



Department
for Education

Parent, pupil and learner panel

Technical report

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Overview

The Department for Education (DfE) commissioned the Parent, Pupil and Learner Panel (PPLP) to collect robust and quick turnaround research to support policy development. The PPLP aims to help DfE make evidence-based policy decisions and see how views and experiences of parents, pupils and learners change over time.

This technical report covers each element of the PPLP data collection and delivery process during the 2022/23 academic year, across the recruitment phase for primary parents; secondary parents; pupils in years 7 to 11 and pupils and learners in years 12 and 13. Please see the [technical report covering the 2021/22 academic year](#) for information about the 2021/22 PPLP. The report is divided into the following sections:

- Section 1: Overview. Includes an overview of the aims of the panel and what this document covers.
- Section 2: Methodology Overview. Summarises the timescales for each wave and the reasons for the method selected.
- Section 3: Sampling. Outlines the size and structure of the starting sample and a summary of the recruitment phase.
- Section 4: Questionnaire. Provides details of the questionnaire development and cognitive testing of the questionnaires.
- Section 5: Fieldwork. Details the process for inviting panel members to participate and subsequent communication processes with panel members.
- Section 6: Response Rates. Outlines how many people took part in each wave; the breakdown of responses by key respondent groups as well as how many waves panellists took part in on average.
- Section 7: Weighting. A summary of the weighting approach.
- Section 8: Data Processing and Analysis. An outline of the process for processing and analysing data, including which key subgroups were looked at and how significant differences were tested.
- Section 9: Appendices. Communications sent to panel members and additional ad hoc analysis.

Methodology overview

Overview of Phase 1 and Phase 2

The research was structured into 2 broad phases:

- Phase 1: the September 2022 recruitment wave (September 2022-October 2022) invited pupils in years 6-10 and parents of pupils in reception to year 10 in the 2021/22 academic year to take part in a 15-minute online survey and join the PPLP. Panel members were sampled from the National Pupil Database (NPD) and contacted by letter, inviting them to take part in an online survey (push-to-web approach).
 - A subsequent recruitment wave was conducted in February to March 2023, to recruit pupils and learners in years 12 and 13 to the PPLP. Panel members were sampled from the NPD and the Individualised Learner Record (ILR).
- Phase 2: subsequent waves involved emailing panel members and inviting them to take part in regular short 10-minute surveys.

In Phase 1, fieldwork lasted 4 weeks between 23 September 2022 to 21 October 2022. The subsequent recruitment wave lasted between 14 February 2023 to 14 March 2023. Potential participants were sent an initial invitation letter and a reminder letter which was sent two weeks into the fieldwork period. Participants were offered a £5 incentive in the form of a Love2Shop voucher.

Phase 2 surveys were open for five days. Panellists who opted in to receiving a prenotification email received an email roughly a week before each research wave began informing them a survey would be coming. All panel members were sent an initial email invitation and panel members who provided a mobile number in the recruitment survey were also sent an SMS invitation when fieldwork began. SMS and email reminders were sent on day three of fieldwork and a second reminder email on day five.

A £2.50 incentive, in the form of an Amazon voucher, was offered to parents and pupils at the first research wave in Phase 2. In subsequent research waves, respondents were offered a choice of a £2.50 Amazon voucher or to complete a further survey and receive a £5 Love2Shop voucher, offering respondents flexibility in their rewards. Incentives were paid after the completion of fieldwork.

Key unweighted demographics for respondents at each research wave are shown in Appendix E. Only a subset of the original panel of parents and secondary aged pupils took part in each subsequent wave of the survey. However, at each wave, results were weighted to be representative of the full panel.

Table 1 gives a breakdown of each wave of fieldwork completed, including the recruitment wave. The table outlines the number of responses achieved, the dates of the fieldwork period and the fieldwork reference used to refer to each wave in PPLP reports.

Table 1: Parent, Pupil and Learner Panel (PPLP) waves in 2022/23

Wave	Number of responses	Fieldwork period	Fieldwork reference
Recruitment wave	5,564 total parent responses and 4,950 pupil responses (years 7 to 11)	23 September 2022 to 21 October 2022	September/October 2022 recruitment wave
November wave (Research wave 2)	2,976 total parent responses and 2,245 pupil responses (years 7 to 11)	9 November 2022 to 14 November 2022	November 2022
2022/23 Research wave 3	2,580 parents and 2,075 secondary pupils (years 7 to 11)	1 st February to 5 th February 2023	February 2023
2022/23 Recruitment wave 2	2,394 pupils and learners (years 12 to 13)	14 th February to 14 th March 2023	February to March 2023
2022/23 Research wave 4	2,848 parents and 2,904 secondary pupils (years 7 to 13)	22 nd March to 27 th March 2023	March 2023
2022/23 Replenishment wave 1	1,720 parents and 1,012 secondary pupils (years 7 to 11)	27 th March to 19 th April 2023	March/April 2023

Sampling

Target populations

There were four target populations for the PPLP:

- (i) Parents of pupils educated in the maintained sector, years 1 to 6
- (ii) Parents of pupils educated in the maintained sector, years 7 to 11
- (iii) Pupils educated in the maintained sector, years 7 to 11
- (iv) Young people in education in the maintained sector, years 12 to 13¹

Pupils and parents of pupils in independent schools, special schools, pupil referral units, and those who are home educated, were excluded from these target populations. Learners in work-based programmes (such as apprenticeships and traineeships) and those attending independent training providers and special needs institutions were excluded.

Sample frames

The National Pupil Database (NPD, compiled following the Summer Census 2021/22) was used as the sample frame. This sample was drawn in September 2022.

For parents and pupils up to year 11, the school year was rolled forward due to the point the NPD extract was taken. This meant, for example, that a sample of pupils in reception year (R) at the time of the Summer Census was taken to cover pupils in year 1 in the 2022-23 academic year. As a result, there will be a small degree of non-coverage affecting these samples, due to population churn between NPD compilation and the PPLP recruitment survey. In particular, this will affect coverage of parents of pupils in year 1 because the sample is limited to those that attended year R (it is not compulsory); and pupils in reception during academic year 2022-23 were not covered. All surveyed pupils and parents are referred to using the year group the pupil was in during the 2022/23 academic year.

In January 2023, a more recent extract of the NPD (compiled following the Autumn 2022 Census) and the Individualised Learner Record (ILR) database were used to sample pupils and learners in years 12-13 who are studying at a further education institution (part of population (iv)).

Stratification

The NPD was explicitly stratified by pupil population (i), (ii) or (iii)) and, within population, by the intersection of three binary variables: Special Educational Need (SEN) status, free school meals (FSM) status, and children in need status (CiN). Different sampling fractions were applied to each explicit stratum.

¹ Representative sample of those in classroom-based study programmes, in maintained school or the Further Education college sector

The following subgroups were oversampled to improve the precision of survey estimates for these subgroups, and to reflect lower response rates achieved during previous Parent and Pupil Panels (academic years 2020/21 and 2021/22) and illustrates how they were defined. All subgroups were identified based on data from the NPD or ILR:

- SEN (NPD variable: SENprovision_SUM22): A child or young person has SEN if they have a learning difficulty or disability which calls for special educational provision to be made for them. A child of compulsory school age or a young person has a learning difficulty or disability if they:
 - have a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age, or
 - have a disability which prevents or hinders them from making use of facilities of a kind generally provided for others of the same age in mainstream schools or mainstream post-16 institutions.
 - Many children and young people who have SEND may also have a disability under the Equality Act 2010 – that is ‘...a physical or mental impairment which has a long-term and substantial adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities’. Where a disabled child or young person requires special educational provision, they will also be covered by the SEND definition.
 - For more detail, please see the SEND Code of Practice.
- CiN (NPD variable: CINAnyPoint): This is a broad definition spanning a wide range of children and adolescents, in need of varying types of support and intervention, for a variety of reasons. A child is defined as ‘in need’ under section 17 of the Children Act 1989, where:
 - They are unlikely to achieve or maintain, or to have the opportunity of achieving or maintaining, a reasonable standard of health or development without the provision for them of services by a local authority.
 - Their health or development is likely to be significantly impaired, or further impaired, without the provision for them of such services; or
 - They are disabled.
- FSM (NPD variable: FSMeligible_SUM22): Eligibility for FSM is used as a proxy for socioeconomic status for those eligible based on means testing rather than universal entitlement in years reception to year 2. Pupils eligible for FSM were considered to be living in greater socioeconomic deprivation than those pupils who were not eligible for FSM.

Within each explicit stratum, the pupils were sorted hierarchically before a systematic random sample was drawn from the NPD. The NPD sorting variables – ranked from first to last - were:

- school year

- age
- sex
- ethnic group
- primary SEN type (SEN strata only)
- local authority
- school unique reference number (URN)
- Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) rank based on home address
Lower Layer Super Output Areas (LSOA)

Issued sample sizes for the September/October 2022 recruitment survey

In total, a sample of 86,814 pupils was drawn, and then divided into two replicates (called the ‘original’ and ‘mirror’ samples) of near-identical size and profile. The original sample of 43,407 was issued for the first recruitment survey.

A breakdown of letters sent are summarised below in Table 2.

Table 2: Recruitment wave September/October 2022 invitation letters

Invitation type	Number sent
Parent only	16,540
Parent and pupil	19,192
Pupil only	7,663

The issued sample sizes for each explicit stratum are given in Table 3 below.

Only two samples were drawn *directly* from the NPD: for parents of primary aged pupils and secondary school pupils. The sample for parents of secondary school pupils was drawn from the secondary pupil sample, i.e., in every case where a parent was invited to join the PPLP, the pupil was too, but there were some cases where a parent was *not* invited to join the PPLP but the pupil was. This approach was taken because DfE wanted to recruit a larger panel of secondary pupils than secondary parents. Using this approach also means that we maximise the proportion of paired interviews achieved – which allows for analysis based on both parent and pupil responses.

Sample volumes to draw were calculated based on likely response rate for each group. These estimates were based on the response rates achieved for the 2021/22 Parent and Pupil Panel (PPP).

Table 3: Stratum level issued sample sizes and recruitment levels

Stratum	Issued sample size	Target panel members	Recruited to panel
Total: Population (i)	16,540	2,578	2,777
Parents of primary pupils - CiN & FSM	2,541	326	399
Parents of primary pupils - CiN & SEN	973	110	125
Parents of primary pupils - CiN only	1,369	165	186
Parents of primary pupils - CiN, FSM & SEN	1,830	229	242
Parents of primary pupils - FSM & SEN	596	93	101
Parents of primary pupils - FSM only	1,512	256	262
Parents of primary pupils - SEN only	1,189	183	210
Parents of primary pupils – None	6,530	1,216	1,252
Total: Population (ii)	19,192	2,547	2,787
Parents of secondary pupils - CiN & FSM	2,000	272	273
Parents of secondary pupils - CiN & SEN	1,398	149	167
Parents of secondary pupils - CiN only	1,478	188	192
Parents of secondary pupils - CiN, FSM & SEN	1,759	218	182
Parents of secondary pupils - FSM & SEN	1,130	101	119
Parents of secondary pupils - FSM only	2,218	202	243
Parents of secondary pupils - SEN only	1,195	198	225
Parents of secondary pupils – None	8,014	1,219	1,386
Total: Population (iii)	26,855	4,903	4,950
Secondary pupils - CiN & FSM	2,778	391	448
Secondary pupils - CiN & SEN	1,620	214	183
Secondary pupils - CiN only	2,010	270	318
Secondary pupils - CiN, FSM and SEN	3,464	313	392
Secondary pupils - FSM & SEN	1,811	226	249
Secondary pupils - FSM only	3,147	652	645
Secondary pupils - SEN only	2,082	375	423
Secondary pupils - None	9,943	2,462	2,292

Table 3 also shows both the target and achieved respondent sample sizes per stratum. In most strata, the achieved sample size was slightly higher than the target sample size.

Sample frames year 12 and 13 recruitment

For recruitment of pupils and learners in years 12 and 13, a sample was drawn from two sources:

- (i) The National Pupil Database: Autumn 2022-23 School Census update
- (ii) The Individual Learner Record: Snapshot 4 of the 2022-23 academic year

To construct sample frames, both sources were edited to reduce them to classroom-based learners aged 16-18 and studying in either years 12 or 13 at school or their equivalents in a further education institution.

The NPD was edited to include only those fulfilling the following conditions:

- Studying in years 12 or 13 in the 2022-23 academic year
- Not studying in a special school or pupil referral unit

The NPD sample frame comprised 437,067 pupils.

The ILR was edited to include only those fulfilling the following conditions:

- Born between September 2004 and August 2006 inclusive ²
- On a '16-19' study programme, expected to last until at least Easter 2023
- Not studying for a Traineeship or Apprenticeship
- Not studying with an independent learning provider, special needs institution or at an institution with an 'atypical' legal organisation status ³

The ILR sample frame comprised 537,294 learners after de-duplication.

In total, the two frames included 974,361 pupils and learners.

Stratification

Before a systematic random sample was drawn, each frame was sorted by a number of critical variables to ensure that any sample drawn would have approximately the same profile with respect to these variables. The NPD sorting variables – ranked from first to last – were:

- school year

² Based on the learners age they were placed into either the year 12 (aged 16 at the start of the academic year) or year 13 (aged 17 at the start of the academic year)

³ Academy-Converter, Charitable Incorporated Organisation, Charitable Trust, Charitable Unincorporated Association, Community Interest Company, Company Incorporated by Royal Charter (England/Wales), Free School, Higher Education Organisation, Industrial/Provident (England/Wales), Local Authority with an Education Remit, Local Authority without an Education Remit, Other Public Organisation, PRI/LBG/NSC (Use of Limited Exemption), Pri/Ltd by Guar/NSC, Private Limited Company, Public Limited Company, Pupil Referral Unit, Special College, Special Post 16 Institution, or Specialist Designated college.

- age
- sex
- ethnic group
- free school meals (FSM) eligibility
- children in need (CiN) status
- SEN/ primary SEN type
- local authority
- school URN
- IDACI rank based on home address LSOA.

The ILR sorting variables were very slightly different, reflecting the different information available on this frame. Ranked from first to last, they were:

- age
- sex
- ethnic group
- free meal eligibility (FME)
- SEN status
- education health care (EHC) plan
- long-term learning difficulty, limiting disability (LLDD) or health problem
- local authority
- institution UKPRN
- IDACI rank based on home address LSOA.

Issued sample sizes for the year 12 and 13 pupil and learner recruitment survey

A systematic random sample of and learners was drawn from each frame. 9,500 records were sampled from the ILR and 6,000 records were sampled from the NPD. These samples were split into two equally sized replicates (random sub-samples with the same profiles), the 'primary' and 'mirror' samples. Only the primary samples were issued into field: 3,000 pupils from the NPD and 4,747 from the ILR (3 ILR primary records did not have a valid address).

In total, 7,747 initial invitation letters were sent to pupils and learners. The issued sample sizes for each explicit stratum are given in Table 4 below. The recruited panel size was larger

than the target panel size to allow for a larger initial panel to be recruited given the concurrent replenishment of primary and secondary parents and secondary age pupils, and lower than expected responses to regular survey waves.

Table 4: Stratum level issued sample sizes and recruitment levels

Stratum	Issued sample size	Target panel members	Recruited to panel
Total: Population (iv)	7,747	2,334	2,394
NPD Year 12 pupils	1,571	507	589
ILR Year 12 learners	2,601	660	795
NPD Year 13 pupils	1,429	507	468
ILR Year 13 learners	2,146	660	542

Replenishment March/April 2023

Kantar Public and DfE agreed to replenish the panel in March 2023. Replenishment was targeted at primary and secondary parents and secondary pupils. Replenishment intended to recruit more panellists to ensure the research wave targets were met during the remaining waves of the panel. Table 5 below shows the sample selected for replenishment for each group.

Table 5: Stratum level issued sample sizes and recruitment levels

Stratum	Issued sample size	Target panel members	Recruited to panel
Total: Population (i)	6,670	1,113	969
Parents of primary school pupils - CiN & FSM	858	129	102
Parents of primary school pupils - CiN & SEN	357	46	40
Parents of primary school pupils - CiN only	386	52	54
Parents of primary school pupils - CiN, FSM and SEN	808	110	103
Parents of primary school pupils - FSM & SEN	586	100	109
Parents of primary school pupils - FSM only	1,149	206	147

Stratum	Issued sample size	Target panel members	Recruited to panel
Parents of primary school pupils - SEN only	485	84	76
Parents of primary school pupils – None	2,041	386	338
Total: Population (ii)	5,573	732	751
Parents of secondary school pupils - CiN & FSM	278	34	39
Parents of secondary school pupils - CiN & SEN	271	33	25
Parents of secondary school pupils - CiN only	393	50	48
Parents of secondary school pupils - CiN, FSM and SEN	1,230	119	117
Parents of secondary school pupils - FSM & SEN	583	57	66
Parents of secondary school pupils - FSM only	1,012	132	139
Parents of secondary school pupils - SEN only	257	45	57
Parents of secondary school pupils – None	1,549	262	260
Total: Population (iii)	5,941	1,114	1,012
Secondary school pupils - CiN & FSM	57	8	5
Secondary school pupils - CiN & SEN	445	56	52
Secondary school pupils - CiN only	234	35	27
Secondary school pupils - CiN, FSM and SEN	1,039	110	82
Secondary school pupils - FSM & SEN	443	60	31
Secondary school pupils - FSM only	1,041	215	148
Secondary school pupils - SEN only	0	0	0
Secondary school pupils - None	2,682	630	667

Sample checking

At each wave, the sample file was updated. Before launching each survey, the updated sample file was spot checked against the original NPD sample file. All questions which were routed based on sample variables were also double checked. Where respondents had requested not to be contacted again, their data was removed. Before sending invites, the extract from the master sample profile was checked to ensure that it corresponded to the specific audience that the wave was targeting (e.g., parents only).

Questionnaire

For each wave, DfE gathered provisional questions from policy teams across the Department, reviewed submissions and sent provisional questionnaires (one questionnaire for parents and one for pupils) to Kantar Public. Kantar Public and DfE then worked together to develop and refine the questions until they were ready for cognitive testing. Questions to be cognitively tested were decided jointly by DfE and Kantar Public, depending on the complexity of the question/answer codes and whether the question was new for the particular wave.

Cognitive testing

Kantar Public conducted 16 telephone interviews with 6 parents and 10 pupils lasting 30 minutes per respondent. Interviews were conducted by members of the Kantar Public research team. Respondents were given a £40 Amazon voucher to thank them for their time. A free find recruitment approach was used for cognitive testing the recruitment wave and subsequent research waves, where respondents were sourced from recruiter databases.

Questionnaire checking

After cognitive testing, a report from Kantar Public was delivered to DfE with recommended changes and the final questionnaire was signed-off by DfE. The length of the questionnaire was also reviewed to ensure it was no longer than 10 minutes. Once the questionnaire was signed off, it was scripted into the web survey. This web survey was checked extensively by the Kantar Public research team. Once initial checks were complete, “dummy” data was run through the online survey and downloaded as a raw data file. The routing of each question was then double checked using this data. Finally, after all amendments had been made, the survey was signed off by a senior researcher in the Kantar Public team.

Fieldwork

Phase 1: September/October 2022 recruitment: Initial invites

Individuals were invited to complete the initial recruitment survey to join the 'Parent, Pupil and Learner Panel', via a survey weblink using unique log-in details.

On 23 September 2022, Kantar Public sent invitation letters to parents and pupils, explaining what being part of the panel would involve, why the research was important and that it was being carried out by Kantar Public on behalf of Department for Education. The letters provided further information about how respondents were chosen, incentives, instructions on how to complete the recruitment survey (including log-in details) and the contact information for Kantar Public. Additionally, the letter also explained that upon joining the panel, they could expect to be invited to further short surveys until July 2023.

There were several versions of the initial invite letters sent out to potential panellists:

1. Secondary Pupils: An invitation letter for secondary pupils (year 7 to year 11 in the 2022/2023 academic year) asking them to join the panel, with full copies available in Appendix B and Appendix C
2. Secondary Parents (joint): An invitation letter for parents of secondary pupils (year 7 to year 11 in the 2022/2023 academic year) asking them to join the panel. Additionally, the parent invite letter asked the parent to pass on the letter (Letter 1) to their child if they consented for them to join the panel, with full copies available in Appendix B and Appendix C
3. Primary parents: An invitation letter for parents of primary pupils (year 1 to year 6 in the 2022/2023 academic year) with full copies available in Appendix A
4. Secondary pupils: If pupils were invited to join the panel and the parent was not, a letter was sent to the child's parent/guardian, which informed them about the panel and asked them to pass on the invitation letter to their child if consented for them to join the panel, with full copies available in Appendix B and Appendix C

Where households were sent both parent and pupil invite letters, these were sent in the same envelope. A slightly different version of the letters were sent to pupils and parents of pupils in year 7-8 and those in year 9-11 because of the different topics covered in the recruitment survey for these groups⁴. Examples of these initial invite letters are included in the Appendices of this report.

⁴ Pupils in years 9-11 were asked about their sexual orientation, whereas pupils in years 7-8 were not.

Phase 1: September/October 2022 recruitment: Reminder invites

On 10 October, Kantar Public sent reminder letters to all individuals who had not completed the initial recruitment survey. The reminder letters were tailored based on who from the household had responded. For example, if the parent had completed the survey but the pupil had not, the letter thanked the parent/carer for their response and asked them to remind their child to take part. The reminder letters provided the same information as the invite letters and included instructions to complete the survey (including log-in details).

Phase 1: February 2023 recruitment: Initial invites

Individuals were invited to complete the initial recruitment survey to join the 'Parent, Pupil and Learner Panel', via a survey weblink using unique log-in details.

On 14 February 2023, Kantar Public sent invitation letters to pupils and learners (year 12 and 13), explaining what being part of the panel would involve, why the research was important and that it was being carried out by Kantar Public on behalf of Department for Education. The letters provided further information about how respondents were chosen, incentives, instructions on how to complete the recruitment survey (including log-in details) and the contact information for Kantar Public. Additionally, the letter also explained that upon joining the panel, they could expect to be invited to further short surveys until July 2023.

There were two versions of the letter:

- Pupils: An invitation for pupils sampled from the NPD to join the panel
- Learners: An invitation for learners sampled from the ILR to join the panel.

Invitation letters were sent directly to the sampled pupil or learner at their home address, as all were over 16 and could therefore consent to participate themselves. An example of this invitation letter is included in Appendix D: Invite to the PPLP to pupils and learners in years 12 and 13.

Phase 1: February 2023 recruitment: Reminder invites

On 7 March 2022, Kantar Public sent reminder letters to all individuals who had not completed the initial recruitment survey. The reminder letters provided the same information as the invite letters and included instructions to complete the survey (including log-in details).

Phase 2: Invites to subsequent research waves

For each research wave in Phase 2, panellists received an invitation email alerting them to the fact that a new survey was ready to be completed. The email invites reintroduced the research to the respondents, thanked them for their time, gave them information about the incentive and the contact details for Kantar Public and the DfE.

Panellists were asked during the recruitment survey whether they wanted prenotification of an upcoming survey wave. Where panellists opted in for prenotification, an email was sent up to a week before each research wave advising another survey would begin shortly. An example of the invitation email is included in Appendix D of this report. The content of the email was largely consistent for each research wave.

Helpdesk support

Kantar Public set up a project email mailbox which was shared with panel members in the Phase 1 initial invite, reminder invite and all subsequent communications with panellists. A freephone number was also set up, with a recorded voicemail box for panel members to use which was monitored frequently. Mailbox activity was checked daily by a member of the team at Kantar Public. All queries were dealt with in 1 to 2 working days.

Escalations

The Department for Education and Kantar Public have an agreed process for escalating any concerning responses recorded in the panel surveys. A list of terms which could raise concern was agreed between DfE and Kantar Public. Subsequently at each wave, Kantar Public review any open text responses recorded by respondents against this list of terms. If any responses mention a term, they are reviewed by the research team at Kantar Public and flagged up to the Kantar Public project manager and director for review. These checks are conducted daily during research waves and daily for the ten working days of recruitment waves and at least once a week for the remainder of recruitment fieldwork.

In cases where a response has mentioned one of the agreed terms but Kantar Public does not identify evidence of direct harm or threat of harm to the respondent, Kantar Public send an email with support links to the respondent. In cases where a response from pupils, learners or parents discloses safeguarding concerns or other evidence of direct harm or threat of harm to the respondent, then Kantar Public contact DfE. DfE contact the respondent's school or college via the designated safeguarding lead within 24 hours of receiving the response from Kantar Public.

In the rare occurrence a respondent presents an immediate threat to harm themselves or others, then Kantar Public will contact the emergency services.

The survey communications with respondents and the privacy policy inform respondents that these steps could be taken by Kantar Public and DfE. A page with links to support services is also presented to all respondents at the end of each survey.

Opt outs

Panellists were able to opt out of the research at any point by contacting Kantar Public via the email mailbox or freephone number.

Recruitment survey incentives

To thank respondents for completing the September/October 2022 recruitment survey, respondents were offered a £5 conditional Love2Shop voucher as an incentive. Love2Shop was offered to provide respondents with flexibility about where vouchers could be redeemed, including a variety of retailers such as Argos, John Lewis and Just Eat.

Once participants had completed their survey, they received their Love2Shop voucher within 7 to 10 working days. The voucher was sent to their email address, which they had provided in the recruitment survey. The email thanked respondents for joining the panel, signposted information about where respondents could go to for support if the survey had touched on sensitive issues for the respondent and provided them with their voucher code and information about how to redeem it.

Respondents were directed to go to the Love2Shop website (<https://www.love2shoprewards.co.uk/login.php>) and enter their voucher code to redeem their incentive. They could then choose from a catalogue of retailers to spend the voucher.

Research wave incentives

To thank respondents for completing each research wave, respondents were offered a £2.50 conditional incentive. From research wave 2, respondents were offered a choice between receiving a £2.50 Amazon e-gift card immediately after fieldwork or the option to receive a £5 Love2Shop e-gift card if they completed a subsequent wave.

Response rates

Table 6 shows the number of parents and pupils who have taken part in each wave including the recruitment wave. Table 7 shows what response rate this equates to, specifically what proportion of those who joined the panel went on to complete each wave.

At each wave, response numbers were capped based on pupil year group targets. This ensured a spread of completed surveys per year group and contained costs. The target numbers per wave were based on estimates of the likely response rate if all those wishing to respond were allowed to.

Response rate for the initial panel recruitment

The overall response from contacting 35,732 parents and 26,855 pupils was 17%. The response rates by major subgroups for each subsequent research wave are shown in Table 6 and Table 7 below.

Table 6: Number of parents and pupils who completed each wave

Wave	Fieldwork period	All parents	Primary parents	Secondary parents	Secondary pupils (year 7 to year 11)	Year 12 and 13 pupils and learners
Recruitment	23 September 2022 to 21 October 2022	5,564	2,777	2,787	4,950	-
Research wave 2	9 November 2022 to 14 November 2022	2,976	1,468	1,508	2,245	-
2022/23 Research wave 3	1 February to 5 February 2023	2,580	1,295	1,285	2,077	-
2022/23 Recruitment wave 2	14 February to 14 March 2023	-	-	-	-	2,394

Wave	Fieldwork period	All parents	Primary parents	Secondary parents	Secondary pupils (year 7 to year 11)	Year 12 and 13 pupils and learners
2022/23 Research wave 4	22 March to 27 March 2023	2,847	1,412	1,435	1,967	939
2022/23 Replenishment wave	27 March to 19 April 2023	1,720	969	751	1,012	-

Table 7: Percentage of parents and pupils who completed each wave

Wave	Fieldwork period	All parents	Primary parents	Secondary parents	Secondary pupils (year 7 to year 11)	Year 12 and 13 pupils and learners
Recruitment	23 September 2022 – 21 October 2022	16%	17%	15%	18%	-
Research wave 2	9 November 2022 – 14 November 2022	53%	53%	54%	45%	-
2022/23 Research wave 3	1 February to 5 February 2023	46%	47%	46%	42%	-
2022/23 Recruitment wave 2	14 February to 14 March 2023	-	-	-	-	31%
2022/23 Research wave 4	22 March to 27 March 2023	51%	51%	51%	40%	39%
2022/23 Replenishment wave	27 March to 19 April 2023	14%	15%	13%	17%	-

Note: the response rates for the recruitment wave is calculated from all who were invited to join the panel. The responses rates for the research waves are based on those who joined the panel.

Demographic profile of recruited respondents

5,564 parents joined the panel comprising 2,777 parents of primary school pupils and 2,787 parents of secondary school pupils. The profile of these parents is shown in Table 8 and Table 9.

Table 8: Profile of parents surveyed, year group and eligibility status

	All parents	Primary school parents	Secondary school parents
Base	5,564	2,777	2,787
Pupil year group			
Year 1	7%	13%	
Year 2	8%	17%	
Year 3	9%	18%	
Year 4	9%	18%	
Year 5	9%	18%	
Year 6	8%	17%	
Year 7	11%		23%
Year 8	10%		20%
Year 9	10%		21%
Year 10	9%		19%
Year 11	9%		18%
FSM eligibility			
Yes	33%	36%	29%
No	67%	64%	71%
SEN status			
Yes	25%	24%	25%
No	75%	76%	75%
CiN status			
Yes	32%	34%	29%
No	68%	66%	71%

Base: All parents (5,564). Source: NPD

Table 9: Profile of parents surveyed, ethnicity, gender and region

	All parents	Primary school parents	Secondary school parents
Base	5,564	2,777	2,787
Ethnicity			
White	80%	80%	79%
Mixed / Multiple ethnic groups	2%	2%	2%
Asian / Asian British	9%	8%	9%
Black / African / Caribbean / Black British	4%	4%	4%
Other ethnic group	2%	2%	2%
Prefer not to say	1%	1%	1%
Other ethnic minority groups (excluding white minorities)	17%	16%	18%
Gender			
Female	85%	86%	84%
Male	14%	13%	16%
I identify in some other way	*	*	*
Prefer not to say	1%	1%	1%
Region			
East Midlands	9%	9%	9%
East of England	9%	10%	10%
London	11%	11%	12%
North-east	5%	5%	5%
North-west	14%	14%	14%
South-east	17%	17%	17%
South-west	10%	10%	11%
West Midlands	12%	13%	11%
Yorkshire and the Humber	11%	11%	11%

Base: All parents (5,564); all parents. Source: NPD/PPLP 2022 recruitment parent survey, Which of the following best describes your gender?

In total, 4,950 secondary school pupils joined the panel. Their profile is shown in Table 10 and Table 11.

Table 10: Profile of pupils surveyed, year group and eligibility status

	Secondary school pupils
Base	4,950
Pupil year group	
Year 7	19%
Year 8	19%
Year 9	20%
Year 10	21%
Year 11	20%
FSM eligibility	
Yes	35%
No	65%
SEN status	
Yes	25%
No	75%
CIN status	
Yes	27%
No	73%

Base: All secondary school pupils (4,950). Source: NPD

Table 11: Profile of pupils surveyed, ethnicity, gender and region

	Secondary school pupils
Base	4,950
Ethnicity	
White	74%
Mixed / Multiple ethnic groups	7%
Asian / Asian British	10%
Black / African / Caribbean / Black British	5%
Chinese	<1%
Other ethnic group	2%
Missing	2%
Other ethnic minority groups (excluding white minorities)	24%
Gender	
Female	49%
Male	48%
I identify in some other way	2%
Prefer not to say	1%
Region	
East Midlands	9%
East of England	11%
London	13%
North-east	5%
North-west	13%
South-east	17%
South-west	10%
West Midlands	11%
Yorkshire and the Humber	11%

Base: All secondary school pupils (4,950). Source: NPD/PPLP 2022 recruitment pupil survey, Which of the following best describes your gender?

In total, 2,394 year 12 and 13 pupils and learners joined the panel. Their profile is shown in Table 12 and Table 13 below.

Table 12: Profile of year 12 and 13 pupils and learners surveyed, year group and eligibility status

	Year 12/13 pupils and learners
Base	2,394
Pupil year group	
Year 12	58%
Year 13	42%
Sample source	
NPD	44%
ILR	56%
FSM/FME eligibility	
Yes	11%
No	89%
SEN status ⁵	
Yes	4%
No	96%
CIN status (NPD only)	
Yes	2%
No	98%

Base: All year 12/13 pupils and learners (2,394). Source: NPD/ILR

⁵ For ILR learners, this definition is based on two variables on the ILR – SEN and L_EHC

Table 13: Profile of year 12 and 13 pupils and learners surveyed, ethnicity, gender and region

	Year 12/13 pupils and learners
Base	2,394
Ethnicity	
White	71%
Mixed / Multiple ethnic groups	5%
Asian / Asian British	12%
Black / African / Caribbean / Black British	6%
Chinese	<1%
Other ethnic group	2%
Missing	4%
Other ethnic minority groups (excluding white minorities)	26%
Gender	
Female	56%
Male	41%
I identify in some other way	2%
Prefer not to say	1%
Region	
East Midlands	9%
East of England	11%
London	16%
North-east	4%
North-west	13%
South-east	17%
South-west	10%
West Midlands	9%
Yorkshire and the Humber	11%

Base: All year 12/13 pupils and learners (2,394). Source: NPD/ILR/PPLP 2023 recruitment survey, Which of the following best describes your gender?

Weighting

September/October 2022 recruitment wave and the replenishment wave

The pupils and parents recruited to the panel (either at research wave 1 or replenishment wave 1) were weighted to be representative of pupils in state schools in England.

Sampling probabilities varied between strata due to the disproportionate sampling design described in the Sampling chapter. In addition, sub-populations responded to the recruitment survey at different rates. Consequently, the recruited panel from each population was not fully representative of the population. To compensate for this, Kantar Public created a 'base weight' for every recruited panel member. Application of this base weight should convert the recruited panel from being unrepresentative of the target population to being approximately representative.

Weighting was based on characteristics of the pupils only, as the NPD does not hold information about parents. As such, the parent survey responses are weighted based on the characteristics of their child that was sampled from NPD. This weighting does not include any parent-specific variables (e.g., occupation, parent sex, etc.)

Separate weights were calculated for the three Y1 – Y11 populations (and for paired pupil and parent secondary responses). The calculation of the weights for the recruitment stage involved two stages:

- A design weight. This corrected for the fact that some strata were over-sampled relative to their incidence in the population. The design weight was equal to the inverse of each cases sampling probability.
- A non-response adjustment was used to compensate for systematic non-response. A raking algorithm was used to make the sample margins a close match to the population margins for key NPD variables. The design weight was input as the base weight for the raking. The variables included in the weighting were: sex, school year, SEN status, FSM status, CiN status, (major) ethnic group, region, home address IDACI band (out of 4), and KS1/KS2 overall band (KS1 for population (i), KS2 for populations (ii) and (iii)).

This weight was then used as the 'base weight' for every panel member. Application of this base weight should convert the recruited panel from being unrepresentative of the target population to being approximately representative by accounting for the likelihood of the respondent being sampled relative to the probability the respondent would be recruited.

The initial base weight was produced after the panel was recruited at research wave 1. Following the replenishment wave, new base weights were produced that covered everyone recruited to the panel at either research wave 1 or at the replenishment wave 1.

Year 12 and 13 pupils and learners

In total, 1,057 year 12 and 13 pupils sampled from the NPD joined the panel (35% response rate) and 1,337 year 12 and 13 learners sampled from the ILR joined the panel (28% response rate). The respondents from each sampling frame (NPD or ILR) were weighted to compensate for variations in response probability that were associated with sample frame variables. Because different variables were available on each frame, this process was carried out separately before the samples were combined together and added to the panel.

For those variables where missing data was minimal, respondents were allocated to the modal category (most frequently coded in the sample frame).

Because the number of variables available for weighting was quite small, the raking algorithm was used to weight each respondent dataset, ensuring that the sum of weights exactly matched the sum of design weights for the issued sample. As the samples were both equal probability samples, there was no need to use the design weights except for this procedure. The practical consequence is that the sum of raking weights for each respondent set equalled the relevant population total (437,067 for the NPD-sampled respondents, and 537,294 for the ILR-sampled respondents).

The NPD-sampled and ILR-sampled respondent sets were then combined and a standardised weight (with a mean of 1.00) was produced in addition to the sums-to-population ('grossing') weight that had already been produced via the raking procedure described above. The standardised weight was then used as the base weight for these recruited panellists.

Finally, a base weight was also produced allowing for analysis of all pupils and learners (Y7-Y13). The recruitment weights which were generated separately for Y7-Y11 and Y12-13 were combined and then scaled based on their relative sizes to correctly represent the population. This scaling was based on the following population counts sourced from the sampling frames: 974,361 for Y12-13 and 3,126,890 for Y7-Y11.

Weighting ongoing panel surveys

For each ongoing panel survey, an additional stage of weighting was required to ensure that the responding sample at each wave was representative of the population. This stage of weighting compensated for systematic differences in attrition/response rates between sub-groups of the recruited panel.

After each ongoing panel survey, a logistic regression model was used to estimate response probabilities. The regression model had the following structure:

Outcome = responded/not responded to the survey (binary status)

Base = all members of each target population that were recruited to the panel (at research wave 1 or replenishment wave 1)

Weight = the 'base weight' calculated for the recruited panel (as outlined above)

Predictor variables =

Cases sourced from NPD: sex, school year, SEN status, FSM status, CiN status, (major) ethnic group, region, home address IDACI band (out of 4), and KS1/KS2 overall band (KS1 for population (i), KS2 for populations (ii) and (iii))

Cases sourced from ILR: sex, school year, SEN status, Free Meals eligibility, ethnic group, region, home address IDACI band (out of 4), English GCSE grade, Maths GCSE grade, and long-term health condition

Different models were produced for each of the four target populations. An additional model was produced to generate a weight for those cases where *both* parent and pupil were surveyed.

Design effects

Mean design effects for each wave of the parent survey can be found in Table 14 below. This is the mean design effect (taking into account the weighting and pre stratification) across five survey variables per research wave. The questions used to calculate the design effects are listed in Appendix G.

Table 14: Design effects for all parent surveys

	Base (unweighted)	Design effect
Recruitment - Research Wave 1	5,564	1.52
Research Wave 2	2,976	1.71
Research Wave 3	2,580	1.67
Research Wave 4 and Replenishment wave	4,567	1.48

Mean design effects for each wave of the pupil and learner survey can be found in Table 15 below. This is the mean design effect (taking into account the weighting and pre stratification) across five survey variables per research wave. The questions used to calculate the design effects are listed in Appendix G.

Table 15: Design effects for all pupil and learner surveys

	Base (unweighted)	Design effect
Recruitment (Y7-11) – Research Wave 1	4,950	1.36
Research Wave 2 (Y7-11)	2,245	1.36
Research Wave 3 (Y7-11)	2,077	1.46
FE Recruitment Wave (Y12-13)	2,394	1.09
Research Wave 4 (all pupils and learners) and Replenishment wave (Y7-11)	2,979	1.35

Data processing and analysis

Kantar Public produced a data processing specification for how the raw survey data should be processed into an SPSS file and Excel tables. Open questions were coded to a coding specification also created by Kantar Public.

The table specification contained a list of cross-breaks corresponding to key sub-groups of interest, such as 'Pupil Year'. These cross-breaks were agreed in discussion with DfE. The specification also detailed the base that should be used to analyse each question.

The Excel data tables were used for analysis that fed into report writing, both for reporting headline results for each question and for investigating variations by specific sub-groups. The SPSS files were used to supplement this analysis, for example when findings from the data tables suggested a need for additional analysis. The data tables contained both weighted and unweighted totals, and displayed percentages corresponding to weighted responses for question codes. The data tables and SPSS files are not publicly available.

When determining a minimum base size for reporting headline findings, each question was looked at individually. The majority of the charts and significant differences flagged in the report did not include differences between subgroups where there was a base size of less than 100. Where indicative findings were reported from a small base size, this was flagged in the report, and these findings should be treated with caution. Significant differences were always reported across the following sub-groups:

- pupil/learner year group
- FSM eligibility
- SEN status
- CiN status

Data checking

The Kantar Public research team checked all data outputs for the research. For the SPSS file, each variable in the SPSS output was checked against a raw SPSS download and the SPSS specification. Amendments were recorded in the specification, marked as completed by data processors, then marked as checked by the research team. These included checking that:

- all variables were present and in the correct order
- for each variable, the number and percentage giving each response matched the raw SPSS
- derived variables were correctly calculated
- base sizes were as specified

- question wording matched the table titles
- recoding of numeric questions were correct (for example to recode some ineligible answers)
- data sense-checks/ looking for outliers had been identified.

Researchers also carried out the same checking process for the Excel tables. The tables were compared to raw SPSS files with any amendments logged in the specification form. Cross-breaks were checked for correct bases and sense-checked against the variable they were derived from. Summary tables containing multiple variables were also checked to ensure they matched against the variables they derived from, while all numeric questions, re-coded or back-coded questions were also fully checked. Table titles and fieldwork dates were checked to ensure they matched the specification.

Verbatim coding was checked independently of the SPSS files and Excel tables. This included checking that responses were appropriate for the question, whether question codes matched-up between different audiences and that the answers given had been assigned the correct code. At least 10% of each new codeframe was checked by the Kantar Public research team mid-way through fieldwork when there was a substantial number of responses, and again at the end of fieldwork. Coding was added once all other data edits had been made. Frequencies of coded variables were then checked against the final agreed codeframe.

Kantar Public carried out additional checks once both the Excel tables and SPSS file were finalised. These checks focused on base sizes and cross-break checking, but also included spot checks of all data tables and backcoding. A senior team member then carried out final spot checks on the tables.

Statistical tests

The data tables use two statistical tests to highlight significant differences. For categorical data, the z-test for two proportions is used on column (sub-group) percentages. For numerical data, the t-test for independent means is run on column means. Both tests use the weighted figures. Differences are only marked when the tests show that a difference is statistically significant at the 95% confidence level, or higher.

The tests used show only statistically significant bivariate differences. No multivariate testing of main effects or interaction effects is routinely conducted for the published survey reports. For this reason, reporting does not highlight instances where significant differences for a tested variable may partly capture mediating or interaction effects.

Accompanying data tables

A set of data tables for each research wave have been published alongside these reports. The tables have been designed to meet accessibility guidelines. They include data for pupils,

parents and learners for each recruitment and research wave. They include statistical testing, total responses and responses by key subgroups for each data set. For further guidance on how to interpret these tables, please see the covering pages of the data tables.

Appendix A: Invite to the PPLP to individual parents



Department
for Education

KANTAR PUBLIC

FAO: Parent or guardian of {First name} {Last name}

{Address Line 1}

{Address Line 2}

{Address Line 3}

{Postcode}

{Date letter sent}

Ref: {RESP SERIAL NUMBER}

Dear Parent / Carer of [Pupil name],

Join the Parent, Pupil and Learner Panel: the Department for Education wants to understand the experiences of families like yours.

We would like you to join the panel. The initial registration survey covers a range of topics including your child's experiences at school. You will then be invited by email to take part in more short surveys in this school year.

The surveys are quick and easy: you will receive a gift voucher for each one you complete.

- ✓ You will receive £5.00 for completing the initial registration survey (around 15 minutes)
- ✓ You will receive another £2.50 for each shorter survey (around 10 minutes)

Completion of this survey is voluntary. You don't have to take part if you don't want to. The surveys will cover some sensitive and personal topics, such as mental health, but these questions are optional. By taking part you are agreeing for survey answers to be linked to [pupil name]'s future data held by the Department for Education about education, employment and earnings.

Your survey responses will be treated confidentially in line with General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018. More details about the research and about your privacy can be found on the back of this letter.

The panel can only accept a limited number of members so please sign-up soon!

How to take part

- 1 Go to REDACTED or scan the QR code on a smartphone
- 2 Enter your username: [username]
- 3 Enter your passcode: [passcode]



If you have difficulty taking part online, please contact Kantar Public on REDACTED or email REDACTED

I very much hope that you will be able to take part in this important research.

Yours sincerely,

Page 1 of 2

Vicky Petrie, Chief Social Researcher, Department for Education



Why have I been invited to join the panel?

You have been invited to take part in this important research as a parent or guardian of a child who attends a school in England. Your child's contact details were selected randomly from the National Pupil Database. This database is maintained by the Department for Education. Kantar have been given permission to use the contact details for research.



Why are my views important?

We need people from all backgrounds and parts of the country to take part. Your views are important to help the government to understand how they can better support pupils and families.



What kind of questions will I be asked?

The surveys will cover topics like behaviour in school, childcare, mental health and wellbeing and school attendance as well as some sensitive or personal topics like ethnicity. You might be asked questions like, "How often do you feel lonely?", "Which qualifications have you heard of?" or "How well has your child settled in at school?".



Who is conducting this research?

The research is being conducted on behalf of the Department for Education (DfE) by Kantar Public, an independent research agency (www.kantarpublic.com).

For more information, please visit the website FAQs at REDACTED

To talk to someone about the research or ask not to be contacted further about this research, please contact Kantar Public on:

✉ Email: REDACTED

☎ Telephone: REDACTED



What if I do not have access to the internet or need help taking part?

If you would like to join the panel but cannot complete the survey online please contact us using the details at the bottom of this letter and we will help you to take part.



Is this research confidential?

Yes. Survey answers and personal details will be kept in the strictest confidence and stored safely. Only researchers at Kantar Public and the Department for Education will know what you have said. All statistics will be reported anonymously, meaning that it will not be possible to identify you in any published reports.

However, if we believe someone is in direct threat of harm as a result of something that's been disclosed, we may email to advise on where to go for support, or – in some exceptional circumstances – contact the school.

You will not receive any 'junk mail' as a result of taking part.



How do I know that this is genuine?

The Department for Education (DfE) has commissioned Kantar Public to carry out this survey on their behalf. Kantar Public is an independent research agency. www.kantarpublic.com.



What have others said about being part of the panel?

"It has been brilliant to have a voice and be a part of something which I consider to be extremely important" - Parent

Appendix B: Invite to the PPLP to parents and pupils in year 9+

Parent letter, where parent is invited to join



Department
for Education

KANTAR PUBLIC

FAO: Parent or guardian of {First name} {Last name}

{Address Line 1}

{Address Line 2}

{Address Line 3}

{Postcode}

{Date letter sent}

Ref: {RESP SERIAL NUMBER}

Dear Parent / Carer of [Pupil name],

Join the Parent, Pupil and Learner Panel: the Department for Education wants to understand the experiences of families like yours.

We would like **both** you and [pupil name] to join the panel. The initial registration survey covers a range of topics including your child's experiences at school. You and [pupil name] will then be invited by email to take part in more short surveys in this school year.

The surveys are quick and easy: you will receive a gift voucher for each one you complete.

- ✓ You will each receive £5.00 for completing the initial registration survey (around 15 minutes)
- ✓ You will each receive another £2.50 for each shorter survey (around 10 minutes)

If you are happy for [pupil name] to take part, please give them the other letter in the envelope.

Completion of this survey is voluntary. You don't have to take part if you don't want to. The surveys will cover some sensitive and personal topics, such as mental health, but these questions are optional. By taking part you are agreeing for survey answers to be linked to [pupil name]'s future data held by the Department for Education about education, employment and earnings.

Your survey responses will be treated confidentially in line with General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018. More details about the research and about your privacy can be found on the back of this letter.

The panel can only accept a limited number of members so please sign-up soon!

How to take part

- 1 Go to REDACTED or scan the QR code on a smartphone
- 2 Enter your username: REDACTED
- 3 Enter your passcode REDACTED



If you have difficulty taking part online, please contact Kantar Public on REDACTED or email REDACTED

I very much hope that you will be able to take part in this important research.

Yours sincerely,

Vicky Petrie, Chief Social Researcher, Department for Education



Why have I been invited to join the panel?

You have been invited to take part in this important research because you attend a school in England. Your contact details were selected randomly from the National Pupil Database. This database is maintained by the Department for Education. Kantar Public have been given permission to use the contact details for research.



What if I do not have access to the internet or need help taking part?

If you would like to join the panel but cannot complete the survey online please contact us using the details at the bottom of this letter and we will help you to take part.



Is this research confidential?

Yes. Your answers and personal details will be kept in the strictest confidence and stored safely. Only researchers at Kantar Public and the Department for Education will know what you have said. All statistics will be reported anonymously, meaning that it will not be possible to identify you in any published reports.

However, if we believe someone is in direct threat of harm as a result of something that's been disclosed, we may email to advise on where to go for support, or – in some exceptional circumstances – contact your parent or the school.

You will not receive any 'junk mail' as a result of taking part.



Why are my views important?

We need people from all backgrounds and parts of the country to take part. Your views are important to help the government to understand how they can better support pupils and families.



What kind of questions will I be asked?

The surveys will cover topics like behaviour in school, mental health and wellbeing, and school attendance, as well as some sensitive or personal topics like sexual orientation. You might be asked questions like, "How often do you feel lonely?", "Which qualifications have you heard of?" or "How well have you settled in at secondary school?".



How do I know that this is genuine?

The Department for Education (DfE) has commissioned Kantar Public to carry out this survey on their behalf. Kantar Public is an independent research agency. www.kantarpublic.com.



Who is conducting this research?

The research is being conducted on behalf of the Department for Education (DfE) by Kantar Public, an independent research agency (www.kantarpublic.com).



What have others said about being part of the panel?

"The surveys are a great idea and are easy to complete." – Pupil/learner

"Thank you for giving me the opportunity to voice my opinion about issues and things affecting my life" – Pupil/learner

For more information, please visit the website FAQs at REDACTED

To talk to someone about the research or ask not to be contacted further about this research, please contact Kantar Public on:

✉ Email: REDACTED

☎ Telephone: REDACTED

Parent letter, where parent is not invited to join



Why has my child been invited to join the panel?

Your child has been invited to take part in this important research because they attend a school in England. Your child's contact details were selected randomly from the National Pupil Database. This database is maintained by the Department for Education. Kantar Public have been given permission to use the contact details for research.



What if my child does not have access to the internet or needs help taking part?

If your child would like to join the panel but cannot complete the survey online please contact us using the details at the bottom of this letter and we will help them to take part.



Is this research confidential?

Yes. Survey answers and personal details will be kept in the strictest confidence and stored safely. Only researchers at Kantar Public and the Department for Education will know what your child has said. All statistics will be reported anonymously, meaning that it will not be possible to identify your child in any published reports.

However, if we believe someone is in direct threat of harm as a result of something that's been disclosed, we may email to advise on where to go for support, or – in some exceptional circumstances – contact you or the school.

Your child will not receive any 'junk mail' as a result of taking part.



Why are my child's views important?

We need people from all backgrounds and parts of the country to take part. Your child's views are important to help the government to understand how they can better support pupils and families.



What kind of questions will be asked?

The surveys will cover topics like behaviour in school, mental health and wellbeing and school attendance. Your child might be asked questions like, "How often do you feel lonely?", "Which qualifications have you heard of?" or "How often have you physically attended school or college?".



Who is conducting this research?

The research is being conducted on behalf of the Department for Education (DfE) by Kantar Public, an independent research agency.



How do I know that this is genuine?

The Department for Education (DfE) has commissioned Kantar Public to carry out this survey on their behalf. Kantar Public is an independent research agency. www.kantarpublic.com.



What have others said about being part of the panel?

"The surveys are a great idea and are easy to complete." – Pupil/learner

"Thank you for giving me the opportunity to voice my opinion about issues and things affecting my life" – Pupil/learner

For more information, please visit the website FAQs at [REDACTED](#)

To talk to someone about the research or ask not to be contacted further about this research, please contact Kantar Public on:

Email: [REDACTED](#)
Telephone: [REDACTED](#)

Pupil invitation letter



Department
for Education

KANTAR PUBLIC

{Date letter sent}
Ref: {RESP SERIAL NUMBER}

Dear [pupil name],

Join the Parent, Pupil and Learner Panel: the Department for Education wants to understand the experiences of young people like you.

We are asking thousands of pupils to share their experiences by completing a short survey which covers a range of topics including your experiences at school. You will be invited by email to take part in more short surveys in this school year.

The surveys are quick and easy: you will receive a gift voucher for each one you complete.

- ✓ You will receive £5.00 for completing the first survey (around 15 minutes)
- ✓ You will receive another £2.50 for each shorter survey (around 10 minutes)

Completion of this survey is voluntary. You don't have to take part if you don't want to. The surveys will cover some sensitive and personal topics, such as mental health, but these questions are optional. By taking part you are agreeing for your survey answers to be linked to your future data held by the Department for Education about education, employment and earnings.

Your survey responses will be treated confidentially in line with General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018. More details about the research and about your privacy can be found on the back of this letter.

The panel can only accept a limited number of members so please sign-up soon!

How to take part

- 1 Go to REDACTED or scan the QR code on a smartphone
- 2 Enter your username: [username]
- 3 Enter your passcode: [passcode]



If you have difficulty taking part online, please contact Kantar Public on REDACTED or email REDACTED

Thank you in advance for your help.

Yours sincerely,

Vicky Petrie, Chief Social Researcher, Department for Education



Why have I been invited to join the panel?

You have been invited to take part in this important research as a parent or guardian of a child who attends a school in England. Your child's contact details were selected randomly from the National Pupil Database. This database is maintained by the Department for Education. Kantar Public have been given permission to use the contact details for research.



What if I do not have access to the internet or need help taking part?

If you would like to join the panel but cannot complete the survey online please contact us using the details at the bottom of this letter and we will help you to take part.



Is this research confidential?

Yes. Your answers and personal details will be kept in the strictest confidence and stored safely. Only researchers at Kantar Public and the Department for Education will know what you have said. All statistics will be reported anonymously, meaning that it will not be possible to identify you in any published reports.

However, if we believe someone is in direct threat of harm as a result of something that's been disclosed, we may email to advise on where to go for support, or – in some exceptional circumstances – contact you or the school.

You will not receive any 'junk mail' as a result of taking part.



Why are my views important?

We need people from all backgrounds and parts of the country to take part. Your views are important to help the government to understand how they can better support pupils and families.



What kind of questions will be asked?

The surveys will cover topics like behaviour in school, childcare, mental health and wellbeing, and school attendance, as well as some sensitive or personal topics like sexual orientation and ethnicity. You might be asked questions like, "How often do you feel lonely?", "Which qualifications have you heard of?" or "How well has your child settled in at secondary school?".



How do I know this is genuine?

The Department for Education (DfE) has commissioned Kantar Public to carry out this survey on their behalf. Kantar Public is an independent research agency. www.kantarpublic.com.



Who is conducting this research?

The research is being conducted on behalf of the Department for Education (DfE) by Kantar Public, an independent research agency (www.kantarpublic.com).



What have others said about being part of the panel?

"It has been brilliant to have a voice and be a part of something which I consider to be extremely important" - Parent

"Thank you for giving me the opportunity to voice my opinion about issues and things affecting my life" – Pupil/learner

For more information, please visit the website FAQs at REDACTED

To talk to someone about the research or ask not to be contacted further about this research, please contact Kantar Public on:

✉ Email: REDACTED
☎ Telephone: REDACTED

Appendix C: Invite to the PPLP to parents and pupils in years 7 and 8

Parent letter, where parent is invited to join



Department
for Education

KANTAR PUBLIC

FAO: Parent or guardian of {First name} {Last name}
{Address Line 1}

{Address Line 2}

{Address Line 3}

{Postcode}

{Date letter sent}

Ref: {RESP SERIAL NUMBER}

Dear Parent / Carer of {Pupil name},

Join the Parent, Pupil and Learner Panel: the Department for Education wants to understand the experiences of families like yours.

We would like **both** you and {pupil name} to join the panel. The initial registration survey covers a range of topics including your child's experiences at school. You and {pupil name} will then be invited by email to take part in more short surveys in this school year.

The surveys are quick and easy: you will receive a gift voucher for each one you complete.

- ✓ You will each receive £5.00 for completing the initial registration survey (around 15 minutes)
- ✓ You will each receive another £2.50 for each shorter survey (around 10 minutes)

If you are happy for {pupil name} to take part, please give them the other letter in the envelope.

Completion of this survey is voluntary. You don't have to take part if you don't want to. The surveys will cover some sensitive and personal topics, such as mental health, but these questions are optional. By taking part you are agreeing for survey answers to be linked to {pupil name}'s future data held by the Department for Education about education, employment and earnings.

Your survey responses will be treated confidentially in line with General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018. More details about the research and about your privacy can be found on the back of this letter.

The panel can only accept a limited number of members so please sign-up soon!

How to take part

- 1 Go to **REDACTED** or scan the QR code on a smartphone
- 2 Enter your username: [username]
- 3 Enter your passcode [passcode]



If you have difficulty taking part online, please contact Kantar Public on REDACTED or email REDACTED

I very much hope that you will be able to take part in this important research.

Yours sincerely,

Vicky Petrie, Chief Social Researcher, Department for Education



Why have I been invited to join the panel?

You have been invited to take part in this important research as a parent or guardian of a child who attends a school in England. Your child's contact details were selected randomly from the National Pupil Database. This database is maintained by the Department for Education. Kantar Public have been given permission to use the contact details for research.



Why are my views important?

We need people from all backgrounds and parts of the country to take part. Your views are important to help the government to understand how they can better support pupils and families.



What kind of questions will be asked?

The surveys will cover topics like behaviour in school, childcare, mental health and wellbeing, ethnicity, and school attendance. You might be asked questions like, "How often do you feel lonely?", "Which qualifications have you heard of?" or "How well has your child settled in at secondary school?".



Who is conducting this research?

The research is being conducted on behalf of the Department for Education (DfE) by Kantar Public, an independent research agency (www.kantarpublic.com).

For more information, please visit the website FAQs at REDACTED

To talk to someone about the research or ask not to be contacted further about this research, please contact Kantar Public on:

- ✉ Email: REDACTED
- ☎ Telephone: REDACTED



What if I do not have access to the internet or need help taking part?

If you would like to join the panel but cannot complete the survey online please contact us using the details at the bottom of this letter and we will help you to take part.



Is this research confidential?

Yes. Your answers and personal details will be kept in the strictest confidence and stored safely. Only researchers at Kantar Public and the Department for Education will know what you have said. All statistics will be reported anonymously, meaning that it will not be possible to identify you in any published reports.

However, if we believe someone is in direct threat of harm as a result of something that's been disclosed, we may email to advise on where to go for support, or – in some exceptional circumstances – contact you or the school.

You will not receive any 'junk mail' as a result of taking part.



How do I know this is genuine?

The Department for Education (DfE) has commissioned Kantar Public to carry out this survey on their behalf. Kantar Public is an independent research agency. www.kantarpublic.com.



What have others said about being part of the panel?

"It has been brilliant to have a voice and be a part of something which I consider to be extremely important" - Parent

"Thank you for giving me the opportunity to voice my opinion about issues and things affecting my life" – Pupil/learner

Parent letter, where parent is not invited to join



KANTAR PUBLIC

FAO: Parent or guardian of {First name} {Last name}

{Address Line 1}

{Address Line 2}

{Address Line 3}

{Postcode}

{Date letter sent}

Ref: {RESP SERIAL NUMBER}

Dear Parent / Carer of [Pupil name],

Encourage (pupil name) to join the Parent, Pupil and Learner Panel: the Department for Education wants to understand the experiences of young people like them.

We would like [pupil name] to join the panel. The initial registration survey covers a range of topics including their experiences at school. [Pupil name] will then be invited by email to take part in more short surveys in this school year.

The surveys are quick and easy: [pupil name] will receive a gift voucher for each one they complete.

- ✓ They will receive £5.00 for completing the initial registration survey (around 15 minutes)
- ✓ They will receive another £2.50 for each shorter survey (around 10 minutes)

If you are happy for [pupil name] to take part, please give them the other letter in the envelope.

Completion of this survey is voluntary. They don't have to take part if they don't want to. The surveys will cover some sensitive and personal topics, such as mental health, but these questions are optional. By encouraging them to take part you are agreeing for survey answers to be linked to [pupil name]'s future data held by the Department for Education about education, employment and earnings.

[Pupil name]'s survey responses will be treated confidentially in line with General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018. More details about the research and about your privacy can be found on the back of this letter.

The panel can only accept a limited number of members so please encourage them to sign-up soon!

I very much hope that [pupil name] will be able to take part in this important research.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Vicky'.

Vicky Petrie, Chief Social Researcher, Department for Education



Why has my child been invited to join the panel?

Your child has been invited to take part in this important research because they attend a school in England. Your child's contact details were selected randomly from the National Pupil Database. This database is maintained by the Department for Education. Kantar Public have been given permission to use the contact details for research.



Why are my child's views important?

We need people from all backgrounds and parts of the country to take part. Your child's views are important to help the government to understand how they can better support pupils and families.



What kind of questions will be asked?

The surveys will cover topics like behaviour in school, mental health and wellbeing, and school attendance, as well as some sensitive or personal topics like sexual orientation. Your child might be asked questions like, "How often do you feel lonely?", "Which qualifications have you heard of?" or "How often have you physically attended school or college?".



Who is conducting this research?

The research is being conducted on behalf of the Department for Education (DfE) by Kantar Public, an independent research agency.

For more information, please visit the website FAQs at REDACTED

To talk to someone about the research or ask not to be contacted further about this research, please contact Kantar Public on:

Email: REDACTED

Telephone: REDACTED



What if my child does not have access to the internet or needs help taking part?

If your child would like to join the panel but cannot complete the survey online please contact us using the details at the bottom of this letter and we will help them to take part.



Is this research confidential?

Yes. Survey answers and personal details will be kept in the strictest confidence and stored safely. Only researchers at Kantar Public and the Department for Education will know what your child has said. All statistics will be reported anonymously, meaning that it will not be possible to identify your child in any published reports.

However, if we believe someone is in direct threat of harm as a result of something that's been disclosed, we may email to advise on where to go for support, or – in some exceptional circumstances – contact you or the school.

Your child will not receive any 'junk mail' as a result of taking part.



How do I know that this is genuine?

The Department for Education (DfE) has commissioned Kantar Public to carry out this survey on their behalf. Kantar Public is an independent research agency. www.kantarpublic.com.



What have others said about being part of the panel?

"The surveys are a great idea and are easy to complete." – Pupil/learner

"Thank you for giving me the opportunity to voice my opinion about issues and things affecting my life" – Pupil/learner

Pupil invitation letter



Department
for Education

KANTAR PUBLIC

{Date letter sent}

Ref: {RESP SERIAL NUMBER}

Dear [pupil name],

Join the Parent, Pupil and Learner Panel: the Department for Education wants to understand the experiences of young people like you.

We are asking thousands of pupils to share their experiences by completing a short survey which covers a range of topics including your experiences at school. You will be invited by email to take part in more short surveys in this school year.

The surveys are quick and easy: you will receive a gift voucher for each one you complete.

- ✓ You will receive £5.00 for completing the first survey (around 15 minutes)
- ✓ You will receive another £2.50 for each shorter survey (around 10 minutes)

Completion of this survey is voluntary. You don't have to take part if you don't want to. The surveys will cover some sensitive and personal topics, such as mental health, but these questions are optional. By taking part you are agreeing for your survey answers to be linked to your future data held by the Department for Education about education, employment and earnings.

Your survey responses will be treated confidentially in line with General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018. More details about the research and about your privacy can be found on the back of this letter.

The panel can only accept a limited number of members so please sign-up soon!

How to take part

- 1 Go to REDACTED or scan the QR code on a smartphone
- 2 Enter your username: [username]
- 3 Enter your passcode [passcode]



If you have difficulty taking part online, please contact Kantar Public on REDACTED or email REDACTED

Thank you in advance for your help.

Yours sincerely,

Vicky Petrie, Chief Social Researcher, Department for Education

Page 1 of 2



Why have I been invited to join the panel?

You have been invited to take part in this important research because you attend a school in England. Your contact details were selected randomly from the National Pupil Database. This database is maintained by the Department for Education. Kantar Public have been given permission to use the contact details for research.



Why are my views important?

We need people from all backgrounds and parts of the country to take part. Your views are important to help the government to understand how they can better support pupils and families.



What kind of questions will I be asked?

The surveys will cover topics like behaviour in school, mental health and wellbeing, and school attendance, as well as some sensitive or personal topics like sexual orientation. You might be asked questions like, "How often do you feel lonely?", "Which qualifications have you heard of?" or "How well have you settled in at secondary school?".



Who is conducting this research?

The research is being conducted on behalf of the Department for Education (DfE) by Kantar Public, an independent research agency (www.kantarpublic.com).

For more information, please visit the website FAQs at REDACTED

To talk to someone about the research or ask not to be contacted further about this research, please contact Kantar Public on:

- ✉ Email: REDACTED
- ☎ Telephone: REDACTED



What if I do not have access to the internet or need help taking part?

If you would like to join the panel but cannot complete the survey online please contact us using the details at the bottom of this letter and we will help you to take part.



Is this research confidential?

Yes. Your answers and personal details will be kept in the strictest confidence and stored safely. Only researchers at Kantar Public and the Department for Education will know what you have said. All statistics will be reported anonymously, meaning that it will not be possible to identify you in any published reports.

However, if we believe someone is in direct threat of harm as a result of something that's been disclosed, we may email to advise on where to go for support, or – in some exceptional circumstances – contact your parent or the school.

You will not receive any 'junk mail' as a result of taking part.



How do I know that this is genuine?

The Department for Education (DfE) has commissioned Kantar Public to carry out this survey on their behalf. Kantar Public is an independent research agency. www.kantarpublic.com.



What have others said about being part of the panel?

"The surveys are a great idea and are easy to complete." – Pupil/learner

"Thank you for giving me the opportunity to voice my opinion about issues and things affecting my life" – Pupil/learner

Appendix D: Invite to the PPLP to pupils and learners in years 12 and 13

Pupils



Department
for Education

KANTAR PUBLIC

{First name} {Last name}
{Address Line 1}
{Address Line 2}
{Address Line 3}
{Postcode}
{Date letter sent}
Ref: {RESP SERIAL NUMBER}

Dear {pupil name},

Help the Government to understand young people's lives and experiences by joining the Parent, Pupil and Learner Panel.

This is your chance to help the Government understand your experiences so that it can improve the support and services it provides for young people. To do this, the Government needs to hear what young people like you really think.

We are asking thousands of pupils and learners to share their experiences by completing a short survey now (around 15 minutes long). After completing this, you will be invited to take part in more short surveys by email between now and July 2022 (around 10 minutes each).

It's quick and easy to take part and you'll receive a gift voucher for each survey you take part in.

You will receive **£5** for completing the first survey, and another **£2.50** for each shorter survey you choose to take part in. **The panel can only accept a limited number of members so please sign-up as soon as you can!**

How to take part

- 1 Go to www.PPLP.co.uk or scan the QR code on a smartphone
- 2 Enter your username: [username]
- 3 Enter your passcode [passcode]



Taking part in the survey is voluntary. If you do take part, your answers will be kept confidential and only used for research. More details about the research and about your privacy can be found on the back of this letter.

Thank you in advance for your help.

Yours sincerely,

Vicky Petrie,
Chief Social Researcher, Department for Education



Why have I been invited to join the panel?

You have been invited to take part in this important research because you attend a school in England. Your contact details were selected randomly from the National Pupil Database. This database is maintained by the Department for Education. Kantar Public have been given permission to use the contact details only for this research. The panel will include pupils in school as well as their parents, along with learners in further education.



Why are my views important?

We need people from all backgrounds and parts of the country to take part. Your views are important to help the government to understand how they can better support pupils, learners and families.



Who is conducting this research?

The research is being conducted on behalf of the Department for Education (DfE) by Kantar Public, an independent research agency. For more information on what Kantar Public do please have a look at their website (www.kantarpublic.com), or if you would like to speak to someone about the research or confirm it's genuine, please contact Kantar Public using the details below. The Department for Education (DfE) is the government department responsible for education and children's services.



What if I do not have access to the internet or need help taking part?

If you would like to join the panel but cannot complete the survey online please contact us using the details at the bottom of this letter and we will help you to take part.



What will happen to the results of the surveys?

Your answers will be grouped with all the answers from thousands of others who take part in the research. The results will be written up in published reports in which it will be impossible to identify you or your individual answers. For more information on your privacy, please visit www.PPLP.co.uk. To see last year's results, please visit www.gov.uk/government/publications/parent-and-pupil-panel-omnibus-surveys.



Is this research confidential?

Yes. Your answers and personal details will be kept in the strictest confidence and stored electronically on a secure server. Your answers to the questionnaire will be used for research purposes only. Only researchers at Kantar Public and the Department for Education will know what you have said. All statistics will be reported anonymously, meaning that it will not be possible to identify you in any published reports. You will not receive any 'junk mail' as a result of taking part. Kantar Public comply with a range of security policy requirements, including those set by the Market Research Society Code of Conduct, the Data Protection Act and General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).



How do I know that this is a genuine survey?

The Department for Education (DfE) has commissioned Kantar Public to carry out this survey on their behalf. Kantar Public is an independent research organisation and is a full member of the Market Research Society with a strong track record of conducting high quality research. www.kantarpublic.com



Can I pause the survey and come back to it?

No problem, you can close the questionnaire and come back to it at a later time. Just log back in with the details provided.



How do I collect the voucher?

Once you have completed the survey you will be sent the gift voucher by email in the next 7-10 working days.



What are my rights?

Completion of this survey is voluntary. We may ask you for some sensitive information but you don't have to answer these questions. For more information see <https://ico.org.uk/for-the-public/>.

To talk to someone about this research or ask not to be contacted further about this research, please contact Kantar Public on:

Email: PPLP@kantar.com Telephone: 0800 046 8270



Department
for Education

KANTAR PUBLIC

{First name} {Last name}
{Address Line 1}
{Address Line 2}
{Address Line 3}
{Postcode}

{Date letter sent}

Ref: {RESP SERIAL NUMBER}

|

Dear [pupil name],

Help the Government to understand young people's lives and experiences by joining the Parent, Pupil and Learner Panel.

This is your chance to help the Government understand your experiences so that it can improve the support and services it provides for young people. To do this, the Government needs to hear what young people like you really think.

We are asking thousands of pupils and learners to share their experiences by completing a short survey now (around 15 minutes long). After completing this, you will be invited to take part in more short surveys by email between now and July 2022 (around 10 minutes each).

It's quick and easy to take part and you'll receive a gift voucher for each survey you take part in.

You will receive £5 for completing the first survey, and another £2.50 for each shorter survey you choose to take part in. The panel can only accept a limited number of members so please sign-up as soon as you can!

How to take part

- 1 Go to www.PPLP.co.uk or scan the QR code on a smartphone
- 2 Enter your username: [username]
- 3 Enter your passcode [passcode]



Taking part in the survey is voluntary. If you do take part, your answers will be kept confidential and only used for research. More details about the research and about your privacy can be found on the back of this letter.

Thank you in advance for your help.

Yours sincerely,

Vicky Petrie,
Chief Social Researcher, Department for Education

**Why have I been invited to join the panel?**

You have been invited to take part in this important research because you attend a school or college in England. Your contact details were selected randomly from the Individualised Learner Record. This database is maintained by the Department for Education. Kantar Public have been given permission to use the contact details only for this research. The panel will include pupils in school as well as their parents, along with learners in further education.

**Why are my views important?**

We need people from all backgrounds and parts of the country to take part. Your views are important to help the government to understand how they can better support pupils, learners and families.

**Who is conducting this research?**

The research is being conducted on behalf of the Department for Education (DfE) by Kantar Public, an independent research agency. For more information on what Kantar Public do please have a look at their website (www.kantarpublic.com), or if you would like to speak to someone about the research or confirm it's genuine, please contact Kantar Public using the details below. The Department for Education (DfE) is the government department responsible for education and children's services.

**What if I do not have access to the internet or need help taking part?**

If you would like to join the panel but cannot complete the survey online please contact us using the details at the bottom of this letter and we will help you to take part.

**What will happen to the results of the surveys?**

Your answers will be grouped with all the answers from thousands of others who take part in the research. The results will be written up in published reports in which it will be impossible to identify you or your individual answers. For more information on your privacy, please visit www.PPLP.co.uk. To see last year's results, please visit www.gov.uk/government/publications/parent-and-pupil-panel-omnibus-surveys.

**Is this research confidential?**

Yes. Your answers and personal details will be kept in the strictest confidence and stored electronically on a secure server. Your answers to the questionnaire will be used for research purposes only. Only researchers at Kantar Public and the Department for Education will know what you have said. All statistics will be reported anonymously, meaning that it will not be possible to identify you in any published reports. You will not receive any 'junk mail' as a result of taking part. Kantar Public comply with a range of security policy requirements, including those set by the Market Research Society Code of Conduct, the Data Protection Act and General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

**How do I know that this is a genuine survey?**

The Department for Education (DfE) has commissioned Kantar Public to carry out this survey on their behalf. Kantar Public is an independent research organisation and is a full member of the Market Research Society with a strong track record of conducting high quality research. www.kantarpublic.com.

**Can I pause the survey and come back to it?**

No problem, you can close the questionnaire and come back to it at a later time. Just log back in with the details provided.

**How do I collect the voucher?**

Once you have completed the survey you will be sent the gift voucher by email in the next 7-10 working days.

**What are my rights?**

Completion of this survey is voluntary. We may ask you for some sensitive information but you don't have to answer these questions. For more information see <https://ico.org.uk/for-the-public/>.

To talk to someone about this research or ask not to be contacted further about this research, please contact Kantar Public on:

Email: PPLP@kantar.com Telephone: 0800 046 8270

Appendix E: Invite email to the PPLP research wave

Parents

Subject line: Parent, Pupil and Learner Panel – the next survey is now open!



KANTAR PUBLIC

Ref: {indiv_id}
Dear {name},

Help the Department for Education understand the experiences of families like yours this term by taking part in the next Parent, Pupil and Learner Panel survey

Thank you for joining the Parent, Pupil and Learner Panel. **The next short survey is now open.** You will have until Sunday 13th November to complete the survey so please take part as soon as you can! The survey covers a range of topics including childcare, inclusive education and the cost of living.

You will receive £2.50 for each survey you complete. You will have a choice of how to receive your gift voucher at the end of the survey.

Your answers help the Department for Education (DfE) better understand the lives of children and families like yours so that the government can provide stronger support.

You can complete the survey online here:

[Start Survey](#)

Taking part in the survey is voluntary. If you do take part, your answers will only be used for research. If you have any questions about the research, please contact Kantar Public on REDACTED or email REDACTED, or you can find our FAQs and privacy notice at REDACTED.

If you have difficulty taking part online, please contact Kantar Public on REDACTED.

We very much hope that you will be able to take part in this important research. Thank you in advance for your help.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Vicky".

Vicky Petrie
Chief Social Researcher, Department for Education

Frequently asked questions:

Why am I being invited to take part?

You have been invited to take part in this important research because you recently joined the Parent, Pupil and Learner Panel.

Who is conducting this research?

The research is being conducted on behalf of the Department for Education (DfE) by Kantar Public, an independent research agency. For more information on what Kantar Public do please have a look at their website (www.kantarpublic.com), or if you would like to speak to someone about the research or confirm it's genuine, please contact Kantar Public using the details above. The Department for Education (DfE) is the government department responsible for education and children's services.

Is this research confidential?

Yes. Your answers and personal details will be kept in the strictest confidence and stored electronically on a secure server. Your answers to the questionnaire will be used for research purposes only. Only researchers at Kantar Public and the Department for Education will know what you have said. However, if we believe someone is in direct threat of harm as a result of something that's been disclosed, we may email to advise on where to go for support, or – in some exceptional circumstances – contact the school.

All statistics will be reported anonymously, meaning that it will not be possible to identify you in any published reports. You will not receive any 'junk mail' as a result of taking part. Kantar Public comply with a range of security policy requirements, including those set by the Market Research Society Code of Conduct, the Data Protection Act and General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

What are my rights?

Completion of this survey is voluntary. We may ask you for some sensitive information but you don't have to answer these questions. For more information see <https://ico.org.uk/for-the-public/>.

For more frequently asked questions, please click [here](#).



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Department
for Education

KANTAR PUBLIC

Email subject: Parent, Pupil and Learner Panel – the next survey is now open!

Ref: {Indiv_ID}

Dear {PUPIL_FIRSTNAME},

Help the Department for Education understand your experiences this term by taking part in the next Parent, Pupil and Learner Panel survey

Thank you for joining the Parent, Pupil and Learner Panel. **The next short survey is now open.** You will have until Sunday 13th November to complete the survey so please take part as soon as you can! The survey covers a range of topics including your experiences at school, your well-being and extracurricular activities you take part in.

The survey will take around 10 minutes to complete.

You will receive £2.50 for each survey you complete. You will have a choice of how to receive your gift voucher at the end of the survey.

Your answers will help the Department for Education (DfE) better understand your experiences so we can improve the support and services we provide for young people.

You can complete the survey online here:

[Start survey](#)

Taking part in the survey is voluntary. If you do take part, your answers will only be used for research. If you have any questions about the research, please contact Kantar Public on REDACTED or email REDACTED, or you can find our FAQs and privacy notice at REDACTED.

If you have difficulty taking part online, please contact Kantar Public on REDACTED.

We very much hope that you will be able to take part in this important research. Thank you in advance for your help.

Yours sincerely,

Vicky Petrie
Chief Social Researcher, Department for Education

Frequently asked questions:

Why am I being invited to take part?

You have been invited to take part in this important research because you recently joined the Parent, Pupil and Learner Panel.

Who is conducting this research?

The research is being conducted on behalf of the Department for Education (DfE) by Kantar Public, an independent research agency. For more information on what Kantar Public do please have a look at their website (www.kantarpublic.com), or if you would like to speak to someone about the research or confirm it's genuine, please contact Kantar Public using the details below. The Department for Education (DfE) is the government department responsible for education and children's services.

Is this research confidential?

Yes. Your answers and personal details will be kept in the strictest confidence and stored electronically on a secure server. Your answers to the questionnaire will be used for research purposes only. Only researchers at Kantar Public and the Department for Education will know what you have said. However, if we believe someone is in direct threat of harm as a result of something that's been disclosed, we may email to advise on where to go for support, or – in some exceptional circumstances – contact the parent or the school.

All statistics will be reported anonymously, meaning that it will not be possible to identify you in any published reports. You will not receive any 'junk mail' as a result of taking part. Kantar Public comply with a range of security policy requirements, including those set by the Market Research Society Code of Conduct, the Data Protection Act and General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

What are my rights?

Completion of this survey is voluntary. We may ask you for some sensitive information but you don't have to answer these questions. For more information see <https://ico.org.uk/for-the-public/>.

For more frequently asked questions, please click here.

Appendix F: Unweighted demographic profile of respondents at each research wave

Research wave 2

Table 16: Unweighted demographic profile of research wave 2 respondents⁶

	Number of parents	% of parents	Number of pupils (years 7-11)	% of pupils (years 7-11)
All	2,976	100%	2,245	100%
Primary	1,468	49%	0	0%
Secondary	1,508	51%	2,245	100%
PUPIL: FSM	875	29%	701	31%
PUPIL: SEN	704	24%	533	24%
PUPIL: CiN	867	29%	535	24%
Ethnicity (of pupil): White	2,425	81%	1,726	77%
Ethnicity (of pupil): Asian	188	6%	180	8%
Ethnicity (of pupil): Black	69	2%	110	5%
Ethnicity (of pupil): Mixed	212	7%	140	6%
Ethnicity (of pupil): Other	28	1%	43	2%
Gender (of pupil): Female	1,472	49%	1,283	57%
Gender (of pupil): Male	1,504	51%	962	43%
Region: East Midlands	281	9%	229	10%
Region: East of England	315	11%	240	11%
Region: London	280	9%	258	11%
Region: North-east	161	5%	101	4%
Region: North-west	394	13%	286	13%
Region: South-east	533	18%	393	18%
Region: South-west	344	12%	256	11%
Region: West Midlands	328	11%	225	10%

⁶ Note percentages do not always sum to 100% due to some respondents not providing demographic data, or demographic data not being held on the NPD.

	Number of parents	% of parents	Number of pupils (years 7-11)	% of pupils (years 7-11)
Region: Yorkshire and Humber	335	11%	256	11%

Source: Pupil/learner information (year group, FSM or FME, SEN, CiN, Ethnicity, Gender, Region) sourced from information held on the National Pupil Database

Research wave 3

Table 17: Unweighted demographic profile of research wave 3 respondents⁷

	Number of parents	% of parents	Number of pupils and learners (years 7-13)	% of pupils and learners (years 7-13)
All	2580	100%	4469	100%
Primary	1295	50%	0	0%
Secondary	1285	50%	4469	100%
PUPIL: FSM	734	28%	898	20%
PUPIL: SEN	599	23%	567	13%
PUPIL: CiN	739	29%	492	11%
Ethnicity (of pupil): White	2118	82%	3280	73%
Ethnicity (of pupil): Asian	167	6%	473	11%
Ethnicity (of pupil): Black	51	2%	230	5%
Ethnicity (of pupil): Mixed	174	7%	249	6%
Ethnicity (of pupil): Other	25	1%	96	2%
Gender (of pupil): Female	1285	50%	2606	58%
Gender (of pupil): Male	1295	50%	1863	42%
Region: East Midlands	236	9%	413	9%
Region: East of England	272	11%	506	11%
Region: London	236	9%	632	14%
Region: North-east	133	5%	195	4%
Region: North-west	321	12%	557	12%
Region: South-east	479	19%	755	17%
Region: South-west	311	12%	472	11%
Region: West Midlands	295	11%	457	10%
Region: Yorkshire and Humber	294	11%	477	11%

Source: Pupil/learner information (year group, FSM or FME, SEN, CiN, Ethnicity, Gender, Region) sourced from information held on the National Pupil Database

⁷ Note percentages do not always sum to 100% due to some respondents not providing demographic data, or demographic data not being held on the NPD.

Research wave 4

Table 18: Unweighted demographic profile of research wave 4 respondents⁸

	Number of parents	% of parents	Number of pupils and learners (years 7-13)	% of pupils and learners (years 7-13)
All	4568	100%	3916	100%
Primary	2382	52%	0	0%
Secondary	2186	48%	3916	100%
PUPIL: FSM	1597	35%	952	24%
PUPIL: SEN	1141	25%	672	17%
PUPIL: CiN	1329	29%	605	15%
Ethnicity (of pupil): White	3635	80%	2923	75%
Ethnicity (of pupil): Asian	330	7%	396	10%
Ethnicity (of pupil): Black	152	3%	201	5%
Ethnicity (of pupil): Mixed	306	7%	219	6%
Ethnicity (of pupil): Other	66	1%	63	2%
Gender (of pupil): Female	2253	49%	2306	59%
Gender (of pupil): Male	2315	51%	1610	41%
Region: East Midlands	415	9%	369	9%
Region: East of England	476	10%	424	11%
Region: London	486	11%	511	13%
Region: North-east	256	6%	160	4%
Region: North-west	608	13%	485	12%
Region: South-east	787	17%	667	17%
Region: South-west	518	11%	426	11%
Region: West Midlands	516	11%	454	12%
Region: Yorkshire and Humber	498	11%	416	11%

⁸ Note percentages do not always sum to 100% due to some respondents not providing demographic data, or demographic data not being held on the NPD.

Source: Pupil/learner information (year group, FSM or FME, SEN, CiN, Ethnicity, Gender, Region) sourced from information held on the National Pupil Database

Appendix G: Demographic characteristics of the CiN group

Panel members were sampled from the National Pupil Database (NPD), which includes administrative data provided by state schools in England on attainment and pupil background. The sampling approach boosted the number of pupils flagged in the NPD as FSM, CiN and SEN and their parents to ensure sufficient responses from these groups.

Children in need (CiN) is a broad definition spanning a wide range of children and adolescents, in need of varying types of support and intervention, for a variety of reasons. A child is defined as 'in need' under section 17 of the Children Act 1989, where:

- They are unlikely to achieve or maintain, or to have the opportunity of achieving or maintaining, a reasonable standard of health or development without the provision for them of services by a local authority.
- Their health or development is likely to be significantly impaired, or further impaired, without the provision for them of such services; or
- They are disabled.

The PPLP is the first robust and representative panel survey undertaken by the DfE to include sufficient responses from pupils and parents with CiN status to allow for analysis broken down by this demographic group. The demographic breakdowns of the CiN group are therefore reported in Table 19 and Table 20 below.

These findings have been tested for significance (see Statistical Testing section for more information on methodology).

- Pupils with CiN status were significantly more likely than their peers to
 - be eligible for FSM; to have SEN status;
 - to be of mixed ethnic background;
 - to live in an urban area;
 - to live in the North-east or North-west;
 - to live in a single-parent household;
 - to live in a household with 3+ children;
 - to have neither parent have attended university;

- and to have caring responsibilities in the home.
- Parents of pupils with CiN status were significantly more likely than parents of pupils without CiN status to
 - to live in an urban area;
 - to live in the North-east or Yorkshire and the Humber;
 - to not be living with a partner;
 - to have a household income below £15,000 or between £15,000 and £24,999;
 - to have 3+ children living in their household;
 - and to report that their child has caring responsibilities in the home.

Table 19: Demographic characteristics of CiN pupils

	CiN pupils	Non-CiN pupils
Unweighted base	1,186	3,390
Pupil year group		
Year 7	20%	19%
Year 8	19%	19%
Year 9	20%	21%
Year 10	20%	21%
Year 11	21%	20%
FSM eligibility		
Yes	63%*	25%
No	37%	75%*
SEN status		
Yes	43%*	19%
No	57%	81%*
Ethnicity		
White	75%	74%
Mixed	9%*	6%
Asian	8%	10%*
Chinese	-	1%

	CiN pupils	Non-CiN pupils
Black	5%	6%
Other	1%	2%
Urban / Rural		
Urban	86%*	83%
Rural	14%	17%*
Region		
East Midlands	9%	10%
East of England	7%	13%*
London	13%	13%
North-east	6%*	4%
North-west	15%*	12%
South-east	18%	16%
South-west	10%	10%
West Midlands	11%	12%
Yorkshire and the Humber	12%	10%
Single parent household		
Yes	50%*	24%
No	50%	76%*
Number of children in household		
1	20%	22%
2	32%	46%*
3+	48%*	32%
Parent attended university		
Yes	29%	51%*
No	71%*	49%
Pupil has caring responsibilities		
Yes	15%*	5%
No	85%	95%*

Base: All pupils (4,950). Source: NPD/PPLP 2021 recruitment parent survey. ‘-’ Indicates base sizes below 10, that cannot be reported to ensure anonymity. * Indicates a statistically significant difference.

Table 20: Demographic characteristics of parents of CiN pupils

	Parents of CiN pupils	Parents of non-CiN pupils
Unweighted base	1,766	3,798
Pupil FSM eligibility		
Yes	62%*	19%
No	38%	81%*
Pupil SEN status		
Yes	41%*	17%
No	69%	83%*
Parents ethnicity		
White	83%	82%
Mixed / multiple	3%	2%
Asian / Asian British	8%	10%*
Black / African / Caribbean / Black British	4%	4%
Other	1%	2%
Urban / Rural		
Urban	87%*	83%
Rural	13%	17%*
Region		
East Midlands	9%	9%
East of England	7%	11%*
London	11%	12%
North-east	7%*	4%
North-west	14%	14%
South-east	18%	17%
South-west	9%	11%*
West Midlands	12%	11%
Yorkshire and the Humber	13%*	10%
Parent living as a couple		

	Parents of CiN pupils	Parents of non-CiN pupils
Yes	45%	75%*
No	53%*	24%
Parents employment status		
Working full-time	21%	43%*
Working part-time	22%	32%*
Unemployed – less than 12 months	3%*	1%
Unemployed – more than 12 months	7%*	2%
Looking after the house/children	22%*	12%
Household income		
Under £15,000	27%*	10%
£15,000 - £24,999	21%*	14%
£25,000 - £44,999	15%	19%*
£45,000 - £99,999	8%	27%*
£100,000 or more	2%	7%*
Number of children in household		
1	17%	20%*
2	33%	50%*
3+	50%*	30%
Pupils has caring responsibilities		
Yes	10%*	4%
No	86%	94%*

Base: All parents (5,564). Source: NPD/PPLP 2022 recruitment parent survey. ‘-’ Indicates base sizes below 10, that cannot be reported to ensure anonymity. * Indicates a statistically significant difference.

Appendix H: Questions for design effect calculations

Parents

Recruitment (Research Wave 1)

- Q003 - PP2022_1_ATTND_1_PA: How often, if at all, has [PUPILNAME] physically attended school or college in the past two weeks of term time?
- X_BullyingNetYes_Recruitment Derived variable - Whether Pupil Was Victim of Bullying - NET: Yes⁹
- Q017 - PP2022_1_FHUBS_1_PA: Before this survey, had you ever heard of a family hub?
- Q022 - PP2022_1_COL_8_PA: Would you say that you are better off or worse off financially than you were a year ago (September 2021)?
- Q050 - PP2022_1_EAL_1_PP: Is a language other than English used every day in your home?

Research Wave 2

- Q005 - PP2022_2_ATTND_1_PA: How often, if at all, has [PupilName] physically attended school or college in the past two weeks of term time?
- Q007 - PP2022_22_2_NBS_1_PA: Thinking about the past week, how often would you say [PupilName] has enjoyed going to school?
- Q047 - PP2022_2_PPP_4_PA: Are you aware of the behaviour and exclusion policy at [PupilName]'s school?
- Q025 - PP2022_2_FORCE_2_PA: Are you aware of the policy at [PupilName]'s school covering when, where and how reasonable force and physical restraint should be used?
- Q028 - PP2022_2_SAFEGUARD_1_PA: How confident are you that you understand the amount of sexual harassment and abuse experienced by children and young people of school age, including where it happens online?

Research Wave 3

- Q007 - PP2022_3_BEHAVE_1_PA: Do teachers in [PUPILNAME]'s school send pupils out of class for reasons related to behaviour?
- Q008 - PP2022_3_BEHAVE_2_PA: Since September 2022, has [PUPILNAME] been sent out of a classroom because a teacher was unhappy with their

⁹ Responses of “Don’t know” were recoded to be a valid category

behaviour?

- Q004 - PP2022_3_COL_2_PA: Since the start of term in September 2022, have you cut back on household costs (food, energy etc.) to be able to afford school related costs (uniforms, textbooks etc.)?
- Q005 - PP2022_3_COL_3_PA: During the rest of the school year, do you think you will cut back on household costs (food, energy etc.) to be able to afford school related costs (uniforms, textbooks etc.)?
- Q001 - PP2022_3_FOOD_1_PA: Since September 2022, has [PUPILNAME] eaten school lunches provided by the school?

Research Wave 4

- Q040 - PP2022_4_ATTND_1_PA. Excluding any days when [PUPILNAME]'s school may have been closed due to strike action, how often, if at all, has [PUPILNAME] physically attended school or college in the past two weeks of term time?
- Q026 - PP2022_4_FLEXCARE_1_PA: What is your current working status?
- Q031 - PP2022_4_ADHOC_1_PA: Since the beginning of January 2023, have you looked for or used ad-hoc formal childcare at short notice?
- Q024 - PP2022_4_PUPILBEHAVE_1_PA: Thinking about the past week, how often would you say [PUPILNAME] has enjoyed going to school?
- Q052 - PP2022_4_COLC_1_PA: Since the start of term in January 2023, have you cut back on household costs (food, energy etc.) to be able to afford school related costs (uniforms, textbooks etc.)?

Pupils

Recruitment (Y7-11) Research Wave 1

- Q006 - PP2022_1_ATTND_1_PL: How often, if at all, have you physically attended school or college in the past two weeks of term time?
- Q016 - PP2022_1_WB_1_PL: Overall, how happy did you feel yesterday?
- X_BullyingNetYes_Recruitment Derived variables - Whether Pupil Was Victim of Bullying - NET: Yes¹⁰
- Q005 - PP2022_1_SCHOOL_1_PL: Did you move to a new school in September this year?

¹⁰ Responses of "Don't know" were recoded to be a valid category

- Q027 - PP2022_1_HOME_1_PP: How many people are living or staying at your current address? - Adults

Research Wave 2

- Q028 - PP2022_2_WB_1_PL: Overall, how happy did you feel yesterday?
- Q001 - PP2022_2_ATTND_1_PL: How often, if at all, have you physically attended school or college in the past two weeks of term time?
- Q011 - PP2022_2_NBS_1_PL: How motivated, if at all, would you say you are to learn?
- Q033 - PP2022_2_FLEX_1_PL: Thinking back to the start of the last academic year (since September 2021), have you ever been taught by two teachers working in a job share arrangement?
- Q043 - PP2022_2_MHKNOW_1_PL: Are you aware of any mental health and wellbeing support available through your school or college?

Recruitment (Y12-13) Research Wave 3

- Q021 - PP2022_3_POST16_1_PL: Did you move to a new college or sixth form in September 2022?
- Q036 - PP2022_3_WB_1_PL: Since September 2022, has your mental health improved, worsened, or stayed the same?
- Q011 - PP2022_3_FOOD_1_PL: Since September 2022, have you eaten school lunches provided by the school/college?
- Q051 - PP2022_FE1_WB_1_PL: Overall, how happy did you feel yesterday?
- Q047 - PP2022_FE1_DEMOG_2_PP: Which of the following best describes the gender you identify with?

Research Wave 3

- Q007 - PP2022_3_BEHAVE_1_PA: Do teachers in [PUPILNAME]'s school send pupils out of class for reasons related to behaviour?
- Q008 - PP2022_3_BEHAVE_2_PA: Since September 2022, has [PUPILNAME] been sent out of a classroom because a teacher was unhappy with their behaviour?
- Q004 - PP2022_3_COL_2_PA: Since the start of term in September 2022, have you cut back on household costs (food, energy etc.) to be able to afford school related costs (uniforms, textbooks etc.)?

- Q005 - PP2022_3_COL_3_PA: During the rest of the school year, do you think you will cut back on household costs (food, energy etc.) to be able to afford school related costs (uniforms, textbooks etc.)?
- Q001 - PP2022_3_FOOD_1_PA: Since September 2022, has [PUPILNAME] eaten school lunches provided by the school?

Research Wave 4

- Q005 - PP2022_4_CLIMATECHANGE_IMPACT_PL: Thinking about all of your time at school or college, how well do you feel your studies have prepared you to understand the impacts of climate change?
- Q008 - PP2022_4_TEACHER_QUALITY_1_PL: Thinking about the teacher you had in (this lesson/your most recent lesson at school/college), how often, if at all would you say... My teacher makes learning enjoyable
- Q043 - PP2022_4_CHILDCARE_CAREER_1_PL: Considering what you know about careers in childcare, or what you think a career in childcare might involve, how much do you agree or disagree with the following statements? Careers in childcare are easy.
- Q021 - PP2022_2_NBS_1_PL: How motivated, if at all, would you say you are to learn?
- Q039 - PP2022_2_WB_1_PL: Overall, how happy did you feel yesterday?

Appendix I: Glossary

CiN – Children in Need. This is a broad definition spanning a wide range of children and adolescents, in need of varying types of support and intervention, for a variety of reasons. A child is defined as ‘in need’ under section 17 of the Children Act 1989, where:

- They are unlikely to achieve or maintain, or to have the opportunity of achieving or maintaining, a reasonable standard of health or development without the provision for them of services by a local authority.
- Their health or development is likely to be significantly impaired, or further impaired, without the provision for them of such services; or
- They are disabled

FSM or FME – Free School Meal or Free Meal Eligibility. Eligibility for FSMs/FME is used as a proxy for socioeconomic status. Pupils and learners eligible for FSMs/FME were considered to be living in greater socioeconomic deprivation than those pupils and learners who were not eligible for FSMs/FME. FSM refers to data from the National Pupil

Database (NPD) and FME refers to comparable data from the Individualised Learner Record (ILR).

IDACI – Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index – An index that measures the proportion of all children aged 0 to 15 living in income deprived families. It is a subset of the Income Deprivation Domain which measures the proportion of the population in an area experiencing deprivation relating to low income. The definition of low income used includes both those people that are out-of-work, and those that are in work but who have low earnings (and who satisfy the respective means tests).

LSOA – Lower Layer Super Output Areas – Small geographic areas that are designed to be of a similar population size, with an average of approximately 1,500 residents or 650 households. There are 32,844 Lower-layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs) in England. They were produced by the Office for National Statistics for the reporting of small area statistics

NPD – National Pupil Database - The National Pupil Database is a register data set of all pupils in state schools in England, compiled by the Department for Education. It contains attainment data as children progress through school, as well as information on pupil background, absences and exclusions from school.

SEND – Special Educational Needs and Disability. A child or young person has SEND if they have a learning difficulty or disability which calls for special educational provision to be made for them. A child of compulsory school age or a young person has a learning difficulty or disability if they:

- have a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age, or
- have a disability which prevents or hinders them from making use of facilities of a kind generally provided for others of the same age in mainstream schools or mainstream post-16 institutions.

Many children and young people who have SEND may also have a disability under the Equality Act 2010 – that is ‘...a physical or mental impairment which has a long-term and substantial adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities’. Where a disabled child or young person requires special educational provision, they will also be covered by the SEND definition.

For more detail, please see the [SEND Code of Practice](#).

School URN (unique reference number) – a unique reference number that is allocated to all schools.



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