Emotional Health and Wellbeing



Findings from the Health Related Behaviour Survey 2026

Supporting the health of children and young people in Wolverhampton

wolverhampton.gov.uk

CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL

INTRODUCTION

The Health Related Behaviour Survey (HRBS) has been running in Wolverhampton since 2006. The survey is carried out as a way of consulting with children and young people and collecting robust information about young people's health and wellbeing. The HRBS is commissioned by the Public Health team within the City of Wolverhampton. It is implemented by the Schools Health Education Unit (SHEU) which has conducted the survey on behalf of the Council since its inception in 2006.

The survey is conducted with children and young people across Wolverhampton, who are asked to complete an anonymous on-line version of the survey appropriate for their age group. Schools are supported to collect the most reliable data with pupils in Years 2 (Key Stage 1 survey), 4 & 6 (Key Stage 2 survey), and 8 & 10 (Secondary Key Stage 3-4 survey) with other year groups taking part where appropriate. In the 2026 survey schools could also opt for a Year 7 version and a Year 12 version of the secondary survey.

HRBS 2026 was completed by a total of 12942 pupils in 23 primary (KS1) settings, 57 primary (KS2) settings, 16 secondary (KS3-4) settings, 3 institutions completed the Year 12+ survey, and 9 institutions took part in the SEND survey. Some schools chose to survey additional year groups, the full sample size can be found at the back of this report.

Themed Report No. 4 of 5

1. Healthy Lifestyles
2. Relationships and Sexual Health
3. Smoking, Substances and Gambling
4. **Emotional Health and Wellbeing**
5. Safety (including Bullying)

NAVIGATING THE REPORT

The report is one of five that reflect local priorities. Each report is divide into the following sections:

Headlines

Each report contains headline bullet points, comparing the 2026 data to previous years (where available).

- Positive finding
- Negative finding
- Neutral finding (where it is subjective as to whether the finding is positive or negative or is little different)

Trends

The survey questions have changed somewhat compared with previous years but where possible, trend charts have been included to provide useful insight for key priority areas.

Phase Differences

A selection of questions used across the surveys has been presented to look for age-related differences in responses.

Mapping

Where postcode data was available, school survey responses were mapped against wards using pupils' home postcodes. Due to limited postcode data, secondary school responses could not be mapped at ward level.

Links Between Behaviours

Cross tabulations have been investigated for some of the key questions in the survey to look for links between behaviours. Each statement is a statistically significant finding; to save space, only two from the secondary survey have been selected but full lists are available.

Inequalities

Selected questions from the primary and secondary questionnaires were analysed to explore differences in responses between demographic and potentially vulnerable groups.

HEADLINES

Girls appear to report a greater range and level of issues and difficulties than boys do when we interpret the findings for the emotional health and wellbeing questions.

KS1 pupils appear less likely to have high self-esteem compared with previous years. Girls are less likely to appear in the highest brackets in the Stirling (primary) and Short Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Well-being Scale SWEMWBS (secondary).

Compared with 2024, KS2 pupils in 2026 seem less happy with their lives but are more likely to have a trusted adult they can talk to about worries.

The results for secondary KS3-4 pupils seem more positive in 2026. More feel happy with life and say that school is challenging bullying compared with previous years. Pupils are also more positive than previous years at rating their lessons on managing feelings/emotions as 'useful' or 'very useful'.

Key Stage 1 Pupils

- 39% of Key Stage 1 pupils responded that they played with friends/siblings after school on the day before the survey. This is higher than the 35% seen in 2024.
- 39% of Key Stage 1 pupils recorded levels of high self-esteem. This is lower than the 43%seen in 2024, the 45% in 2022 and 48% in 2018.
- In 2026, 39% of Key Stage 1 pupils recorded levels of 'high' self-esteem, 43% had 'med-high' levels, 15% had 'med-low', and 3% had 'low' self-esteem.
- 75% of Key Stage 1 pupils in 2026 said that they know an adult they can talk to if they are worried about something. This compares with73% in 2024 and 78% in 2022. 74% said this in 2018 and 72% in 2016.
- 44% of Key Stage 1 pupils worried 'a lot' about their safety, 37%worried about friendships and 31% worried about tests. These compare with the figures for 2024: 41%, 35% and 28% respectively.

Key Stage 2 Pupils

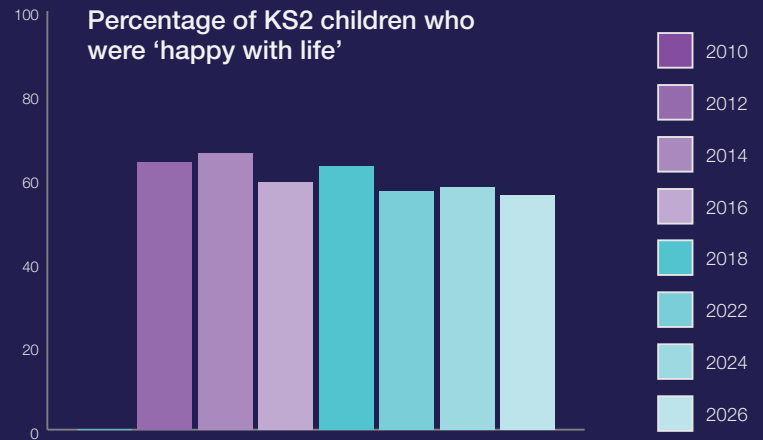
- 45% of Key Stage 2 pupils worried about moving on to secondary school, 44% worried about SATs/tests and 30% worried about falling out with friends. This compares with the figures for 2022: 48%, 47% and 34% respectively.
- 63% of Key Stage 2 pupils said have a trusted adult at school they can talk to about worries compared with 59% saying this in 2024.
- 34% of Key Stage 2 pupils said that their school deals with bullying ‘very well’. This is lower than the 36% in 2024 and 41% reported in 2022 and the 45% seen in 2018.
- 72% of Key Stage 2 pupils said that they ‘often’ or ‘always’ feel happy during school breaktimes. This is lower than the 74% seen in 2024 and the 81% in 2018.
- 56% of Key Stage 2 pupils said that they feel ‘happy’ with their life at the moment. This is lower than the 58% seen in 2024 and the 63% reported in 2018.
- 64% in 2026 at least ‘sometimes’ feel lonely compared with 62% in 2024.
- 38% of Key Stage 2 pupils recorded levels of high wellbeing on the Stirling Children’s Wellbeing scale. This is higher than the 34% seen in 2024 but lower than the 47% seen in2018.
- In 2026, 38% of Key Stage 2 pupils recorded levels of ‘high’ wellbeing, 43% had ‘med-high’ levels, 16% had ‘med-low’ and 3% had ‘low’ wellbeing.
- In 2026, 62% of Key Stage 2 pupils said their lessons on managing emotions/feelings had been ‘quite’ or ‘very useful’. This compares with 61% in 2024 and 63% in 2022.
- In 2026, 10% of Key Stage 2 pupils recorded levels indicating poor mental health from their answers to the Stirling Wellbeing questions. This compares with 9% in 2024 and10% recording this in 2022.

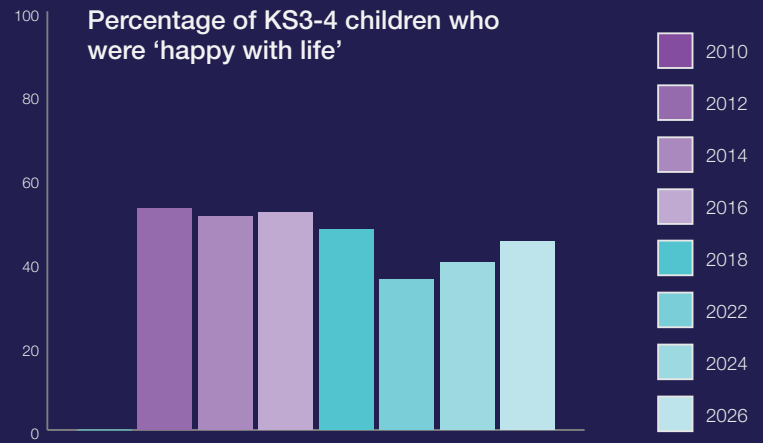
Secondary Pupils

- 45% of Key Stage 3-4 secondary pupils said that they feel ‘happy’ with their life at the moment. This is higher than the 40% seen in 2024 and 36% seen in 2022 but lower than the 48% in 2018 and 52% reported in 2016.
- 16% of Key Stage 3-4 secondary pupils in 2026 said they have been bullied online. This is lower than the 18% seen in 2024 and the 17% seen in 2022 but higher than the 13% reported in 2018.
- 33% of Key Stage 3-4 secondary pupils in 2026 said their school challenges racism and racist bullying effectively compared with 26% in 2024 and 2022.
- 26% of Key Stage 3-4 secondary pupils in 2026 said their school challenges homophobic bullying effectively. This is higher than the 23% seen in 2024 and the 19% reported in 2018.
- 49% of Key Stage 3-4 secondary pupils worried about exams and tests in 2026, 36%worried about the way you look/body image and 27% worried about their mental health.These compared with the figures for 2024: 52%, 37% and 29% respectively.
- 53% of Key Stage 3-4 secondary pupils in 2026 said that they at least sometimes feel lonely. This is lower than the 55% in 2024 and the 62% reported in 2022.
- In 2026, 41% of Key Stage 3-4 secondary pupils said their lessons on managing emotions/feelings had been ‘quite’ or ‘very useful’. This compares with 31% in 2024 and 32% saying this in 2022.
- In 2026, 13% of Key Stage 3-4 secondary pupils recorded levels of clinical emotional difficulty from their answers to the ‘Me and my feelings’ question set. This compares with16% in 2024 and 20% recording this in 2022.
- In 2026, 9% of Key Stage 3-4 secondary pupils recorded levels of clinical behavioural difficulty from their answers to the ‘Me and my feelings’ question set. This compares with 12% in 2024 and 14% recording this in 2022.
- 19% of Key Stage 3-4 secondary pupils recorded levels of high/max wellbeing on the SWEMWB wellbeing Scale. This is higher than the 18% seen in 2024 and the 15% seen in 2022 but lower than the 22% reported in 2018.
- In 2026, 19% of Key Stage 3-4 secondary pupils recorded levels of high/max wellbeing,43% had ‘med-high’ levels, 26% had ‘med-low’ and 11% had ‘low’ wellbeing.
- 45% of Key Stage 3-4 secondary pupils know an adult, or someone else they trust, that they could talk to if they were worried about their mental health. This is slightly lower than the 46% reported in 2022.
- In 2026, 7% of Key Stage 3-4 secondary pupils said they have accessed support online when they had a worry about health or wellbeing. This compares with 8% in 2024 and 9% saying this in 2022.

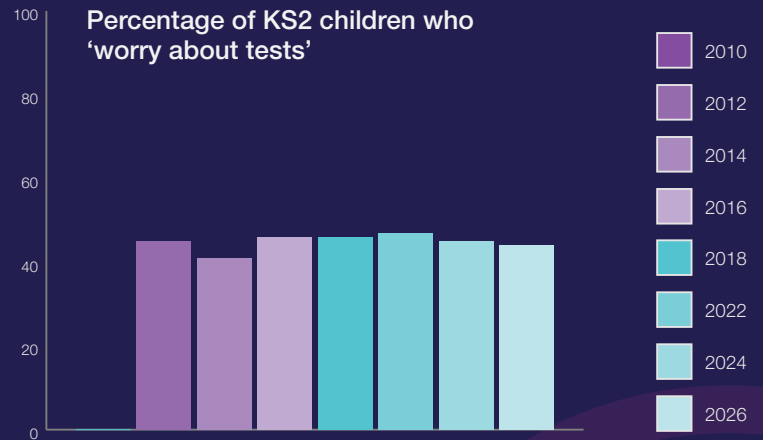
TRENDS

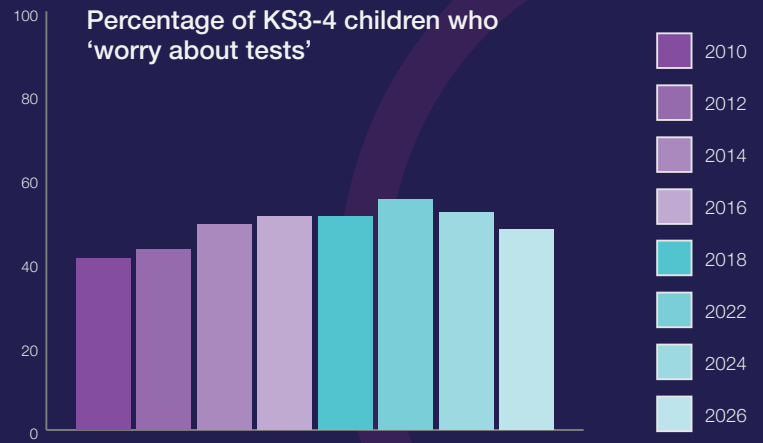
- It is difficult to say whether there are any clear trends in pupils reporting happiness with life in the primary data. There appears to be a recent upward trend for secondary pupils.

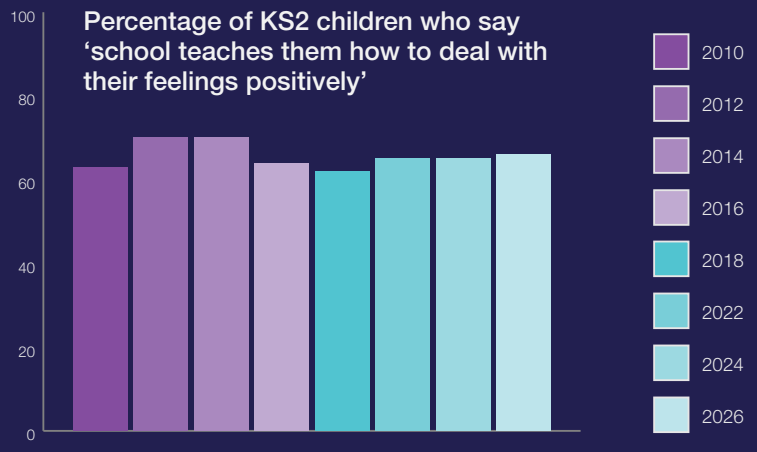


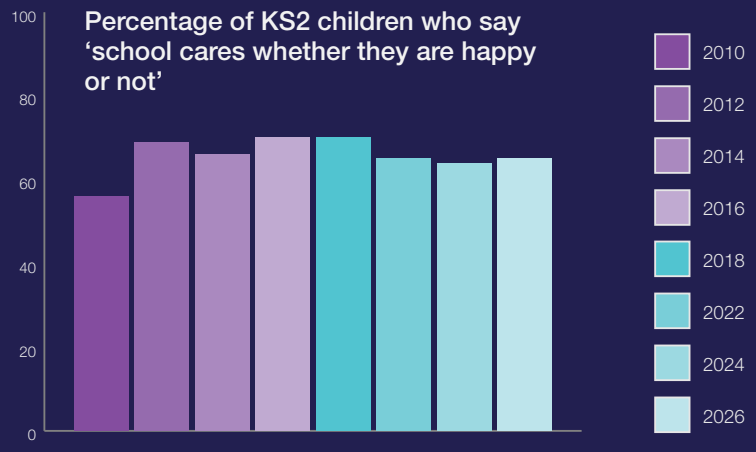


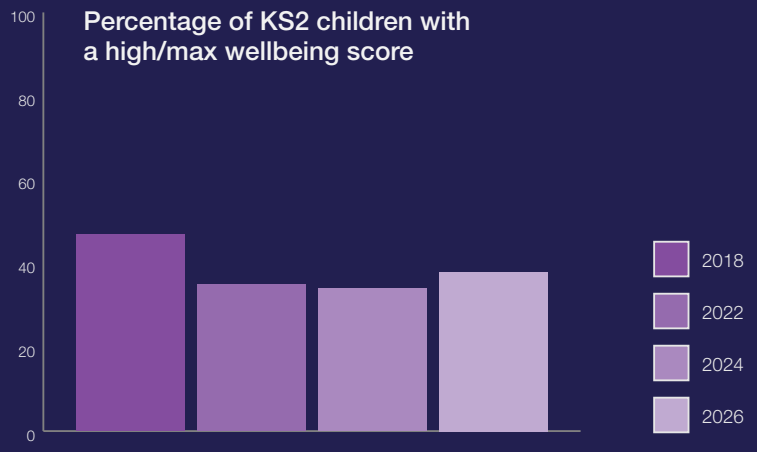
- There is a recent downward trend for secondary pupils worrying about tests (more girls than boys). There is a slight hint at a similar downward trend for the primary phase.

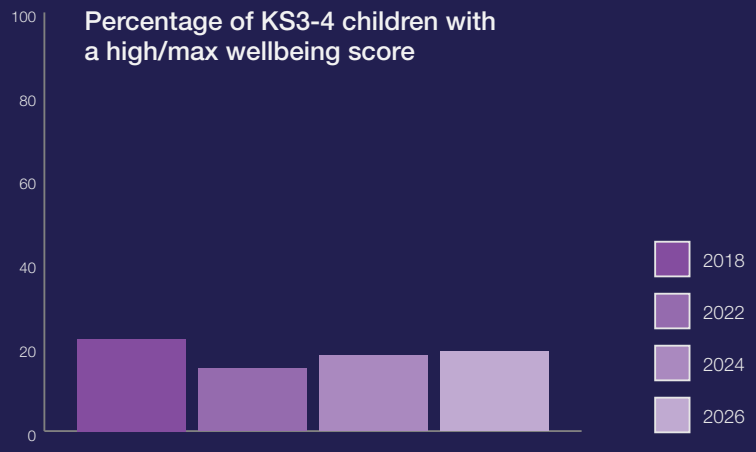




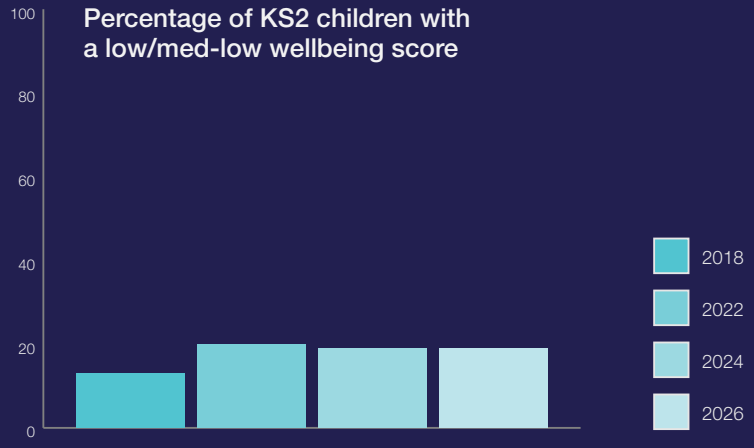

Percentage of KS2 children who say ‘school teaches them how to deal with their feelings positively’
100
80
60
40
20
0
2010
2012
2014
2016
2018
2022
2024
2026


Percentage of KS2 children who say ‘school cares whether they are happy or not’
100
80
60
40
20
0
2010
2012
2014
2016
2018
2022
2024
2026

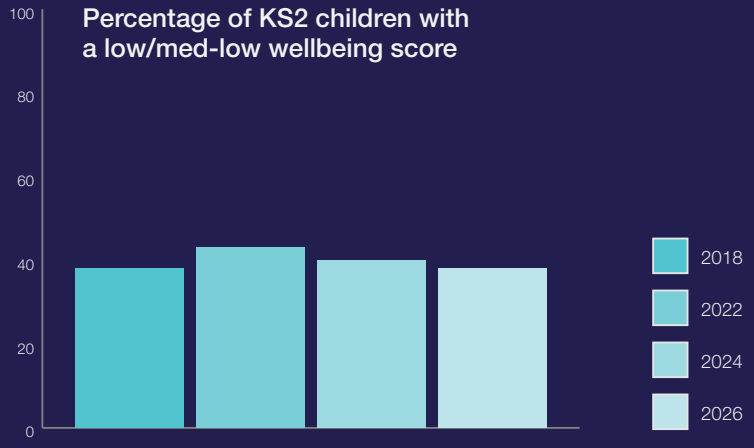

Percentage of KS2 children with a high/max wellbeing score
100
80
60
40
20
0
2018
2022
2024
2026


Percentage of KS3-4 children with a high/max wellbeing score
100
80
60
40
20
0
2018
2022
2024
2026

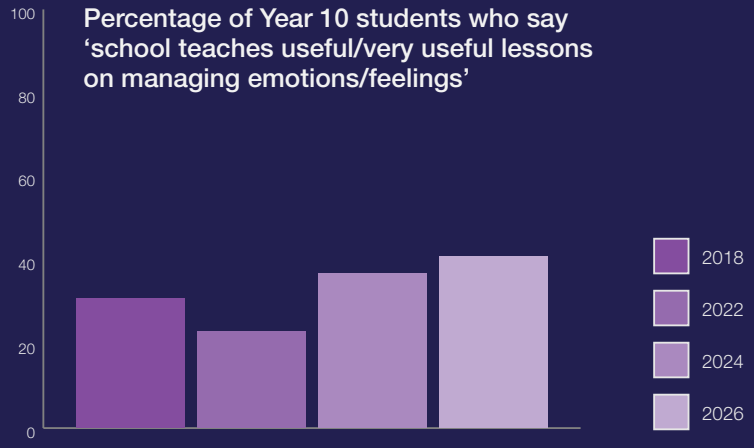
Percentage of KS2 children with a low/med-low wellbeing score



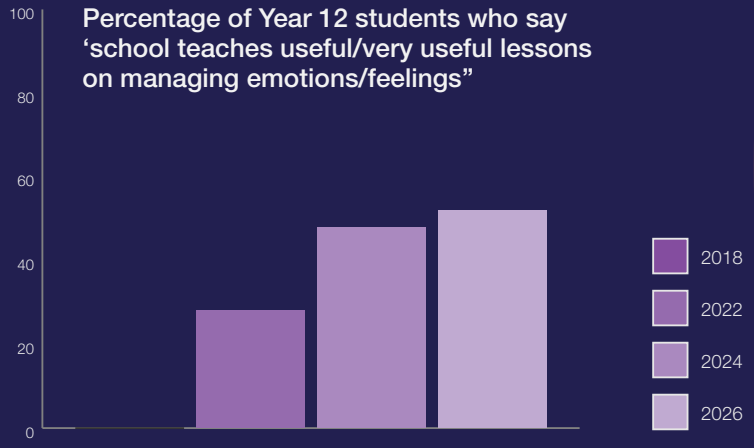
Percentage of KS2 children with a low/med-low wellbeing score



Percentage of Year 10 students who say ‘school teaches useful/very useful lessons on managing emotions/feelings’

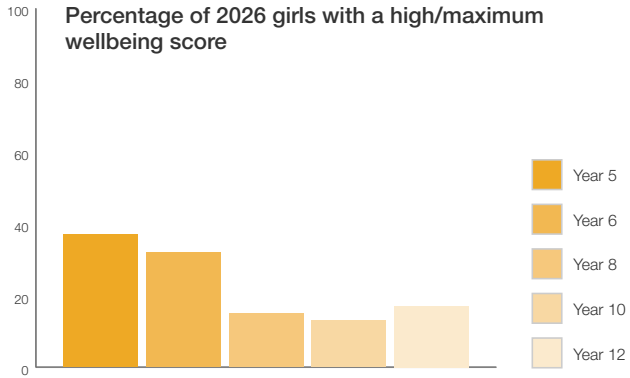


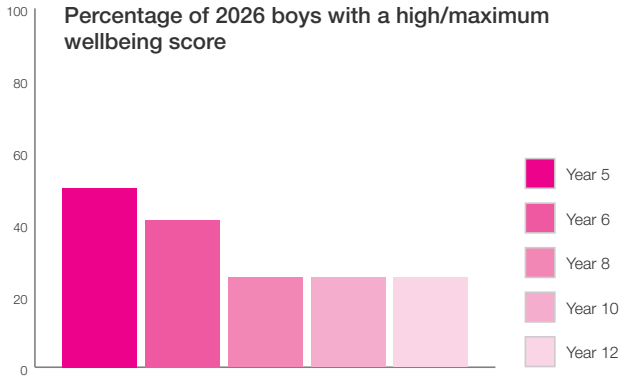
Percentage of Year 12 students who say ‘school teaches useful/very useful lessons on managing emotions/feelings”

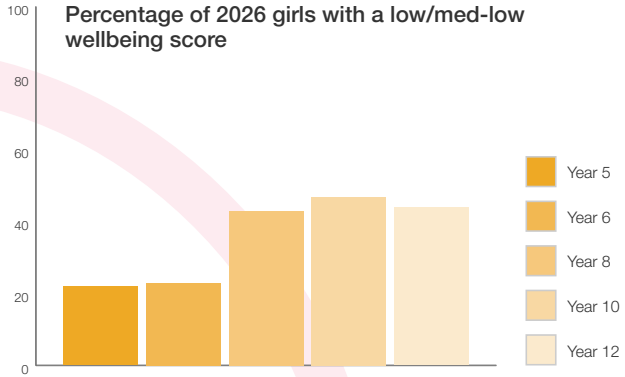


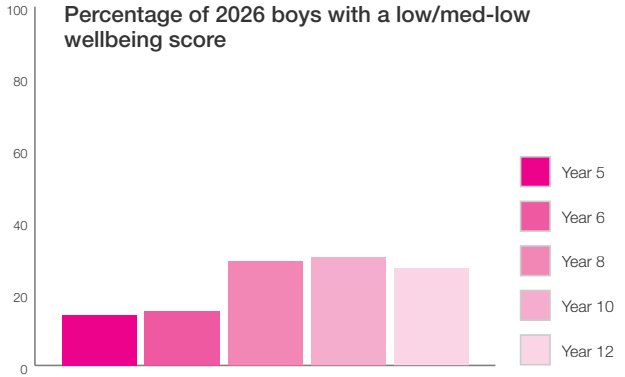
PHASE DIFFERENCES

- There appear to be marked differences between the proportions of secondary girls achieving high/max wellbeing scores percentages compared with boys for these indicator question sets – for primary (Stirling Children's Wellbeing Scale*) and secondary (SWEMWBS) pupils.

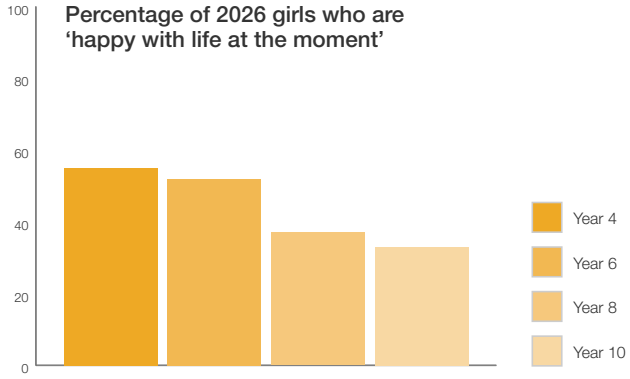




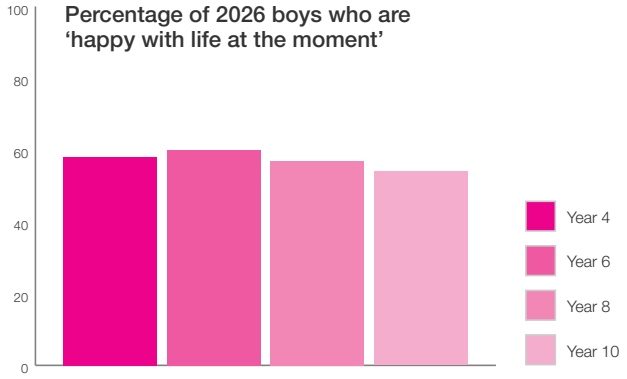




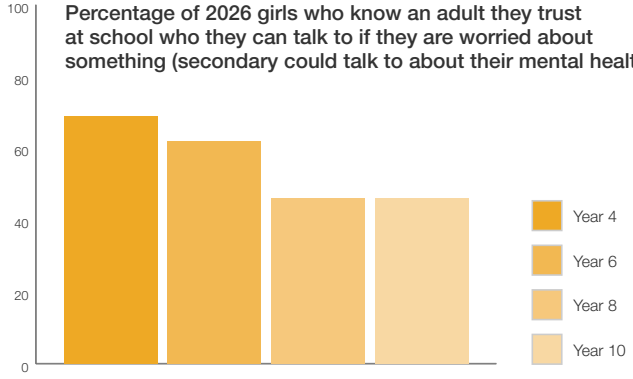
Percentage of 2026 girls who are ‘happy with life at the moment’



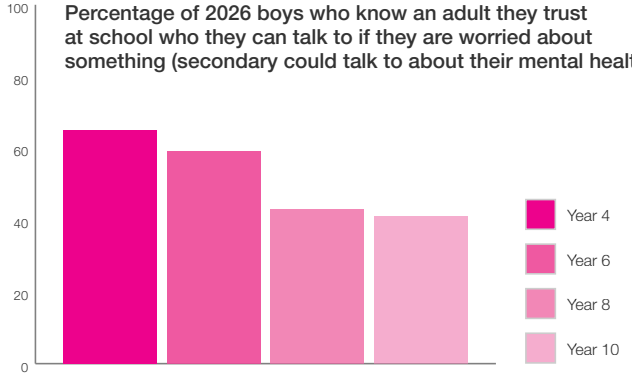
Percentage of 2026 boys who are ‘happy with life at the moment’



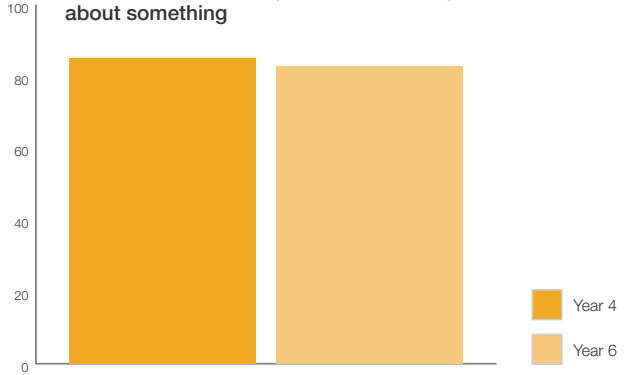
Percentage of 2026 girls who know an adult they trust at school who they can talk to if they are worried about something (secondary could talk to about their mental health)



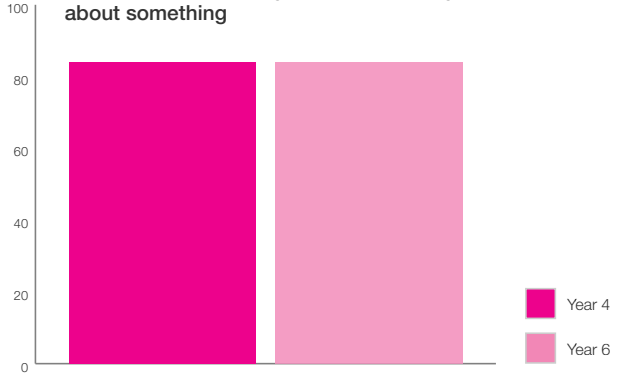
Percentage of 2026 boys who know an adult they trust at school who they can talk to if they are worried about something (secondary could talk to about their mental health)



Percentage of 2026 girls who know an adult they trust at home who they can talk to if they are worried about something

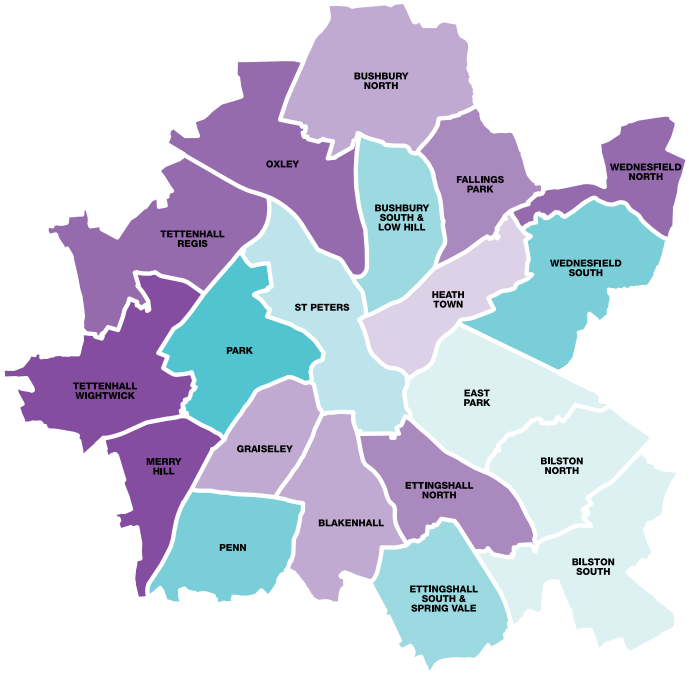


Percentage of 2026 boys who know an adult they trust at home who they can talk to if they are worried about something



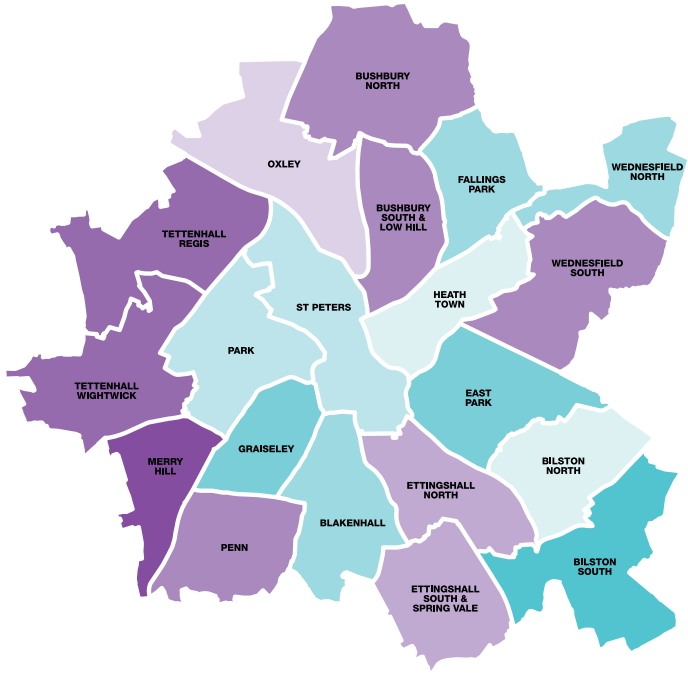
MAPPING

Percentage of Year 6 pupils by ward who enjoy what each new day brings



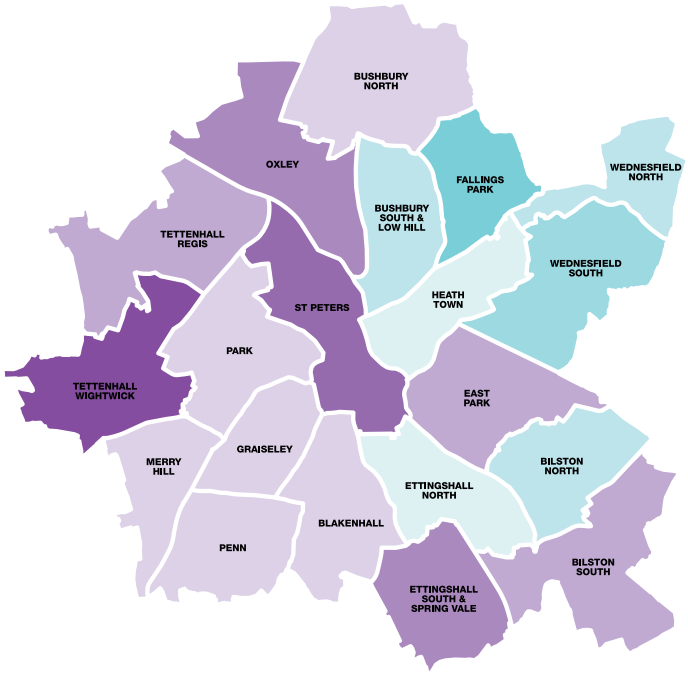
- 45.2% - 47.4% Tettenhall Wightwick, Merry Hill
- 41.7% - 43.3% Tettenhall Regis, Oxley, Wednesfield North
- 43.3% - 44.8% Fallings Park, Ettingshall North
- 44.8% - 46.3% Bushbury North, Graiseley, Blakenhall
- 46.3% - 47.9% Heath Town
- 47.9% - 49.4% East Park, Bilston North, Bilston South
- 49.4% - 51.0% St Peter's
- 51.0% - 52.5% Bushbury South & Low Hill, Ettingshall South & Spring Vale
- 52.5% - 54.0% Wednesfield South, Penn
- 54.0% - 55.6% Park

Percentage of Year 6 pupils by ward who worry about SATs or tests



- 33.3% - 36.4% Merry Hill
- 36.4% - 39.4% Tettenhall Regis, Tettenhall Wightwick
- 39.4% - 42.5% Bushbury North, Bushbury South & Low Hill, Wednesfield South, Penn
- 42.5% - 45.5% Ettingshall North, Ettingshall South & Spring Vale
- 45.5% - 48.5% Oxley
- 48.5% - 51.6% Heath Town, Bilston North
- 51.6% - 54.6% Park, St Peter's
- 54.6% - 57.7% Fallings Park, Wednesfield North, Blakenhall
- 57.7% - 60.7% Graiseley, East Park
- 60.7% - 63.8% Bilston South

Percentage of Year 6 pupils by ward who have seen something worrying/upsetting online



- 10.8% - 13.4% Tettenhall Wightwick
- 13.4% - 15.9% St Peter's
- 15.9% - 18.5% Oxley, Ettingshall South & Spring Vale
- 18.5% - 21.1% Tettenhall Regis, East Park, Bilston South
- 21.1% - 23.6% Bushbury North, Park, Merry Hill, Graiseley, Penn, Blakenhall
- 23.6% - 26.2% Heath Town, Ettingshall North
- 26.2% - 28.8% Bushbury South & Low Hill, Wednesfield North, Bilston North
- 28.8% - 31.4% Wednesfield South
- 31.4% - 33.9% Fallings Park
- 33.9% - 36.5% None

Percentage of Year 6 pupils by ward who use social networking sites to meet friends



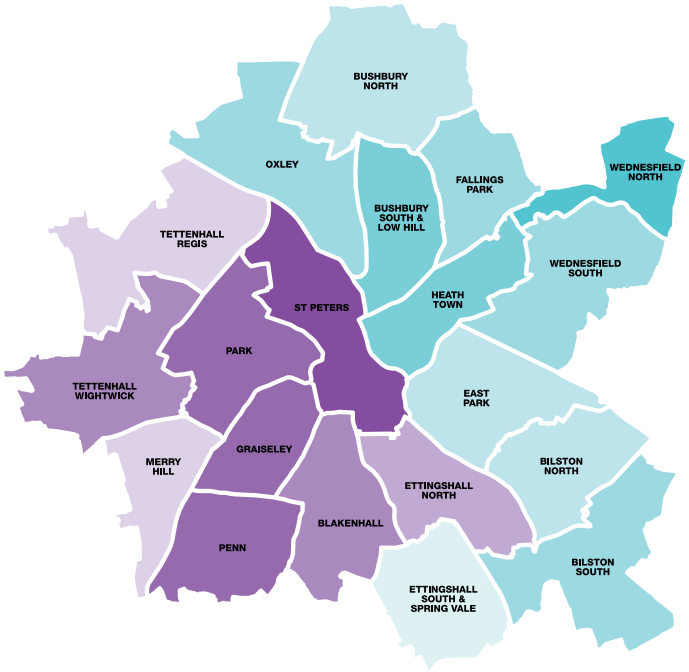
- 6.9% - 29.5% St Peter's
- 29.5% - 32.1% Graiseley, Penn
- 32.1% - 34.6% Park, Wednesfield South
- 34.6% - 37.2% Tettenhall Wightwick
- 37.2% - 39.8% Tettenhall Regis, Blakenhall, Ettingshall North, Ettingshall South & Spring Vale, Bilston South
- 39.8% - 42.3% Fallings Park
- 42.3% - 44.9% Bushbury North, East Park, Bilston North
- 44.9% - 47.5% Oxley, Merry Hill, Wednesfield North
- 47.5% - 50.1% Heath Town
- 50.1% - 52.6% Bushbury South & Low Hill

Percentage of Year 6 pupils by ward who worry about family



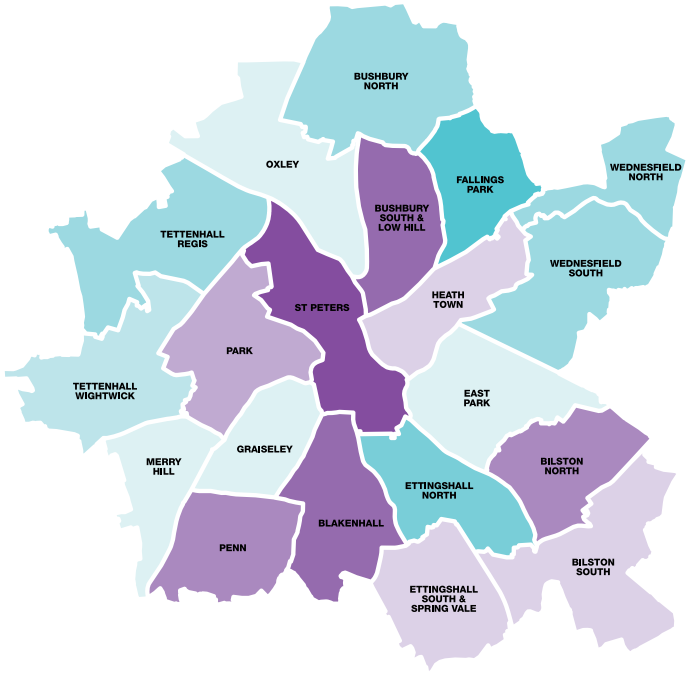
- 3.1% - 14.9% Tettenhall Wightwick
- 14.9% - 16.6% Merry Hill
- 16.6% - 18.3% Tettenhall Regis, Park, Penn, Wednesfield South, East Park
- 18.3% - 20.0% Graiseley, Bilston North
- 20.0% - 21.8% Oxley
- 21.8% - 23.5% Wednesfield North, Ettingshall South & Spring Vale, Bilston South
- 23.5% - 25.2% Bushbury North, Blakenhall
- 25.2% - 27.0% Bushbury South & Low Hill, Heath Town, Ettingshall North
- 27.0% - 28.7% Fallings Park
- 28.7% - 30.4% St Peter's

Percentage of Year 6 pupils by ward who use social networking sites



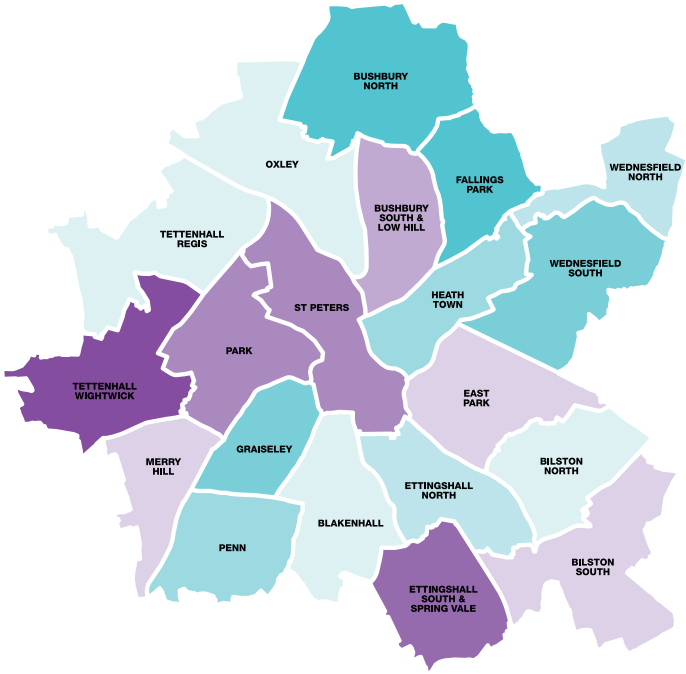
- 55.8% - 58.3% St Peter's
- 58.3% - 60.9% Park, Graiseley, Penn
- 60.9% - 63.4% Tettenhall Wightwick, Blakenhall
- 63.4% - 66.0% Ettingshall North
- 66.0% - 68.6% Tettenhall Regis, Merry Hil,
- 68.6% - 71.1% Ettingshall South & Spring Vale
- 71.1% - 73.7% Bushbury North, East Park, Bilston North
- 73.7% - 76.2% Oxley, Fallings Park, Wednesfield South, Bilston South
- 76.2% - 78.8% Bushbury South & Low Hill, Heath Town
- 78.8% - 81.3% Wednesfield North

Percentage of Year 6 pupils by ward with significant behavioural issues



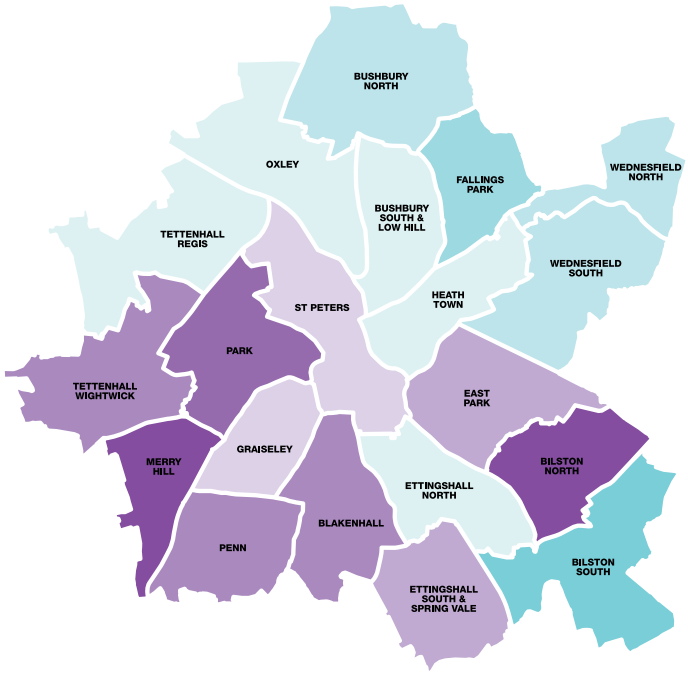
- 9.7% - 11.6% St Peter's
- 11.6% - 13.4% Bushbury South & Low Hill, Blakenhall
- 13.4% - 15.3% Penn, Bilston North
- 15.3% - 17.2% Park
- 17.2% - 19.1% Heath Town, Bilston South, Ettingshall South & Spring Vale
- 19.1% - 21.0% Oxley, Merry Hill, Graiseley, East Park
- 21.0% - 22.9% Tettenhall Wightwick
- 22.9% - 24.7% Bushbury North, Tettenhall Regis, Wednesfield South, Wednesfield North
- 24.7% - 26.6% Ettingshall North
- 26.6% - 28.5% Fallings Park

Percentage of Year 6 pupils by ward with significant emotional issues



- 17.1% - 18.6% Tettenhall Wightwick
- 18.6% - 20.0% Ettingshall South & Spring Vale
- 20.0% - 21.5% Park, St Peter's
- 21.5% - 22.9% Bushbury South & Low Hill
- 22.9% - 24.4% Merry Hill, East Park, Bilston South
- 24.4% - 25.8% Oxley, Tettenhall Regis, Blakenhall, Bilston North
- 25.8% - 27.3% Wednesfield North, Ettingshall North
- 27.3% - 28.8% Penn, Heath Town
- 28.8% - 30.2% Graiseley, Wednesfield South
- 30.2% - 31.7% Bushbur y North, Fallings Park

Percentage of Year 6 pupils by ward who lose their temper at least sometimes



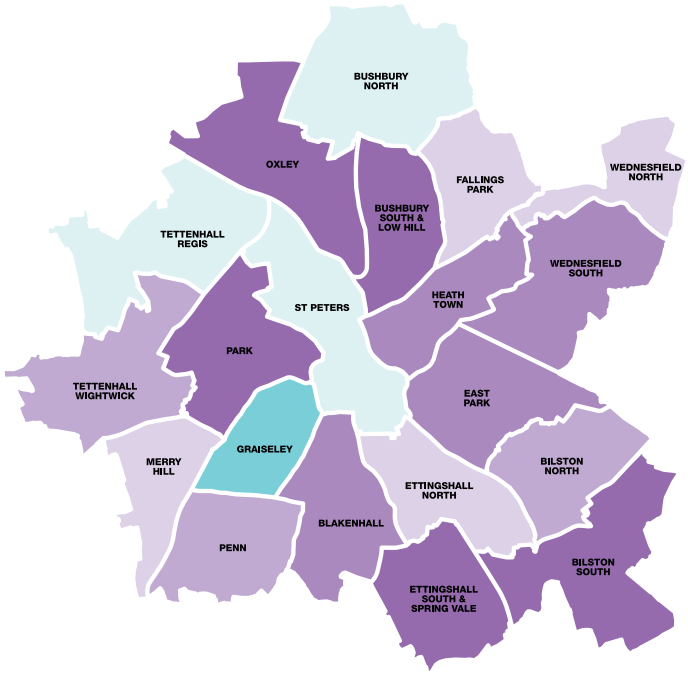
- 50.5% - 52.9% — Merry Hill, Bilston North
- 52.9% - 55.4% — Park
- 55.4% - 57.8% — Tettenhall Wightwick, Penn, Blakenhall
- 57.8% - 60.3% — East Park, Ettingshall South & Spring Vale
- 60.3% - 62.7% — St Peter's, Graiseley
- 62.7% - 65.2% — Tettenhall Regis, Oxley, Bushbury South & Low Hill, Heath Town, Ettingshall North
- 65.2% - 67.6% — Bushbury North, Wednesfield North, Wednesfield South
- 67.6% - 70.1% — Fallings Park
- 70.1% - 72.5% — Bilston South
- 72.5% - 75.0% — None

Percentage of Year 6 pupils by ward who are unhappy at least sometimes



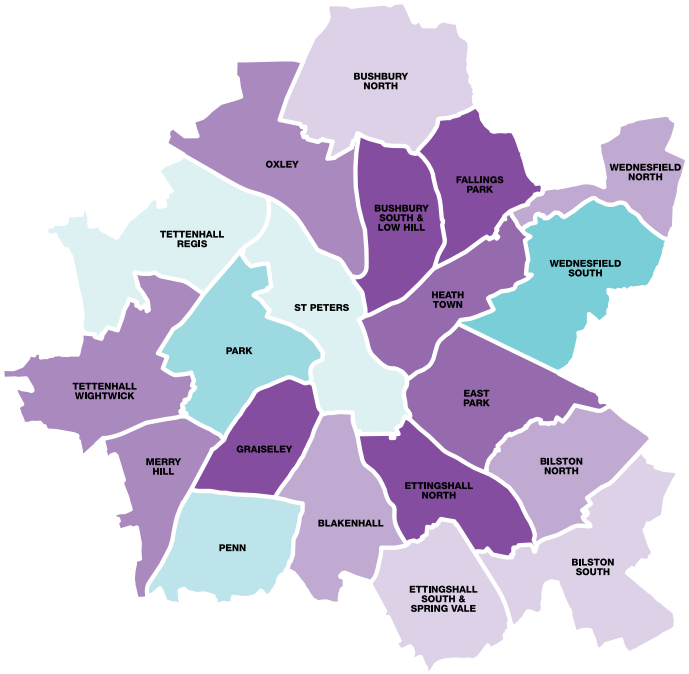
- 0.0% - 52.0% — Bushbury South & Low Hill
- 52.0% - 54.0% — St Peter's, Park
- 54.0% - 56.0% — None
- 56.0% - 58.0% — Oxley, Wednesfield North
- 58.0% - 59.9% — Tettenhall Wightwick
- 59.9% - 61.9% — Ettingshall North, Penn, Ettingshall South & Spring Vale
- 61.9% - 63.9% — Bushbury North, Wednesfield South
- 63.9% - 65.9% — Heath Town, Graiseley, Bilston South
- 65.9% - 67.9% — Tettenhall Regis, Merry Hill
- 67.9% - 69.9% — Fallings Park, East Park, Blakenhall, Bilston North

Percentage of Year 6 pupils by ward with poor mental wellbeing (Stirling Wellbeing Scale)



- 4.1% - 6.0% None
- 6.0% - 7.9% Oxley, Bushbury South & Low Hill, Park, Ettingshall South & Spring Vale, Bilston South
- 7.9% - 9.8% Heath Town, Wednesfield South, East Park, Blakenhall
- 9.8% - 11.7% Tettenhall Wightwick, Penn, Bilston North
- 11.7% - 13.5% Fallings Park, Wednesfield North, Merry Hill, Ettingshall North
- 13.5% - 15.4% Bushbury North, Tettenhall Regis, St Peter's,
- 15.4% - 17.3% None
- 17.3% - 19.2% None
- 19.2% - 21.1% Graiseley
- 21.1% - 23.0% None

Percentage of Year 6 pupils by ward with good mental wellbeing (Stirling Wellbeing Scale)



- 29.6% - 31.4% Bushbury South & Low Hill, Fallings Park, Graiseley, Ettingshall North
- 31.4% - 33.2% Heath Town, East Park
- 33.2% - 34.9% Tettenhall Wightwick, Merry Hill, Oxley
- 34.9% - 36.7% Wednesfield North, Blakenhall, Bilston North
- 36.7% - 38.5% Bushbury North, Bilston South, Ettingshall South & Spring Vale
- 38.5% - 40.3% Tettenhall Regis, St Peter's
- 40.3% - 42.1% Penn
- 42.1% - 43.9% Park
- 43.9% - 45.7% Wednesfield South
- 45.7% - 47.4% None

LINKS BETWEEN BEHAVIOURS

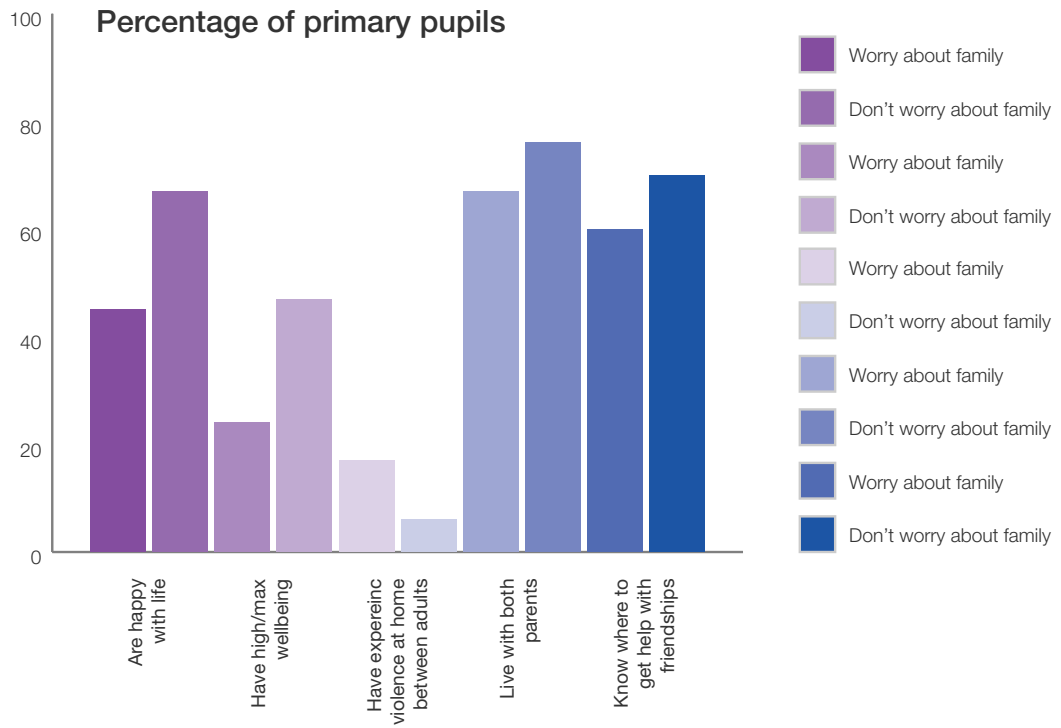
When compared with primary pupils who do not worry about their family, primary pupils who said that they do worry about their family are:

Significantly more likely to:

- Have experienced violence at home between adults at least once or twice in the last month

Significantly less likely to:

- Be happy with life
- Have high/max wellbeing scores
- Live with both parents together
- Know where to get help with friendship issues



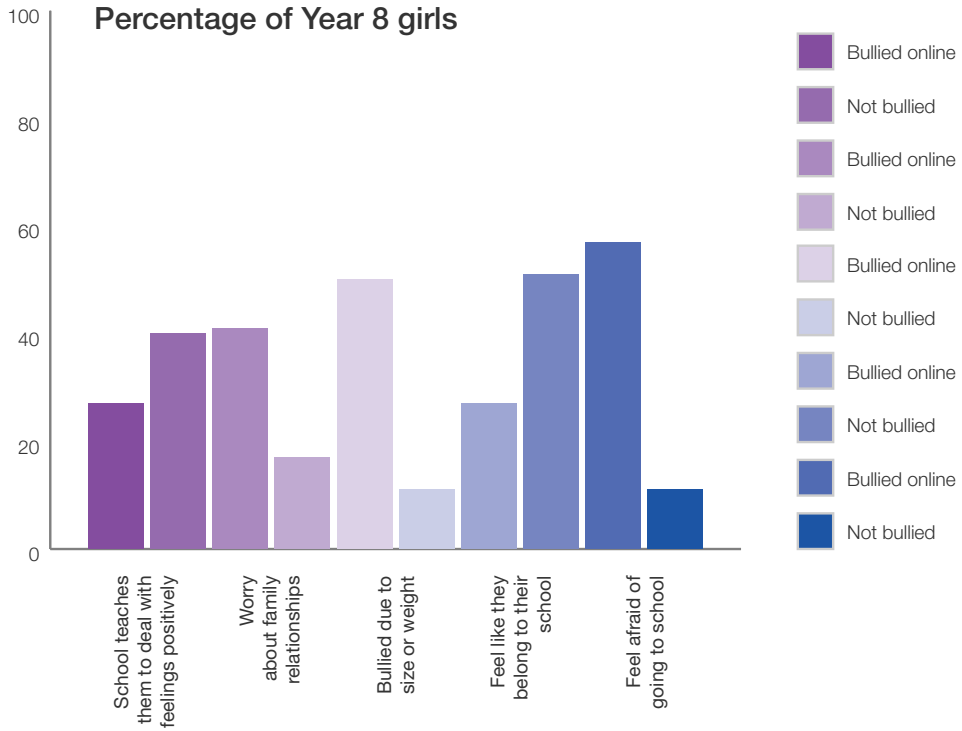
When compared with secondary who said they haven't been bullied online, secondary pupils who have been bullied online are:

Significantly more likely to:

- Worry about family relationships
- Have been bullied due to size or weight
- Feel afraid of going to school because of bullying

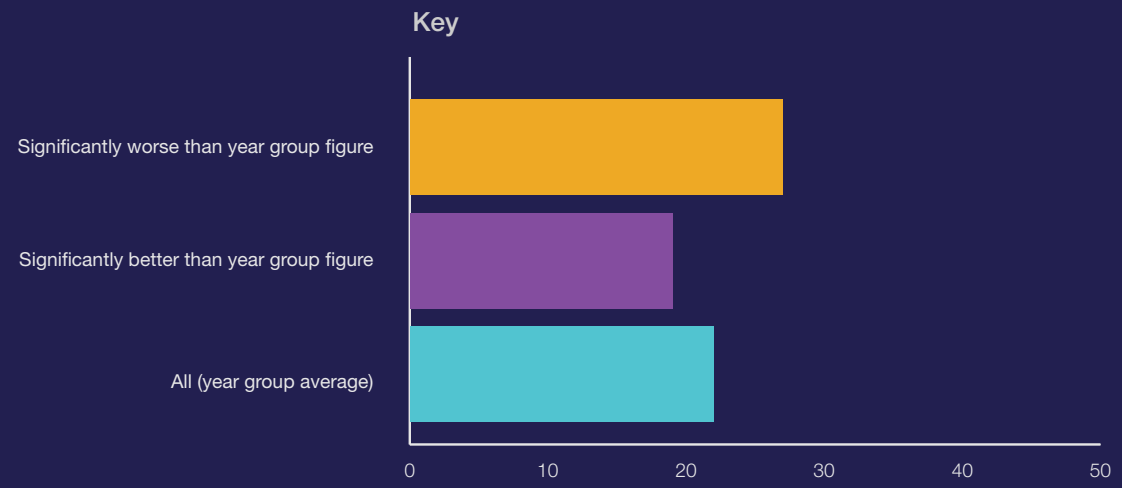
Significantly less likely to:

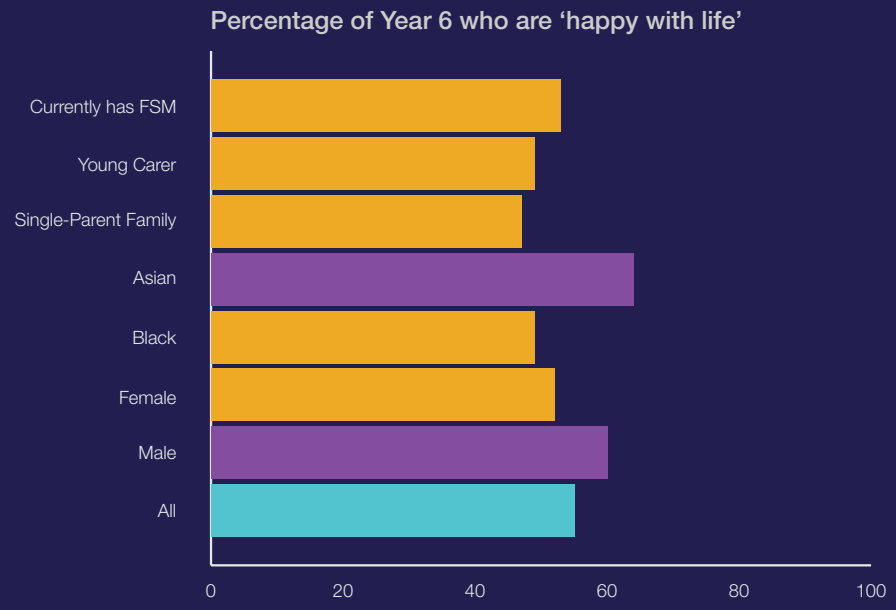
- Say school teaches them how to deal with their feelings positively
- Feel like they belong to their school

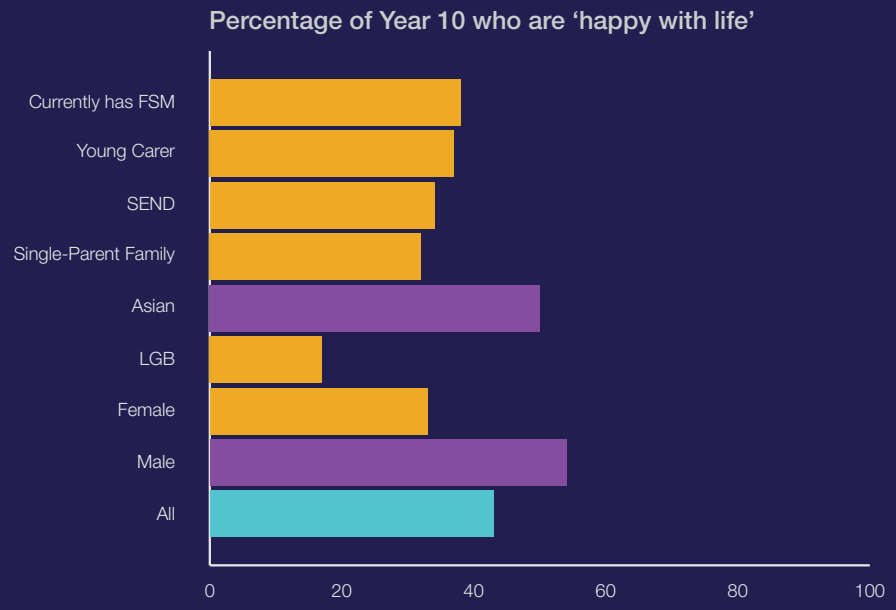


INEQUALITIES

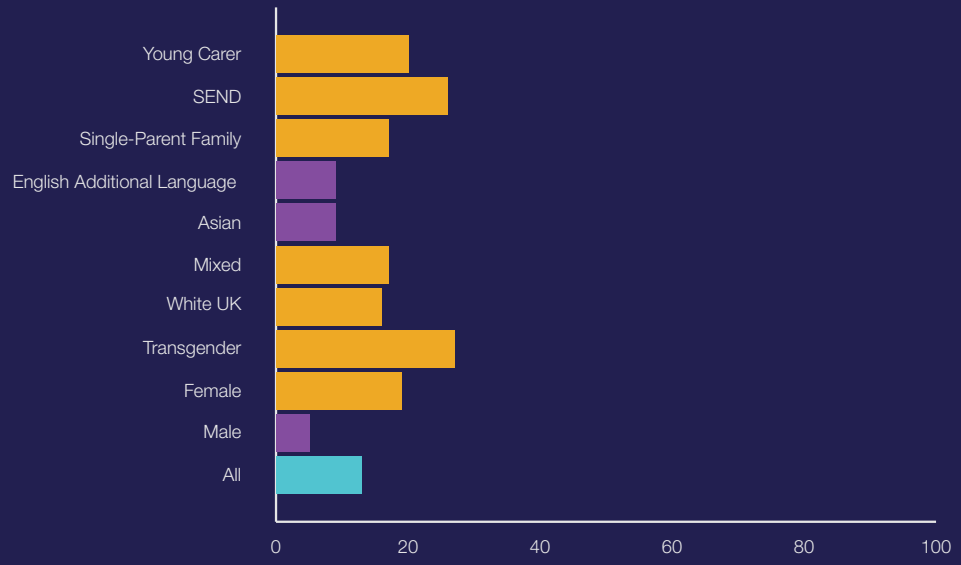
Selected questions from the primary and secondary questionnaires were analysed to identify statistically significant differences between population groups.



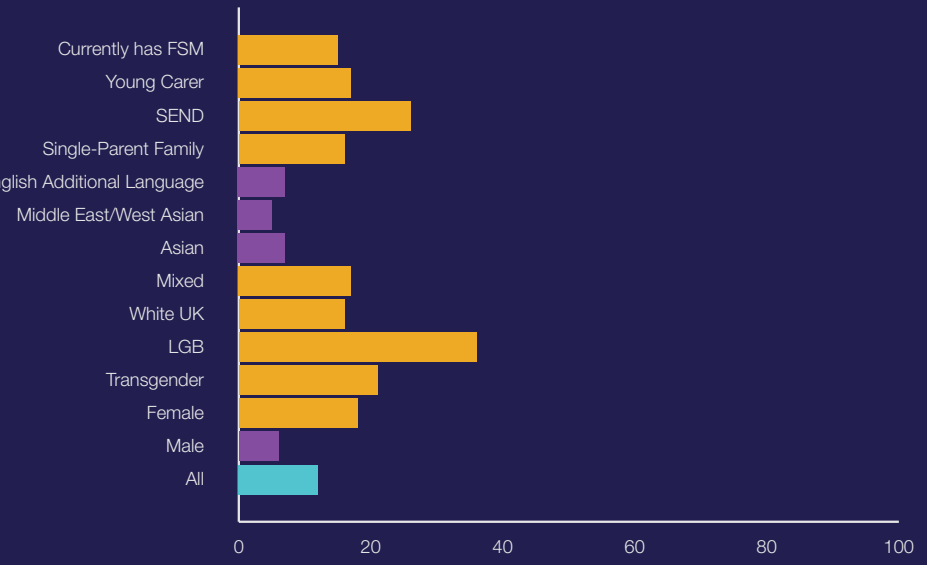




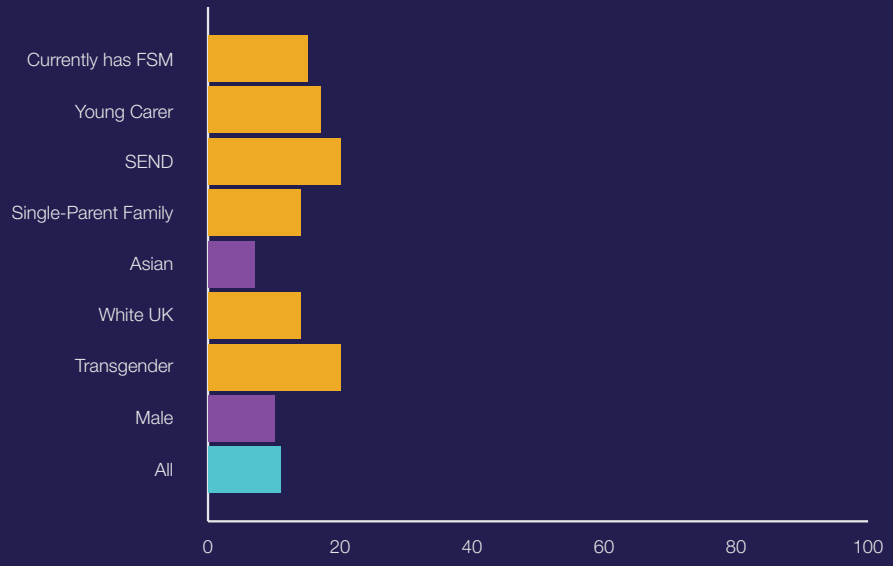
Percentage of Year 8 with emotional difficulty



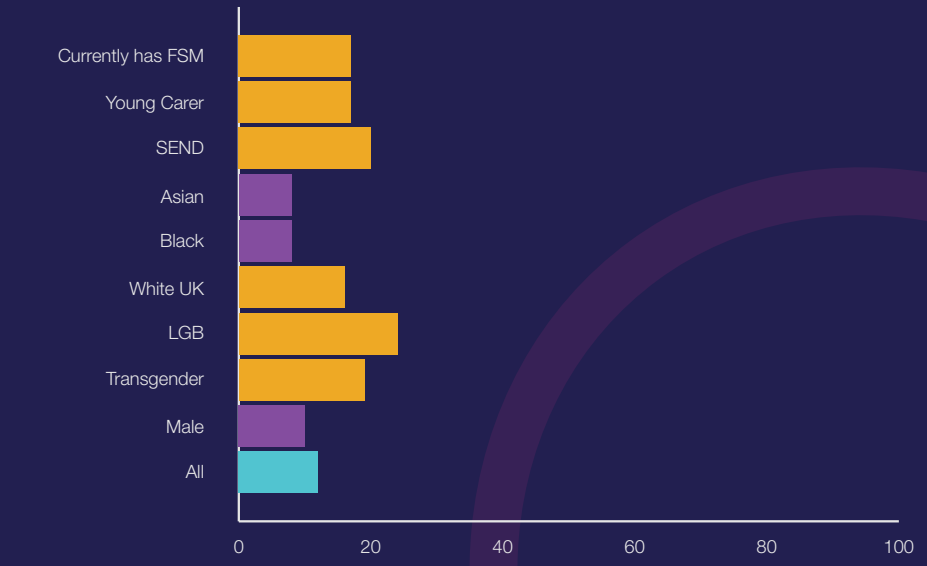
Percentage of Year 10 with emotional difficulty



Percentage of Year 8 with low wellbeing



Percentage of Year 10 with low wellbeing



The table below shows percentages for selected criteria for the whole year group sample and selected sub-samples of young people who may be vulnerable.

The table shows significance testing; the tests were performed using actual numbers of respondents for each criterion, not the overall sample size shown.

No correction has been attempted for multiple comparisons, so we could expect 1 in 20 cells to show an apparently significant difference by chance alone.

Significant differences are shown in purple if desirable, or orange if undesirable.

99 99 $p < 0.05$ Purple = Higher on a positive criterion or lower on a negative one

99 99 $p < 0.01$ Orange = Lower on a positive criterion or higher on a negative one

Year 4	All	Male	Female	White UK	Other White	Mixed	Black	Asian	Middle East / West Asian	EAL	Single-Parent Family	Young Carer	Currently has FSM
Sample	**2,279**	1,106	1,117	780	108	248	278	496	70	604	249	438	873
Worry about gangs at least 'quite a lot'	**29%**	29%	28%	28%	**38%**	30%	31%	27%	24%	30%	28%	27%	28%
Ever bullied online	**27%**	**30%**	**23%**	28%	31%	**31%**	**32%**	**19%**	22%	26%	**32%**	**35%**	**30%**
Bullied in school in last 6 months	**23%**	22%	23%	23%	26%	25%	25%	21%	28%	25%	25%	**29%**	**26%**
Bullied elsewhere in last 6 months	**18%**	**20%**	**16%**	19%	18%	20%	20%	**15%**	16%	**22%**	**22%**	**23%**	**20%**
School deals very well with bullying	**40%**	**42%**	39%	**43%**	38%	36%	**47%**	37%	40%	38%	**35%**	42%	39%
Clinically significant [emotional] difficulties	**13%**	**10%**	**16%**	**16%**	17%	13%	11%	**8%**	9%	12%	**17%**	**18%**	**14%**
Clinically significant [behavioural] difficulties	**13%**	**16%**	**10%**	14%	**18%**	**17%**	14%	**8%**	11%	12%	**20%**	15%	**15%**
Happy with life	**56%**	**58%**	55%	57%	52%	56%	59%	59%	63%	57%	54%	**50%**	58%
Worry about at least one issue at least 'quite a lot'	**86%**	85%	86%	**84%**	87%	89%	88%	84%	**94%**	**89%**	85%	**91%**	**87%**
Views and opinions listened to at school	**44%**	45%	44%	**48%**	47%	42%	**51%**	41%	40%	**38%**	43%	43%	42%

Year 6	All	Male	Female	White UK	Other White	Mixed	Black	Asian	Middle East / West Asian	EAL	Single-Parent Family	Young Carer	Currently has FSM
Sample	**2,416**	1,162	1,189	881	139	284	328	549	85	584	395	312	953
Worry about gangs at least 'quite a lot'	**32%**	32%	32%	30%	35%	31%	**38%**	31%	30%	34%	36%	**39%**	**35%**
Ever bullied online	**22%**	22%	22%	**25%**	28%	27%	17%	**17%**	21%	20%	**28%**	**29%**	**27%**
Bullied in school in last 6 months	**19%**	18%	20%	20%	23%	20%	18%	17%	23%	19%	22%	24%	**22%**
Bullied elsewhere in last 6 months	**12%**	**14%**	**10%**	13%	**20%**	12%	10%	10%	11%	11%	**17%**	**22%**	**16%**
School deals very well with bullying	**30%**	31%	29%	32%	36%	29%	28%	28%	27%	32%	31%	27%	28%
Clinically significant [emotional] difficulties	**14%**	9%	**17%**	15%	**25%**	16%	10%	9%	11%	12%	**18%**	**22%**	**15%**
Clinically significant [behavioural] difficulties	**13%**	13%	12%	**16%**	**22%**	14%	11%	7%	10%	9%	16%	**18%**	**15%**
Happy with life	**55%**	60%	52%	54%	55%	51%	**49%**	**64%**	58%	56%	47%	49%	53%
Worry about at least one issue at least 'quite a lot'	**81%**	76%	86%	81%	88%	81%	83%	78%	81%	83%	85%	87%	**84%**
Poor mental health (Stirling score <31)	**10%**	7%	12%	10%	16%	11%	9%	9%	9%	10%	11%	14%	11%
Violence between adults at home last month	**11%**	11%	10%	10%	9%	14%	13%	9%	16%	12%	11%	20%	**13%**
Views & opinions listened to at school	**52%**	52%	52%	54%	50%	**44%**	55%	55%	48%	50%	49%	46%	50%
People with different backgrounds are valued at school	**69%**	67%	71%	71%	71%	65%	73%	71%	64%	**64%**	67%	56%	**64%**

Year 8	All	Male	Female	Transgender	White UK	Other White	Mixed	Black	Asian	Middle East / West Asian	EAL	Single-Parent Family	SEND	Young Carer	Currently has FSM
Sample	**2,225**	1,058	1,112	80	683	123	245	332	648	103	512	381	157	196	827
Worry about gangs at least 'quite a lot'	**9%**	9%	9%	14%	8%	10%	12%	10%	8%	13%	9%	10%	16%	14%	9%
Carry weapon when going out	**4%**	5%	3%	6%	3%	7%	6%	3%	3%	3%	4%	3%	5%	6%	4%
Ever bullied online	**16%**	13%	18%	27%	19%	23%	23%	15%	8%	12%	14%	22%	37%	23%	20%
Bullied in school in last 6 months	**19%**	17%	20%	30%	21%	19%	25%	17%	15%	22%	17%	20%	35%	32%	22%
Bullied elsewhere in last 6 months	**7%**	7%	7%	18%	9%	7%	9%	8%	4%	8%	6%	9%	14%	15%	9%
School deals very well with bullying	**14%**	18%	11%	15%	16%	10%	14%	15%	12%	14%	13%	10%	13%	12%	12%
Clinically significant [emotional] difficulties	**13%**	5%	19%	27%	16%	16%	17%	10%	9%	13%	9%	17%	26%	20%	14%
Clinically significant [behavioural] difficulties	**10%**	7%	12%	19%	11%	13%	16%	10%	6%	6%	6%	16%	22%	17%	13%
Happy with life	**46%**	57%	37%	32%	47%	42%	46%	39%	49%	44%	49%	37%	35%	38%	41%
Worry about at least one issue at least 'quite a lot'	**71%**	61%	80%	77%	71%	78%	72%	71%	69%	77%	72%	75%	83%	76%	72%
Low wellbeing score (SWEMWBS)	**11%**	10%	12%	20%	14%	13%	12%	12%	7%	13%	10%	14%	20%	17%	15%
Violence between adults at home last month	**9%**	10%	8%	16%	8%	8%	8%	10%	10%	9%	8%	13%	13%	16%	9%
People with different backgrounds are valued at school	**55%**	54%	58%	59%	57%	54%	45%	50%	63%	46%	52%	48%	44%	46%	46%

Year 10	All	Male	Female	Transgender	LGB	White UK	Other White	Mixed	Black	Asian	Middle East / West Asian	EAL	Single-Parent Family	SEND	Young Carer	Currently has FSM
Sample	**1.835**	929	846	93	143	599	125	189	258	509	79	481	354	166	180	707
Worry about gangs at least 'quite a lot'	**9%**	7%	10%	12%	17%	11%	12%	9%	7%	6%	7%	7%	8%	13%	10%	9%
Ever bullied online	**17%**	13%	20%	25%	32%	21%	25%	21%	13%	11%	7%	12%	17%	25%	22%	19%
Bullied in school in last 6 months	**14%**	12%	16%	17%	23%	17%	16%	15%	12%	10%	12%	13%	15%	26%	20%	18%
Bullied elsewhere in last 6 months	**7%**	6%	7%	12%	17%	9%	6%	8%	5%	5%	5%	5%	9%	12%	12%	8%
School deals very well with bullying	**11%**	15%	6%	9%	6%	11%	14%	11%	9%	12%	9%	12%	9%	16%	10%	11%
Clinically significant [emotional] difficulties	**12%**	6%	18%	21%	36%	16%	14%	17%	11%	7%	5%	7%	16%	26%	17%	15%
Clinically significant [behavioural] difficulties	**9%**	6%	10%	14%	20%	10%	11%	13%	6%	5%	6%	6%	12%	20%	14%	12%
Happy with life	**43%**	54%	33%	41%	17%	43%	39%	43%	39%	50%	43%	45%	32%	34%	37%	38%
Worry about at least one issue at least 'quite a lot'	**72%**	62%	83%	74%	91%	71%	80%	70%	75%	71%	74%	76%	73%	78%	76%	74%
Low wellbeing score (SWEMWBS)	**12%**	10%	12%	19%	24%	16%	12%	10%	8%	8%	12%	10%	13%	20%	17%	17%
Violence between adults at home last month	**6%**	6%	6%	10%	12%	3%	6%	9%	7%	7%	9%	7%	8%	10%	11%	7%
People with different backgrounds are valued at school	**49%**	48%	50%	53%	48%	54%	42%	44%	44%	54%	28%	44%	41%	50%	45%	43%

THE 2026 SAMPLE

Teachers received guidance from Schools Health Education Unit staff to support consistent and reliable data collection. Schools were offered the option to complete the survey online through a bespoke website, with paper questionnaires provided where technical issues prevented online participation. A total of 12,942 pupils took part in the 2026 HRBS, including pupils from 23 Key Stage 1 settings, 57 Key Stage 2 settings, 16 secondary (KS3-4) settings, three institutions completing the Year 12+ survey, and nine institutions participating in the SEND survey.

Each participating school received an individual report comparing its results with the combined results for pupils in the same age group.

School Year	Year 2	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12+	Total
Boys	395	1,106	250	1,162	440	1,058	337	929	140	290	6,107
Girls	391	1,117	271	1,189	402	1,112	461	846	99	226	6,114
Total	**798**	**2,279**	**536**	**2,416**	**854**	**2,225**	**817**	**1,835**	**246**	**532**	**12,538***

* 317 young people didn't select male or female. 404 students took part in a bespoke special school survey so their results are reported elsewhere.

You can get this information in large print, braille, audio or in another language by calling 01902 551155 or emailing translations@wolverhampton.gov.uk

wolverhampton.gov.uk 01902 551155

WolverhamptonToday Wolverhampton_Today @WolvesCouncil

City of Wolverhampton Council, Civic Centre, St. Peter's Square, Wolverhampton WV1 1SH

WCC 1773 09.2026