ds: please apply standard checks on email addresses / phone numbers.

error message if work email address not entered: You need to enter your work email address so we can invite you to our panel surveys.

WORK EMAIL ADDRESS: @	
PERSONAL EMAIL ADDRESS: @	
WORK CONTACT NUMBER:	
MOBILE CONTACT NUMBER:	

ask all

Would you be willing for IFF Research to contact you to help with the development of future School and College Panel questionnaires? This would involve sense-checking potential questions prior to the survey launch.

single code

Yes	1
No	2

About you

ask all

Firstly, which of the following best describes your job role?

Singlecode.

Assistant Headteacher	1
Deputy Headteacher	2
Headteacher	3
Leading Practitioner	4
Qualified teacher who is serving statutory induction	5
Qualified teacher (QTS/QTLS) on the Main Pay Range who is not serving statutory induction	6
Qualified teacher (QTS/QTLS) on the Upper Pay Range	7
Other	8
Prefer not to say	9

dummy variable, do not ask

c1dum
multicode

Leader	1	C1 = 1 TO 3 (OR C1=8/9 AND SAMVARLEV=1)
Teacher	2	C1= 4 TO 7 (OR C1=8/9 AND SAMVARLEV=2)

ask all

How long have you been working in your current role in your school?

WRITE IN YEARS DS - ONLY ACCEPT WHOLE NUMBERS (FROM 0-99)		
Less than one year	1	
Don't know	2	

if don't know qualification date (samvars_hasqualdate=2)

How long have you been working in the teaching profession since you qualified?

By qualified, we mean when you achieved QTS after your Initial Teacher Training (and before you started your NQT induction).

Please answer to the nearest year. If less than 6 months, please enter 0.

WRITE IN DS - ONLY ACCEPT WHOLE NUMBERS (FROM 0-99)		
Don't know	1	
Not applicable – I do not hold QTS	2	

ask all teachers (c1DUM=2)

What Key Stage(s) do you teach?

multicode.

[if phase = 1: Early years foundation stage]	1
[if phase = 1: Key Stage 1]	2
[if phase = 1: Key Stage 2]	3
[if phase = 2: Key Stage 3]	4
[if phase = 2: Key Stage 4]	5
[if phase = 2: Key Stage 5]	6

ask all primary leaders (c1dum=1 and phase=1)

Does your school teach pupils who are in Reception or Key Stage 1?

singlecode.

Yes	1
No	2
Don't know	3

ask all secondary leaders (C1DUM=1 AND phase=2)

Does your school teach pupils aged 16-18 years old?

singlecode.

Yes	1
No	2
Don't know	3

ask all secondary teachers (C1DUM=2 AND phase=2)

What subject do you spend most of your time teaching?

singlecode.

English	1
Maths	2
Science	3
Geography	4
History	5
Modern Foreign Languages (e.g. French, German and Spanish)	6
Religious Studies	7
Physical Education	8
Art	9
Music	10
Design & Technology	11
Home Economics	12
IT/Computer Science	13
Other	14
Prefer not to say	15

Demographics

ask all

Finally, there are a few demographic questions we would like to ask you to help us understand the experiences of teachers and school leaders from different backgrounds and circumstances. Everything you say is confidential, will be used for research purposes only and you can decline to answer individual questions if you wish.

ask all

Do you consent for the DfE to use administrative data it currently holds about you? This includes your age, gender and ethnicity. By providing this information you can help DfE to understand how diversity characteristics relate to school experiences.

singlecode.

Yes	1
No	2

if agree to demographic questions (d1=1)

Do you have any physical or mental health conditions or illnesses lasting or expected to last 12 months or more?

singlecode.

Yes	1	ASK D4
No	2	
Prefer not to say	3	

ask if has health conditions (d3=1)

Do any of your conditions or illnesses reduce your ability to carry out day-to-day activities?

singlecode.

Yes – a lot	1

Yes – a little	2
No	3
Prefer not to say	4

if agree to demographic questions (D1=1)

How would you best describe your sexual orientation?

singlecode.

Heterosexual or straight	1
Gay or lesbian	2
Bisexual or pansexual	3
Other	4
Prefer not to say	5

if agree to demographic questions (D1=1)

Do you regard yourself as belonging to any particular religion?

multicode.

Christian (no denomination)	1
Christian (Roman Catholic)	2
Christian (Church of England/Anglican)	3
Christian (other denomination)	4
Hindu	5
Jewish	6
Islam/Muslim	7
Sikh	8

Buddhist	9
Other (non-Christian)	10
No religion	11
Prefer not to say	12

ask all

Finally, if you have any questions about our new research panel, please contact the IFF research team on schoolcollegepanel@iffesearch.com

final screen for online

On the behalf of the Department for Education and IFF Research, thank you very much for your time. Just to confirm, we'll be keeping your responses for future survey analysis. If you'd like a copy of your data, to change your data or for your data to be deleted then please go to http://www.iffresearch.com/gdpr/ for more information.

You also have a right to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) and you can do so by calling their helpline on 0303 123 1113.

Appendix D. College leader email address confirmation email

Dear <contact>,

Thank you for recently signing up to be part of the Department for Education's School and College Panel. We just need to verify your email address.

In order for us to do this, please click on the link below

[click here to confirm email address]

If you did not sign up to the Panel, or believe this email was sent to you in error please contact schoolcollegepanel@iffresearch.com

For further information on the School and College Panel please visit https://www.iffresearch.com/school-college-panel/. For any queries, support or assistance please email Marie Gallagher on schoolcollegepanel@iffresearch.com

Thank you again for your support of this important research

Kind regards,

Rebecca Neaves

Senior Research Manager

IFF Research

Appendix E. Survey invitation email (September wave)

Subject Line: The latest DfE School and College Panel survey now open

Dear <contact>,

You can now take part in the first School and College Panel survey of the 2022/23 academic year. We hope you will be able to take part in this important study.

The survey will take around 7 minutes to complete. There will be questions on a range of topical education matters - including the rising cost of living, tutoring and knife crime - and the data will be used to inform key policy decision-making and monitor the impact of existing policies in the department.
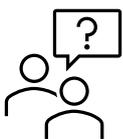
Click the link below to take part:

<insert link>

if took part in a survey last year: [We'd like to **thank you for taking part in the School and College Panel** in the 2021/22 academic year. We know that [teachers/leaders] are dealing with high workloads, so your responses are really appreciated.]

if new recruit and not yet taken part in survey: [We'd like to share with you the impact of the school and college panel over the last academic year.]

The SCP 2021/22 academic year at a glance…

We spoke to over 7,800 teachers and 2,500 leaders

We asked 361 questions exploring themes including:

Staff and pupil wellbeing, teacher workloads, remote education, knife crime, pupils' behaviour, childcare provision, staff absence, cost of living and so many more.

We carried out in-depth interviews with 40 school leaders about their views on flexible working

We informed policies including:

The development and extension of the COVID Workforce Fund for schools and colleges to help with staff absences

The DfE's education recovery packages and guidance

The SAFE Taskforces, a school-based programme to reduce serious youth violence

The mental health and wellbeing support package which is supporting around 2,000 school leaders

We set up a dedicated webpage to share SCP's impact so far and recent findings (3-minute read): https://www.iffresearch.com/school-college-panel/

All published reports from the 2021/2022 year are available to view on the gov.uk website here

Any questions?

As always, if you have any questions about the research, please contact the IFF Research team at schoolcollegepanel@iffresearch.com. Alternatively, if you wish to discuss the research with DfE, please contact omnibus.surveys@education.gov.uk.

Kind Regards,

Lorna Adams,   Vicky Petrie

Director,   Chief Social Researcher

IFF Research   Department for Education

Appendix F. Survey invitation email (November wave – those that completed September survey)

Subject Line: DfE survey now open: Complete the latest School and College Panel survey now

Dear <contact>,

Do you have a few minutes to complete the November 2022 wave?

Thank you for taking part in the last School and College Panel survey. Your responses have been shared with the DfE and are now being fed into policy development.

Please click the link below to take part in the latest survey and continue to inform DfE policies:

<insert link>

If the above button doesn't work, please go here: [webpage link] and enter the ID at the top of this email.

Like all waves, **this survey should take no more than 7 minutes to complete**. This survey includes questions on a range of topics including support for transgender pupils, school budgets, behaviour in schools and safeguarding.

> *"The School and College Panel is an essential tool for helping DfE to quickly understand the views of teachers and leaders."*

Any questions?

As always, if you have any questions about the research, please contact the IFF Research team at schoolcollegepanel@iffresearch.com. Alternatively, if you wish to discuss the research with DfE, please contact omnibus.surveys@education.gov.uk.

All published reports from the 2021/2022 year are available to view on the gov.uk website here

Kind Regards,

Lorna Adams,

Director,

IFF Research

Vicky Petrie

Chief Social Researcher

Department for Education

Appendix G. Survey invitation email (November wave – those that did not complete September survey)

Subject Line: Complete DfE's survey now: Latest School and College Panel survey is now open

Dear <contact>,

Would you like to help inform the Department for Education's (DfE) policies?

Please click the link below to take part in the latest School and College Panel survey:

<insert link>

If the above button doesn't work, please go here: [webpage link] and enter the ID at the top of this email.

The survey should take no more than 7 minutes to complete. This survey includes questions on a range of topics including support for transgender pupils, school budgets, behaviour in schools and safeguarding.

Your responses are really appreciated

We know that [teachers/leaders] are dealing with high workloads, so your responses are really appreciated. Your response will be used to inform key policy decision-making and monitor the impact of existing policies in the department.

Why leaders and teachers take part?

> *"Quick and simple to answer questions"* ***Primary teacher***

> *"It is a great opportunity to share the school's perspective on key areas in order to inform future policies and practices"* ***Secondary leader***

If new recruit and not yet taken part in a survey: [We'd like to share with you the impact of the school and college panel over the last academic year.]

The SCP 2021/22 academic year at a glance…

We spoke to over 7,800 teachers and 2,500 leaders

We asked 361 questions exploring themes including:

Staff and pupil wellbeing, teacher workloads, remote education, knife crime, pupils' behaviour, childcare provision, staff absence, cost of living and so many more.

We carried out in-depth interviews with 40 school leaders about their views on flexible working

We informed policies including:

The development and extension of the COVID Workforce Fund for schools and colleges to help with staff absences

The DfE's education recovery packages and guidance

The SAFE Taskforces, a school-based programme to reduce serious youth violence

The mental health and wellbeing support package which is supporting around 2,000 school leaders

We set up a dedicated webpage to share SCP's impact so far and recent findings (3-minute read): https://www.iffresearch.com/school-college-panel/

All published reports from the 2021/2022 year are available to view on the gov.uk website here

Any questions?

As always, if you have any questions about the research, please contact the IFF Research team at schoolcollegepanel@iffresearch.com. Alternatively, if you wish to discuss the research with DfE, please contact omnibus.surveys@education.gov.uk.

Kind Regards,

Lorna Adams,   Vicky Petrie

Director,   Chief Social Researcher

IFF Research   Department for Education

Appendix H. Sampling error for each survey wave

Table 25. Sampling error in the SCP for the September 2022 survey

Group	Base size	Sampling error for survey findings of 50%	Sampling error for survey findings of 20% or 80%
All panel A schools	558	±5.9%	±4.7%
All panel B schools	544	±5.9%	±4.8%
All panel A secondary schools	190	±10.1%	±8.0%
All panel B secondary schools	199	±9.8%	±7.9%
All panel A primary schools	368	±7.2%	±5.8%
All panel B primary schools	345	±7.5%	±6.0%
All panel A teachers	978	±4.4%	±3.5%
All panel B teachers	960	±4.5%	±3.6%
All teachers	1,938	±3.1%	±2.5%

Table 26. Sampling error in the SCP for the November 2022 survey

Group	Base size	Sampling error for survey findings of 50%	Sampling error for survey findings of 20% or 80%
All panel A schools	717	±5.2%	±4.1%
All panel B schools	730	±5.1%	±4.1%
All panel A secondary schools	288	±8.2%	±6.5%
All panel B secondary schools	271	±8.4%	±6.7%
All panel A primary schools	429	±6.7%	±5.4%
All panel B primary schools	459	±6.5%	±5.2%
All panel A teachers	1,348	±3.8%	±3.0%
All panel B teachers	1,343	±3.8%	±3.0%

Department
for Education

Any enquiries regarding this publication should be sent to us at:
Omnibus.SURVEYS@education.gov.uk or www.education.gov.uk/contactus

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