



## Independent Schools Council – Policy Research – September 2019

Methodology: ComRes interviewed 2,016 GB adults aged 18+ online between 6th and 8th September 2019. Data were weighted to be nationally representative of all GB adults by key demographics including age, gender, region and social grade. ComRes is a member of the British Polling Council and abides by its rules. Full tables at [www.comresglobal.com](http://www.comresglobal.com)

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To register for Pollwatch, featuring commentary and insight from the ComRes team, please email: [pollwatch@comresglobal.com](mailto:pollwatch@comresglobal.com)

### **REPUTATION | COMMUNICATIONS | PUBLIC POLICY**

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## Independent Schools Survey ONLINE Fieldwork: 6th to 8th September 2019

Absolutes/col percents

Thinking back to the (UK) General Election of June 2017, which party, if any, did you vote for? Was it <...>, some other party, or did you not vote?  
Base: All respondents

	Total	Gender		Age									Social Grade				Employment Sector	
		Male (a)	Female (b)	18-24 (c)	25-34 (d)	35-44 (e)	45-54 (f)	55-64 (g)	65+ (h)	18-34 (i)	35-54 (j)	55+ (k)	AB (l)	C1 (m)	C2 (n)	DE (o)	Public (p)	Private (q)
Unweighted base	2016	1044	972	230	313	328	352	318	475	543	680	793	575	598	312	531	309	749
Weighted base	2016	984	1032	224	349	323	357	298	466	573	679	764	550	567	409	490	352	811
Conservative	628 31%	326 33%b	302 29%	38 17%	46 13%	68 21%D	106 30%CDE	121 40%CDEF	249 53%CDEFG	84 15%	174 26%I	369 48%IJ	189 34%O	184 32%o	126 31%	129 26%	93 27%	212 26%
Labour	615 31%	308 31%	307 30%	95 42%FGH	136 39%FGH	112 35%GH	100 28%	67 22%	105 23%	231 40%JK	212 31%K	172 23%	180 33%	166 29%	126 31%	143 29%	125 35%	250 31%
Liberal Democrat	134 7%	74 7%	61 6%	3 1%	22 6%C	31 10%C	30 9%C	17 6%C	31 7%C	25 4%	61 9%Ik	48 6%	41 7%	44 8%o	26 6%	24 5%	25 7%	70 9%
UKIP	90 4%	47 5%	43 4%	3 1%	11 3%	13 4%	17 5%c	18 6%C	29 6%Cd	14 2%	30 4%	47 6%I	14 3%	21 4%	23 6%L	31 6%Ln	12 3%	38 5%
Green	64 3%	29 3%	35 3%	9 4%h	13 4%h	11 3%h	15 4%H	9 3%	6 1%	22 4%	26 4%k	16 2%	16 3%	26 5%O	11 3%	10 2%	16 4%	31 4%
SNP	61 3%	35 4%	26 3%	5 2%	13 4%	9 3%	10 3%	14 5%h	10 2%	17 3%	19 3%	24 3%	17 3%	13 2%	16 4%	13 3%	12 3%	26 3%
Plaid Cymru	12 1%	2 *	9 1%a	2 1%	-	1 *	3 1%	1 *	5 1%d	2 *	3 1%	6 1%	1 *	4 1%	-	6 1%In	4 1%	3 *
Some other party	24 1%	14 1%	10 1%	-	5 1%	3 1%	6 2%	8 3%CH	2 1%	5 1%	9 1%	10 1%	8 1%	4 1%	5 1%	8 2%	3 1%	13 2%
Did not vote	306 15%	126 13%	180 17%A	60 27%EFGH	79 23%IGH	58 18%GH	57 16%H	34 11%H	17 4%	139 24%JK	116 17%K	51 7%	61 11%	81 14%	61 15%	103 21%LMn	44 13%	136 17%
Don't remember	44 2%	9 1%	35 3%A	2 1%	11 3%h	11 4%cH	7 2%	7 2%	6 1%	13 2%	19 3%	13 2%	10 2%	11 2%	11 3%	12 2%	9 3%	20 2%
Prefer not to say	38 2%	14 1%	24 2%	9 4%GH	12 3%gh	5 2%	5 1%	3 1%	5 1%	20 4%JK	10 1%	8 1%	13 2%	12 2%	5 1%	9 2%	9 2%	14 2%

Proportions/Mean: Columns Tested (5%, 10% risk level) - a/b - c/d/e/f/g/h - i/j/k - l/m/n/o - p/q

## Independent Schools Survey ONLINE Fieldwork: 6th to 8th September 2019

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Thinking back to the (UK) General Election of June 2017, which party, if any, did you vote for? Was it <...>, some other party, or did you not vote?  
Base: All respondents

	Region													Past Vote						
	Total	Scotland (a)	Wales (b)	NET: England (d)	North East (e)	North West (f)	Yorkshire & Humberside (g)	West Midlands (h)	East Midlands (i)	Eastern (l)	London (k)	South East (l)	South West (m)	Cons (n)	Lab (o)	Lib Dems (p)	SNP (q)	Plaid Cymru (r)	Some other party (s)	Did not vote (t)
Unweighted base	2016	135	112	1769	71	254	153	181	147	209	281	286	187	612	644	137	48	11	170	309
Weighted base	2016	175	101*	1740	85*	232	169	179	147	194	272	282	179	628	615	134	61*	12**	178	306
Conservative	628 31%	35 20%	31 30%aE	562 32%A	12 14%	57 25%e	60 35%AEF	66 37%AEF	66 45%ABEFJK29%aE m	56 29%A	78 29%aE	106 38%AEFJK	62 34%AEI	628 100%OPQST	-	-	-	-	-	-
Labour	615 31%	31 18%	30 30%A	554 32%A	38 45%AbJKL M	91 39%AIJKL	62 37%Allm	69 38%AjjkLM	33 23%	56 29%A	80 30%A	76 27%a	47 26%	-	615 100%NPQST	-	-	-	-	-
Liberal Democrat	134 7%	15 8%bEGH	2 2%	117 7%	* *	14 6%eh	5 3%	3 2%	6 4%	12 6%eH	31 11%BEFGHIj	25 9%bEGH	21 12%BEFGHIj	-	-	134 100%NOQST	-	-	-	-
UKIP	90 4%	1 1%	2 2%	87 5%A	10 12%ABGHikI	13 6%A	6 4%	8 5%a	4 2%	14 7%Abik	9 3%	13 4%a	10 6%A	-	-	-	-	-	90 51%NOPQT	-
Green	64 3%	1 1%	1 1%	61 4%	4 5%a	6 3%	6 3%	5 3%	6 4%	4 2%	10 4%	7 2%	12 7%ABFJL	-	-	-	-	-	64 36%NOPQT	-
SNP	61 3%	61 35%DBEFGHI JKLM	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	61 100%NOPST	-	-	-
Plaid Cymru	12 1%	-	12 12%DAEFGHI JKLM	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12 100%	-	-
Some other party	24 1%	2 1%	1 1%	21 1%	4 5%fGHik	2 1%	-	-	1 1%	3 1%	3 1%	6 2%	3 2%	-	-	-	-	-	24 13%NOPQT	-
Did not vote	306 15%	21 12%	20 20%M	265 15%	13 16%	43 19%M	24 14%	22 12%	25 17%M	39 20%ahIM	44 16%M	38 14%	16 9%	-	-	-	-	-	-	306 100%NOPQS
Don't remember	44 2%	5 3%	1 1%	39 2%	1 1%	2 1%	1 1%	4 2%	6 4%Fg	6 3%f	8 3%f	7 2%	5 3%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Prefer not to say	38 2%	3 2%	1 1%	34 2%	2 3%	4 2%	6 3%	2 1%	1 1%	3 2%	8 3%	5 2%	3 2%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Proportions/Mean: Columns Tested (5%, 10% risk level) - a/d - b/d - c/d - a/b/c/e/f/g/h/i/j/k/l/m - n/o/p/q/r/s/t  
\* small base; \*\* very small base (under 30) ineligible for sig testing

**Independent Schools Survey**  
**ONLINE Fieldwork: 6th to 8th September 2019**

Absolutes/col percents

Of the following, which education policy should be the Government's priority to improve social mobility?

Base: All respondents

	Total	Gender		Age									Social Grade				Employment Sector	
		Male (a)	Female (b)	18-24 (c)	25-34 (d)	35-44 (e)	45-54 (f)	55-64 (g)	65+ (h)	18-34 (i)	35-54 (j)	55+ (k)	AB (l)	C1 (m)	C2 (n)	DE (o)	Public (p)	Private (q)
Unweighted base	2016	1044	972	230	313	328	352	318	475	543	680	793	575	598	312	531	309	749
Weighted base	2016	984	1032	224	349	323	357	298	466	573	679	764	550	567	409	490	352	811
Increased funding for state schools	742 37%	346 35%	396 38%	87 39%	119 34%	129 40%	137 38%	110 37%	161 35%	206 36%	266 39%	271 35%	223 41% nO	217 38%	139 34%	162 33%	133 38%	286 35%
Expansion of grammar schools	223 11%	131 13% B	92 9%	21 10%	25 7%	22 7%	31 9%	32 11%	92 20% CDEFG	47 8%	53 8%	123 16% IJ	75 14% nO	74 13% nO	35 9%	40 8%	30 9%	75 9%
Increased pupil premium funding for disadvantaged pupils	160 8%	74 7%	86 8%	20 9%	38 11% gH	29 9%	25 7%	18 6%	29 6%	58 10% K	54 8%	47 6%	42 8%	37 6%	41 10% m	39 8%	34 10%	66 8%
Turning more schools into academies (funded by central Government and individual schools are given more control over how the school is run)	159 8%	78 8%	81 8%	18 8%	24 7%	22 7%	34 10%	21 7%	39 8%	43 7%	56 8%	61 8%	43 8%	31 5%	30 7%	54 11% M	27 8%	66 8%
More partnerships between independent schools and state schools	156 8%	73 7%	83 8%	12 5%	25 7%	28 9%	31 9%	18 6%	42 9%	37 6%	58 9%	61 8%	52 9% m	36 6%	33 8%	35 7%	31 9%	63 8%
Abolition of independent schools	119 6%	72 7% B	47 5%	11 5%	22 6%	18 6%	25 7%	13 5%	30 6%	32 6%	44 6%	43 6%	32 6%	39 7%	17 4%	32 6%	18 5%	50 6%
Don't know	457 23%	210 21%	248 24%	54 24% H	96 28% fH	74 23% H	74 21% h	87 29% FH	72 15%	150 26% K	149 22%	159 21%	83 15%	133 23% L	113 28% L	128 26% L	79 22%	205 25%

Proportions/Mean: Columns Tested (5%, 10% risk level) - a/b - c/d/e/f/g/h - i/j/k - l/m/n/o - p/q

## Independent Schools Survey

### ONLINE Fieldwork: 6th to 8th September 2019

Absolutes/col percents

Of the following, which education policy should be the Government's priority to improve social mobility?

Base: All respondents

	Region													Past Vote						
	Total	Scotland (a)	Wales (b)	NET: England (d)	North East (e)	North West (f)	Yorkshire & Humberside (g)	West Midlands (h)	East Midlands (i)	Eastern (j)	London (k)	South East (l)	South West (m)	Cons (n)	Lab (o)	Lib Dems (p)	SNP (q)	Plaid Cymru (r)	Some other party (s)	Did not vote (t)
Unweighted base	2016	135	112	1769	71	254	153	181	147	209	281	286	187	612	644	137	48	11	170	309
Weighted base	2016	175	101*	1740	85*	232	169	179	147	194	272	282	179	628	615	134	61*	12**	178	306
Increased funding for state schools	742	77	37	628	33	90	64	71	49	69	81	104	67	181	280	53	28	7	80	85
	37%	44%K	37%	36%	39%	39%k	38%	40%k	33%	36%	30%	37%	37%	29%	46%NT	39%NT	45%NT	61%	45%NT	28%
Expansion of grammar schools	223	11	11	201	4	24	24	16	21	20	38	37	19	154	28	8	1	1	15	10
	11%	6%	11%	12%a	5%	10%	14%ae	9%	14%ae	10%	14%Ae	13%ae	11%	25%OPQST	5%	6%	2%	5%	9%oT	3%
Increased pupil premium funding for disadvantaged pupils	160	20	8	132	3	24	16	11	8	19	16	22	14	38	50	17	12	-	8	28
	8%	12%eik	8%	8%	3%	10%ek	10%	6%	5%	10%	6%	8%	8%	6%	8%	12%NS	20%NOST	-	5%	9%
Turning more schools into academies (funded by central Government and individual schools are given more control over how the school is run)	159	14	5	141	9	7	15	18	15	13	29	20	16	60	40	10	4	-	16	23
	8%	8%f	5%	8%	11%F	3%	9%F	10%F	10%F	7%f	11%F	7%f	9%F	10%o	6%	7%	6%	-	9%	8%
More partnerships between independent schools and state schools	156	6	4	146	5	21	12	10	17	25	23	18	14	58	32	18	2	-	12	30
	8%	4%	4%	8%a	6%	9%ab	7%	6%	11%AB	13%ABHL	8%a	7%	8%	9%O	5%	13%Oq	3%	-	7%	10%O
Abolition of independent schools	119	15	9	95	5	18	7	12	10	7	14	16	5	11	63	11	5	2	15	12
	6%	8%m	9%IM	5%	6%	8%m	4%	7%	7%	4%	5%	6%	3%	2%	10%NT	8%N	8%N	17%	9%NT	4%n
Don't know	457	33	27	397	26	49	32	42	29	41	71	65	43	125	123	18	9	2	32	117
	23%	19%	27%	23%	30%g	21%	19%	23%	20%	21%	26%	23%	24%	20%	20%	14%	15%	17%	18%	38%NOPQS

Proportions/Means: Columns Tested (5%, 10% risk level) - a/d - b/d - c/d - a/b/c/e/f/g/h/i/j/k/l/m - n/o/p/q/r/s/t  
 \* small base; \*\* very small base (under 30) ineligible for sig testing

**Independent Schools Survey**  
**ONLINE Fieldwork: 6th to 8th September 2019**

Absolutes/col percents

To what extent would you be more or less likely to vote for a political party that pledged to abolish independent schools?

Base: All respondents

	Total	Gender		Age									Social Grade				Employment Sector	
		Male (a)	Female (b)	18-24 (c)	25-34 (d)	35-44 (e)	45-54 (f)	55-64 (g)	65+ (h)	18-34 (i)	35-54 (j)	55+ (k)	AB (l)	C1 (m)	C2 (n)	DE (o)	Public (p)	Private (q)
Unweighted base	2016	1044	972	230	313	328	352	318	475	543	680	793	575	598	312	531	309	749
Weighted base	2016	984	1032	224	349	323	357	298	466	573	679	764	550	567	409	490	352	811
NET: More likely	232 12%	137 14%B	95 9%	23 10%	48 14%	50 16%fgH	38 11%	29 10%	44 10%	71 12%	88 13%k	73 10%	81 15%mmo	61 11%	39 10%	50 10%	51 14%	91 11%
Much more likely (+2)	78 4%	46 5%	32 3%	5 2%	16 5%	23 7%CFgH	10 3%	10 3%	14 3%	21 4%	33 5%	24 3%	29 5%	18 3%	15 4%	17 3%	20 6%	28 3%
Slightly more likely (+1)	154 8%	91 9%B	63 6%	18 8%	32 9%	27 8%	27 8%	19 6%	30 6%	50 9%	55 8%	49 6%	52 10%n	44 8%	24 6%	34 7%	31 9%	62 8%
No more or less likely (0)	954 47%	491 50%B	463 45%	96 43%	142 41%	144 45%	162 45%	168 56%CDEF	241 52%cDe	238 42%	306 45%	410 54%IJ	233 42%	264 47%	210 51%L	247 50%L	137 39%	371 46%p
Slightly less likely (-1)	212 11%	103 11%	109 11%	38 17%DEGH	32 9%	31 10%	43 12%	25 8%	44 9%	70 12%	74 11%	69 9%	73 13%O	58 10%	39 9%	43 9%	43 12%	93 11%
Much less likely (-2)	221 11%	104 11%	118 11%	17 8%	32 9%	31 10%	32 9%	31 11%	79 17%CDEFG	48 8%	63 9%	110 14%IJ	91 17%mNO	70 12%NO	30 7%	30 6%	35 10%	85 10%
NET: Less likely	433 21%	207 21%	226 22%	55 25%	63 18%	62 19%	75 21%	56 19%	122 26%DEG	118 21%	137 20%	179 23%	164 30%MNO	128 23%nO	69 17%	73 15%	78 22%	177 22%
Don't know	396 20%	149 15%	248 24%A	49 22%gH	96 28%eGH	66 20%H	83 23%GH	45 15%	58 12%	145 25%K	149 22%K	102 13%	72 13%	113 20%L	92 22%L	120 25%Lm	86 25%	173 21%
Mean	-0.21	-0.15B	-0.28	-0.25	-0.12H	-0.08H	-0.21	-0.19h	-0.35	-0.17k	-0.15K	-0.29	-0.30	-0.26	-0.14l	-0.10LM	-0.16	-0.22
Standard deviation	0.96	0.96	0.95	0.87	1.00	1.03	0.91	0.89	0.99	0.95	0.97	0.95	1.08	0.96	0.86	0.84	1.04	0.95
Standard error	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.07	0.07	0.06	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.04	0.04	0.05	0.04	0.06	0.04	0.07	0.04

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## Independent Schools Survey

### ONLINE Fieldwork: 6th to 8th September 2019

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Base: All respondents

	Region													Past Vote						
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NET: More likely	232 12%	20 12%	15 15%ik	197 11%	9 11%	33 14%ik	24 14%k	34 19%JKLM	11 7%	19 10%	22 8%	30 11%	15 8%	36 6%	115 19%NsT	18 14%N	11 19%Nt	2 17%	21 12%N	27 9%
Much more likely (+2)	78 4%	4 2%	4 4%	70 4%	5 5%	8 4%	10 6%	13 7%ail	3 2%	6 3%	11 4%	8 3%	6 3%	11 2%	44 7%NT	6 4%	2 4%	-	8 5%n	7 2%
Slightly more likely (+1)	154 8%	16 9%k	10 10%K	127 7%	5 6%	25 11%Km	14 8%	21 12%iKM	8 5%	13 6%	11 4%	23 8%k	9 5%	25 4%	71 12%NT	13 9%N	9 15%Nt	2 17%	12 7%	20 7%
No more or less likely (0)	954 47%	105 60%DBFgHK10%LM	40 40%	809 46%	41 49%	110 47%	81 48%	76 43%	74 51%	108 56%BHKLM	117 43%	127 45%	75 42%	287 46%	309 50%T	65 48%	42 70%NOPsT	3 27%	94 53%T	127 41%
Slightly less likely (-1)	212 11%	16 9%	13 13%j	183 11%	6 7%	19 8%	11 7%	24 13%gj	18 12%	13 6%	35 13%gJ	30 11%	27 15%fGJ	84 13%OQ	54 9%q	16 12%Q	*	3 26%	24 13%Q	28 9%q
Much less likely (-2)	221 11%	13 8%	9 9%E	198 11%	1 1%	23 10%E	18 11%E	15 9%e	17 12%E	22 11%E	37 13%E	38 14%E	26 15%aE	133 21%OpQST	29 5%	18 14%OQT	-	1 5%	14 8%q	20 7%
NET: Less likely	433 21%	30 17%	22 22%E	381 22%	7 9%	43 18%e	30 17%	39 22%E	35 24%E	34 18%	71 26%aEfgj	68 24%E	53 30%AEFGJ	217 35%OpQST	83 13%Q	34 25%OQT	1 1%	4 31%	38 21%OQ	48 16%Q
Don't know	396 20%	20 12%	23 23%A	353 20%A	27 31%AfHjI	46 20%a	36 21%a	30 17%	27 18%	33 17%	62 23%A	57 20%a	37 20%a	88 14%	109 18%	17 13%	7 11%	3 25%	25 14%	104 34%NOPQS
Mean	-0.21	-0.12kM	-0.16	-0.23	0.09ijKL M	-0.13KIM	-0.11kM	-0.05IKLM	-0.32	-0.20m	-0.35	-0.31	-0.41	-0.56	0.09NPST	-0.24N	0.24NPST	-0.25	-0.15N	-0.17N
Standard deviation	0.96	0.81	1.00	0.97	0.76	0.95	1.01	1.03	0.89	0.90	1.01	0.98	0.99	0.98	0.90	1.00	0.54	0.94	0.90	0.87
Standard error	0.02	0.07	0.10	0.03	0.11	0.07	0.09	0.08	0.08	0.07	0.07	0.06	0.08	0.04	0.04	0.09	0.08	0.31	0.07	0.06

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