

South Gloucestershire Council

2023 Health and Wellbeing Online Pupil Survey (OPS) Summary Report

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Contents

.....	0
About the OPS	3
Introduction:	3
Purpose:	3
Design and delivery:	3
Question domains:.....	4
Participation.....	4
Participation by educational stage:	4
Participation by setting:	5
Presentation of data	5
Context:	5
Data selection rationale:.....	6
Data Dashboards:	6
The representation of N and n numbers in this report:.....	6
Spotlight answers:	6
Data analysis narrative:.....	7
Dashboard 1: Physical health	8
Data analysis narrative for Dashboard 1: Physical Health	9
Physical activity:	9
Active travel:.....	10
Oral health:	11
Eating breakfast:.....	12
Food insecurity:.....	13
Dashboard 2: Mental health.....	15
Data analysis narrative for Dashboard 2: Mental Health	16
Happiness:.....	16
Worries impacting sleep:	16
Mental health support at school:	17
Life satisfaction:.....	19
Dashboard 3: Safety	21
Data analysis narrative for Dashboard 3: Safety	22
Bullying:	22
Feelings of safety at school:.....	23
Feelings of safety travelling to and from school:	24
Feelings of safety in the place where you live:.....	25

Feelings of safety when out in the local area:	26
Dashboard 4: Educational experience	27
Data analysis narrative for Dashboard 4: Educational experience	28
Help and support:	28
Belonging:	29
Extra curricula activities:.....	31
Using summary report data.....	33
Acknowledgements.....	33

About the OPS

Introduction:

South Gloucestershire Council's Public Health and Wellbeing Division commissioned Foster and Brown Research Limited to deliver the Health and Wellbeing Online Pupil Survey (OPS) biennially since 2015. The latest survey took place between 1st February and 31st March 2023. Summary reports for previous years can be found here: [Health promotion in education settings | BETA - South Gloucestershire Council](#)

Purpose:

The OPS is a snapshot in time of children and young people's health and wellbeing needs. It ensures 'pupil voice' influences how education settings: construct their development plans; update their policies, procedures, and practices; and plan, deliver, and evaluate targeted interventions and support.

For the Council and its stakeholders, OPS data, as the voice of South Gloucestershire's children and young people, helps shape the actions required to meet the overarching Council Plan priorities of:

- **Reducing health inequalities; and**
- **Supporting children and young people to thrive**

Design and delivery:

The 2023 Foster and Brown Research Limited survey was made available without charge to any education setting* in South Gloucestershire. Pupils in year groups 4 to 13 were offered the opportunity to participate. There are stage / age-appropriate versions of the survey for Primary (years 4 to 6), year 7, years 8 to 11, and Post 16 (years 12 and 13).

*The term education setting is used throughout this report to refer to South Gloucestershire's mix of Local Authority mainstream maintained primary and secondary schools, mainstream primary, secondary, post 16 and all-through academies, academy post 16 centres, special (SEND) schools, primary and secondary home educated, and the Local Authority Pupil Referral Unit.

The OPS is General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) compliant, anonymous, and confidential. Pupils are not required or compelled to answer any question/s they don't want to, with each survey page containing a reminder of their right to skip questions.

Participating schools have access to their own aggregated pupil data, as well as the aggregated 'all South Glos' data. Schools that chose not to participate have access to the 'all South Glos' data only.

To protect children's anonymity and confidentiality, data suppression protocols are followed for small numbers. For further information about the measures in place to protect children's data, contact: healthpromotionineducation@southglos.gov.uk

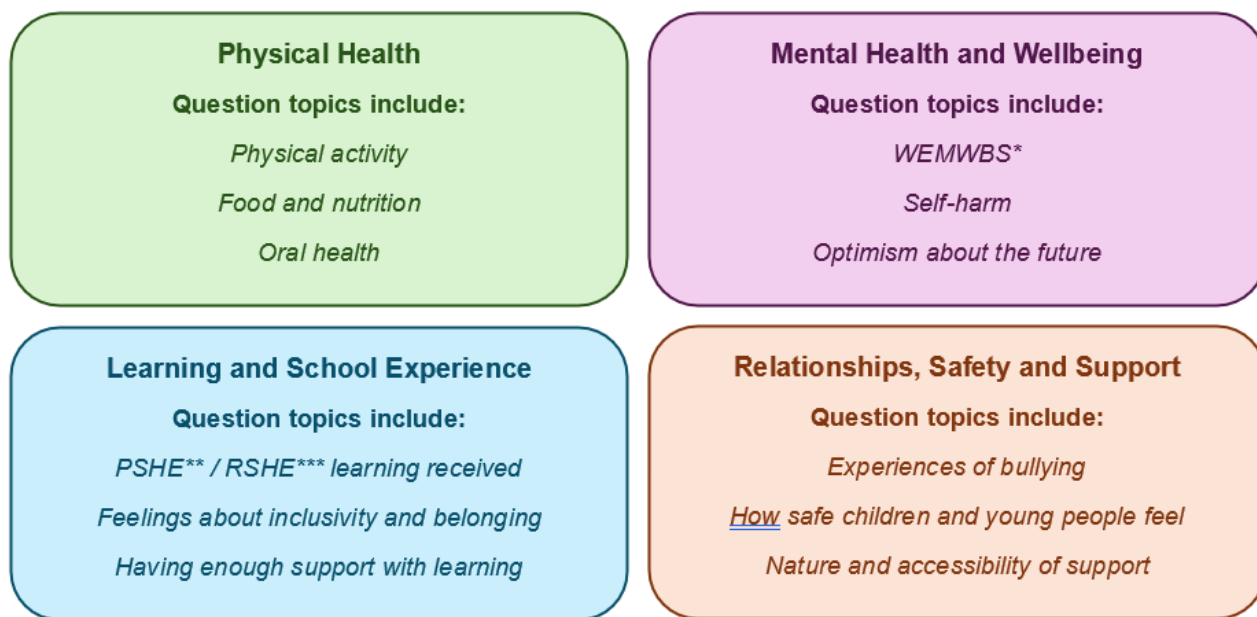
Prior to commencement, the survey commissioner offered all schools an information webinar and slide deck explaining: the survey aim, the nature and purpose of the data collected, and information about how the data of participating pupils would be used.

Each school was provided with an information slide deck for pupils and a letter template for parents / carers to explain the school's decision to participate, the nature of the data collected, and how participating children's data would be stored and used.

Most pupils are supported by teaching and / or pastoral support staff to complete the survey at school. Some secondary and / or post 16 settings chose to also make the survey available to pupils via a link posted on their online homework platforms.

Question domains:

Questions are grouped around the following four domains:



*Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing Scale

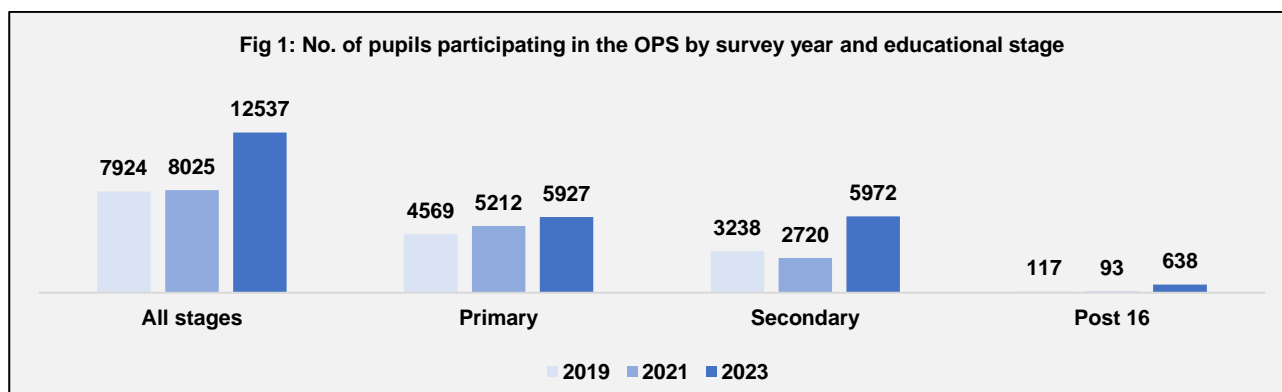
**Personal, Social, Health, and Economic education (non-statutory subject)

***Relationships, Sex, and Health Education (statutory curriculum)

Participation

Participation by educational stage:

Figure 1 below shows pupil participation by survey year and educational stage.



The 12,537 pupils participating in 2023 represents a 56% increase compared to 2021. At the primary stage, participation increased by 14%, at the secondary stage the increase was 120%, and at Post 16 the increase was 586%.

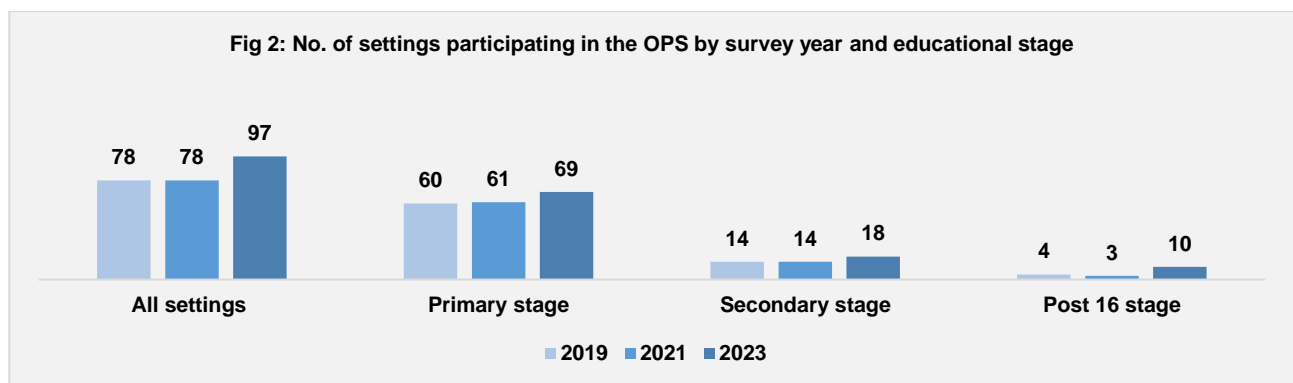
According to South Gloucestershire's School Census data (Spring 2023) 27,244 year 4 to 13 pupils were on roll at the time of the OPS 2023. The 12,537 pupils who participated in the 2023 OPS thus equate to 46% of the total number of pupils on roll in years 4 to 13.

These uptake successes for the 2023 survey may partially be attributable to the following:

1. Focus-group consultation with schools to better understand question priorities, barriers to participation, and how survey design could boost accessibility.
2. Providing comprehensive 'you said, we've changed' communications to education settings prior to the 'go-live' period.
3. Promoting survey participation to all year groups from year 4 to year 13.
4. Improving communications processes and scope before, during, and after the survey.

Participation by setting:

Figure 2 below shows the number of settings participating by survey year and stage



The figure of 97 settings participating in 2023 represents a 24% increase from the 78 that participated in 2021.

At the primary stage, 13% more settings participated in 2023 compared to 2021. For the secondary stage this figure was 29%, with 233% more settings at the Post 16 stage opting to participate in 2023 when compared to 2021.

Presentation of data

Context:

The OPS is delivered by the South Gloucestershire Council's Public Health and Wellbeing Division. The Public Health and Wellbeing Division sits within the Council's Department for People. The Department for People has an Outcomes Framework. The Outcomes Framework directs the activity needed to evidence the impact the Department has in relation to achieving its vision of ensuring:

“Everyone in South Gloucestershire has the opportunity for the best start in life, living a healthy, fulfilling and happy life and aging well in a supportive, inclusive and sustainable community.”

Data selection rationale:

The data presented has been selected because of the extent to which it provides a snapshot of evidence in relation to these, most relevant areas of the Department for People Outcomes Framework:

- 1. Children and young people have good physical and mental health and wellbeing**
- 2. Children are protected from harm**
- 3. All children achieve good educational outcomes**

Data Dashboards:

For each outcome area above, a summary 'Data Dashboard' will be presented – followed by a short narrative analysis. In total, there are four dashboards because we split Outcome Framework area one into separate dashboards for physical and mental health. The four dashboards are as follows:

- **Dashboard 1: Physical Health**
- **Dashboard 2: Mental Health**
- **Dashboard 3: Safety**
- **Dashboard 4: Educational Experience**

Each dashboard is a snapshot that presents a small selection of questions from the relevant survey domain (see page 4 for reference), selected because they meet one or more of these criteria:

- a) Questions asked to pupils in all year groups (year 4 to year 13 inclusive).
- b) Questions also asked in the 2021 survey allowing for 'trend over time' to be shown.
- c) Questions deemed to have the closest relevance to the Department for People Outcomes Framework.

For each question, the report shows: which year groups the question was asked of; how many pupils answered the question in total; and how many chose the answer option the dashboard spotlights on.

The representation of N and n numbers in this report:

Throughout the report, numerical data is included with the prefixes 'N=' and 'n='.

Where prefixed with 'N=', the number represents the total number of pupils in that category who answered the question.

Where prefixed with 'n=' the number represents the total number of pupils who chose the specific answer option selected for the spotlight.

Spotlight answers:

The 'spotlight on' answer option has been selected because it represents either:

- a) the 'social norm' (i.e. what most pupils think, feel, or have experienced), or;

- b) the target ideal (i.e. the Chief Medical Officer recommends children are active for 60mins per day, therefore, we are interested in the number of children who are physically active for 6+ hrs per week).

Where possible, statistical change is highlighted, comparing 2023 data with that from the 2021 OPS. This was done using 95% confidence intervals.

A **green arrow** indicates strong evidence of improvement in the data picture.

An **orange side arrow** indicates no obvious change between the 2021 and 2023 survey editions based on the 95% confidence intervals. Further statistical testing would be needed to confirm that there is no statistical difference.

A **red arrow** indicates strong evidence of a worsening in the data picture.

N/A indicates that the question was not asked in the 2021 survey and as such a comparison is not possible.

Data analysis narrative:

For each data dashboard there is an accompanying analysis narrative.

In each narrative the report compares results by two demographic breakdowns - educational stage and biological sex.

All charts feature error bars calculated using 95% confidence intervals.

All OPS data can be broken down to compare multiple demographic groups. However, it is beyond the scope of this report to include further analysis beyond the two breakdowns indicated above.

Should you wish to understand what the data picture looks like for specific pupil demographics that are beyond the scope of this report, additional requests for data analysis should be made to the OPS Leadership Group via the following email address: healthpromotionineducation@southglos.gov.uk

Please note: the Council's Public Health and Wellbeing Division has limited analytical capacity. As such, not all requests for additional analysis will be undertaken. When contacting us, please indicate if you have your own analytical resource. It may be appropriate for us to supply the raw data needed for your analysis work.

Dashboard 1: Physical health

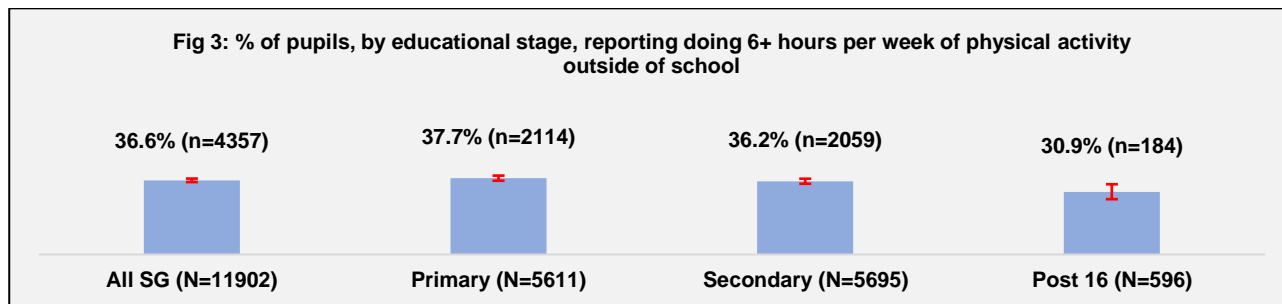
Questions and answer option (All questions asked to pupils in years 4 to 13)	2023 result % (count)	Statistical change between 2021 and 2023 (95% confidence intervals)
How much physical activity do you do over a week outside of school? Spotlight on: % of pupils reporting doing 6 or more hours per week No. of pupils answering in 2023: N=11,902	36.6% (n=4357)	N/A.
Would you like to do more physical activity? Spotlight on: % of pupils answering "Yes" No. of pupils answering in 2023: N=12,125	75.9% (n=9208)	→
How do you normally (i.e. for most of the journey) travel to your school? Spotlight on: % of pupils reporting that they normally travel actively to school (i.e. walk, cycle, scoot etc) No. of pupils answering in 2023: N=10,895	60.3% (n=6575)	→
How often do you brush your teeth? Spotlight on: % of pupils reporting brushing their teeth twice or more per day No. of pupils answering in 2023: N=11,946	83.3% (n=9954)	N/A.
When did you last go to the dentist? Spotlight on: % of pupils reporting going to the dentist within the last year No. of pupils answering in 2023: N=11,463	84.2% (n=9650)	N/A.
Do you usually eat breakfast? Spotlight on: % of pupils reporting that they eat breakfast "Usually" or "Every morning" No. of pupils answering in 2023: N=11,632	69.7% (n=8108)	↓
In the past year, how often have you gone to school or gone to bed hungry because there was not enough food at home? Spotlight on: % of pupils answering "Quite often (e.g. weekly)" or "Most days" when asked; in the last year, how often have you gone to school or bed hungry because there was not enough food at home No. of pupils answering in 2023: N=12,171	8.3% (n=1006)	↑

Data analysis narrative for Dashboard 1: Physical Health

Physical activity:

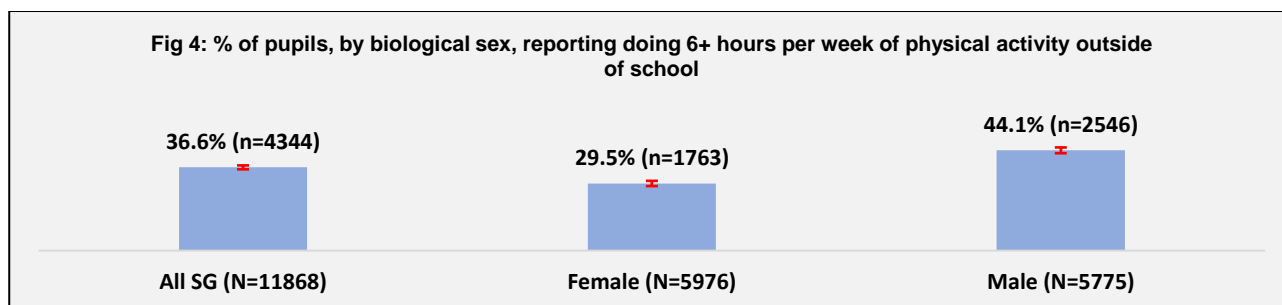
11,902 pupils in years 4 to 13 provided a response to the question: [How much physical activity do you do over a week outside of school?](#)

36.6% (n=4357) of all South Glos pupils in years 4 to 13 reported doing 6+ hours of physical activity per week outside of school. **Figure 3** below compares responses by educational stage.



There is strong evidence that post 16 pupils (30.9%, n=184) were less likely to report being physically active for 6+ hours per week outside of school than primary (37.7%, n=2114) and secondary (36.2%, n=2059) pupils. There is no apparent difference between primary and secondary pupil responses when compared to all South Glos pupils.

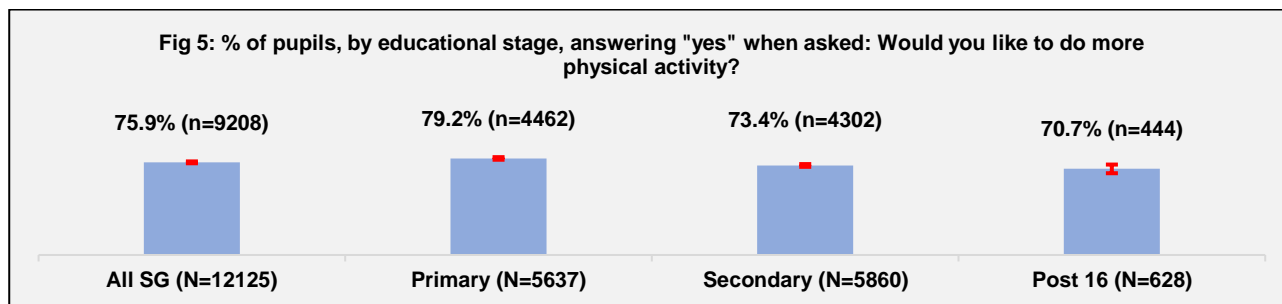
Figure 4 below compares biological sex responses.



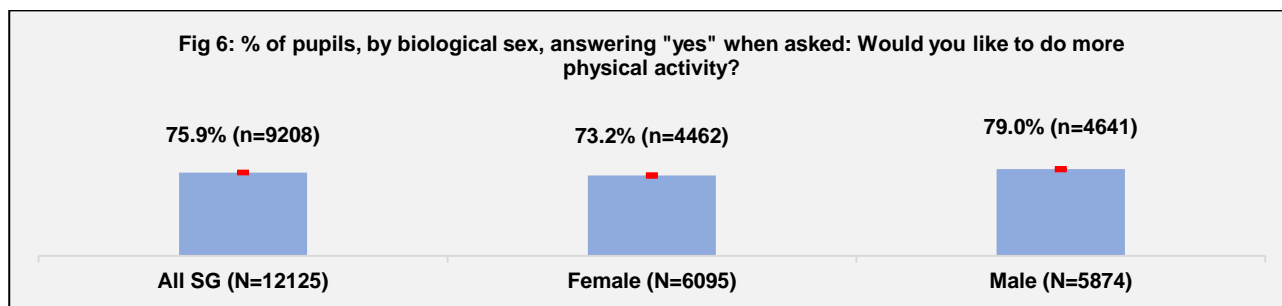
There is strong evidence that biologically male pupils (44.1%, n=2546) were more likely than biologically female pupils (29.5%, n=1763) to report being physically active for 6+ hours per week outside of school.

Continuing the physical activity focus, 12,125 pupils in years 4 to 13 answered the question: [Would you like to do more physical activity?](#) 75.9% (n=9208) of all South Glos pupils answered “yes”. This figure is like the 74.4% (n=4855) figure recorded in the 2021 survey.

Figure 5 below shows strong evidence that primary pupils (79.2%, n=4462) were most likely to report wanting to do more physical activity – with secondary (73.4%, n=4302) and post 16 pupils (70.7%, n=444) being less likely than all South Glos pupils (75.9%, n=9208) to answer in that way.



Following the previously outlined pattern, **Figure 6 below** shows strong evidence that biologically male pupils (79.0%, n=4641) were more likely than biologically female pupils (73.2%, n=4462) to report wanting to do more physical activity.



Active travel:

In 2023, 10,895 pupils in years 4 to 13 provided a response to the question: [How do you normally \(i.e. for most of the journey\) travel to your school?](#)

The percentage of pupils reporting normally (for most of the journey) travelling actively (i.e. walking, cycling, scooting, etc.) to school was 60.4% (n=6575). This is not obviously different from the 2021 figure of 62.3% (n=4861).

Figure 7 below compares responses by educational stage. There is strong evidence that primary pupils (53.8%, n=2513) were less likely than all South Glos pupils (60.3%, n=6575) to report travelling actively, with the opposite being true for secondary pupils (65.8%, n=3692). There was no obvious difference in the responses from post 16 pupils (60.6%, n=370) compared with all South Glos pupils.

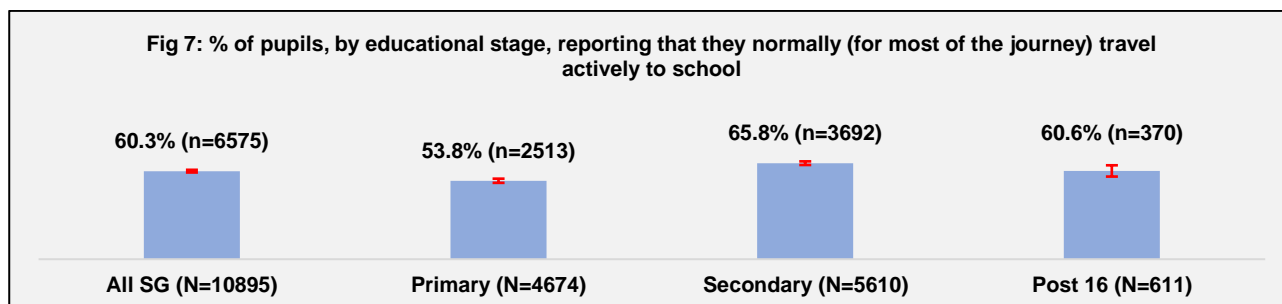
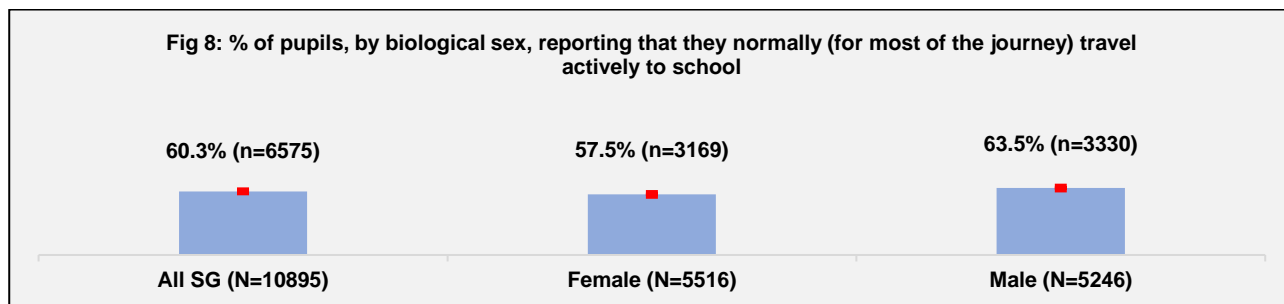


Figure 8 below compares biological sex responses. There is strong evidence that male pupils (63.5%, n=3330) were statistically more likely than their female counterparts (57.5%, n=3169) and all South Glos pupils (60.3%, n=6575) combined to travel actively to school.



Oral health:

11,946 pupils in years 4 to 13 provided an answer to the question: [How often do you brush your teeth?](#) 83.3% of pupils in years 4 to 13 (n=9954) reported cleaning their teeth twice or more a day.

Figure 9 below shows strong evidence that primary pupils (81.0%, n=4578) were least likely to report brushing twice or more per day. Secondary pupils (85.0%, n=4847) and Post 16 pupils (90.0%, n=529) were statistically more likely to brush twice or more per day compared with both primary (81.0%, n=4578) and all South Glos pupils (83.3%, n=9954).

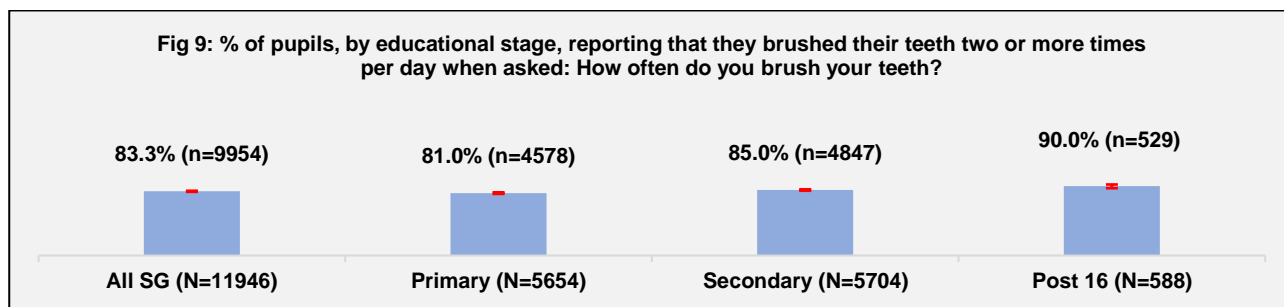
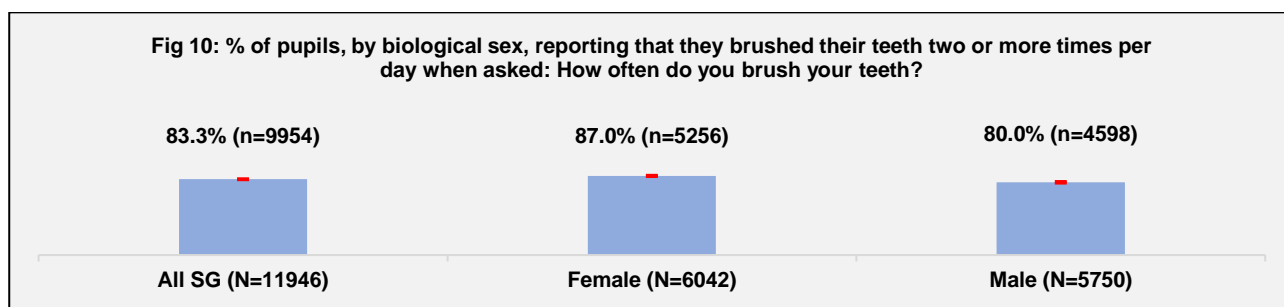
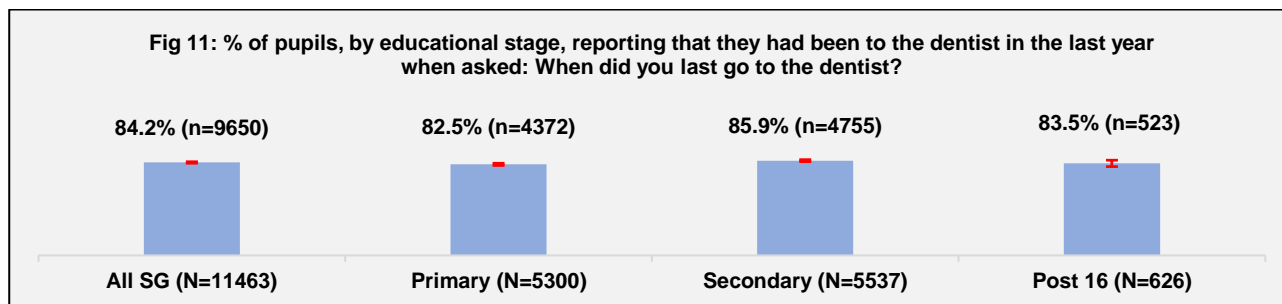


Figure 10 below indicates strong evidence that biologically female pupils (87.0%, n=5256) were more likely to brush their teeth twice or more per day than biologically male pupils (80.0%, n=4598).

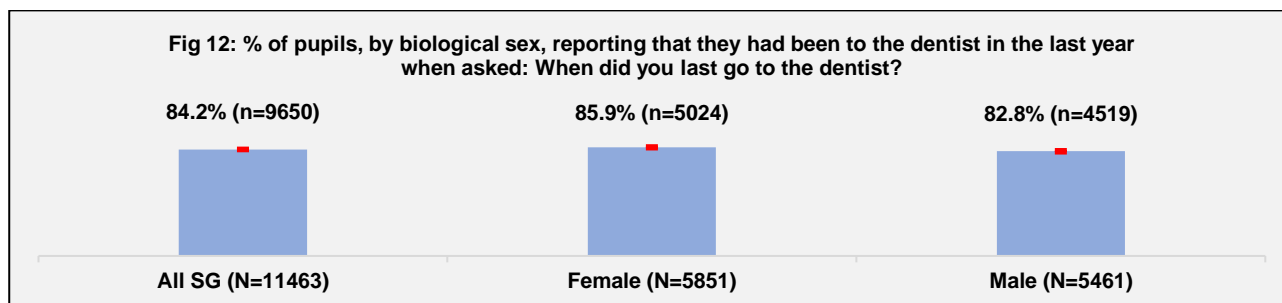


11,463 pupils in years 4 to 13 answered the question: [When did you last go to the dentist?](#) 84.2% of all South Glos pupils (n=9650) reported having been to the dentist in the last year.

Figure 11 below shows strong evidence that primary pupils (82.5%, n=4372) are less likely to have visited a dentist in the last year when compared to all South Glos pupils (84.2%, n=9650), with secondary pupils (85.9%, n=4755) being more likely. There is no apparent difference for post 16 pupils (83.5%, n=523).



In relation to biological sex, **Figure 12** below shows strong evidence that female pupils (85.9%, n=5024) were more likely to have visited a dentist in the last 12 months when compared to male pupils (82.8%, n=4519).



Eating breakfast:

11,632 pupils provided an answer to the question: [Do you usually eat breakfast?](#)

The 69.7% of all South Glos pupils (n=8108) who reported that they eat breakfast “usually” or “every morning” is a reduction from the 75.8% of pupils (n=5905) who answered this way in 2021.

Figure 13 below compares responses by educational stage. Strong evidence exists that primary pupils (83.1%, n=4547) were the cohort most likely to report eating breakfast “usually” or “every morning”. There is also strong evidence that secondary (58.2%, n=3240) and post 16 pupils (54.1%, n=321) were less likely than all South Glos pupils (69.7%, n=8108) to report eating breakfast “usually” or “every morning”.

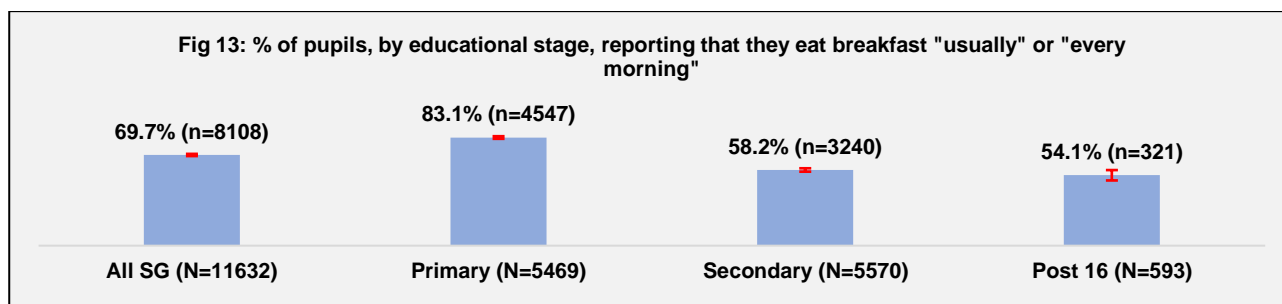
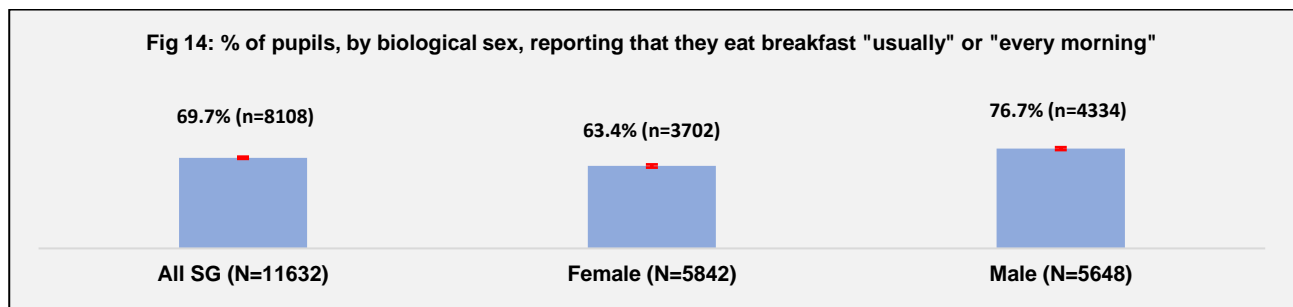


Figure 14 below compares biological sex responses. There is also strong evidence that biologically male pupils (76.7%, n=4334) were more likely than all South Glos pupils (69.7%, n=8108) to eat breakfast “usually” or “every morning”, whereas the opposite is true for biologically female pupils (63.4%, n=3702).



Food insecurity:

12,171 pupils in years 4 to 13 answered the question: *In the past year, how often have you gone to school or gone to bed hungry because there was not enough food at home?*

8.3% of all South Glos pupils (n=1006) answered “quite often (e.g. weekly)” or “most nights” when asked the above question about food insecurity. There is strong evidence that pupils were significantly less likely to have selected one of these two answer options when asked the same question in the 2021 survey edition. At this time 4.8% (n=380) of pupils in years 4 to 13 answered in this way.

Figure 15 below compares responses by educational stage.

There is strong evidence that these food insecurity experiences are most likely found amongst primary stage pupils. Amongst this cohort, 11.5% (n=655) selected the answer options “quite often (e.g. weekly)” or “most nights” when answering the question: *In the past year, how often have you gone to school or gone to bed hungry because there was not enough food at home?* This figure is significantly higher than the 5.5% (n=319) reported by secondary pupils, and the 5.2% (n=32) reported by post 16 pupils.

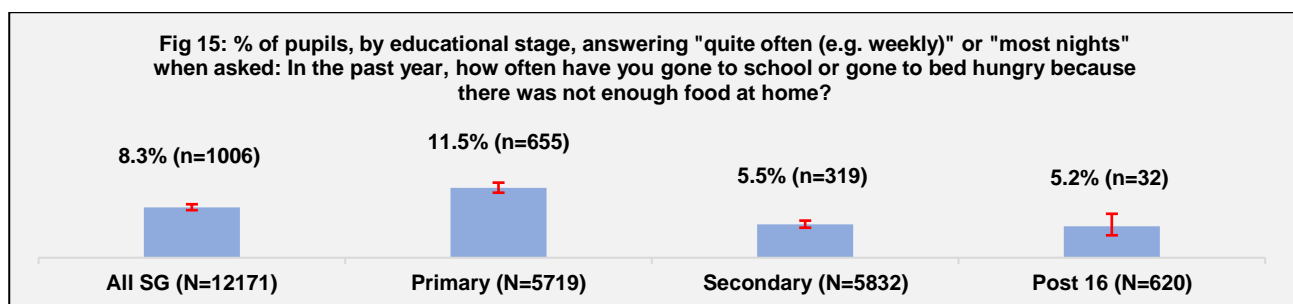
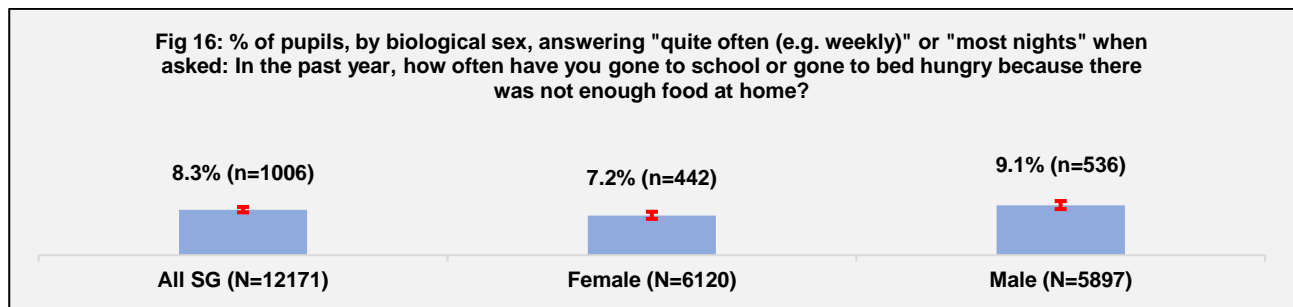


Figure 16 below compares responses by pupils by biological sex.

The overlapping error bars indicate that there are no apparent differences by biological sex in the likelihood of a child experiencing this aspect of food insecurity either “quite often (e.g. weekly)” or “most nights”.



Dashboard 2: Mental health

Questions and answer option (All questions asked to pupils in years 4 to 13)	2023 result % (count)	Statistical change between 2021 and 2023 (95% confidence intervals)
<p>How happy have you been feeling most of the time this week?</p> <p>Spotlight on: % of pupils answering either “Happy most of the time” or “Quite happy”</p> <p>No. of pupils answering in 2023: N=10,178</p>	<p>63.9% (n=6500)</p>	<p>→</p>
<p>In the past year, how often have you been so worried about something you could not sleep at night?</p> <p>Spotlight on: % of pupils answering either “Quite often (e.g. weekly)” or “Most nights”</p> <p>No. of pupils answering in 2023: N=10,360</p>	<p>29.0% (n=3004)</p>	<p>↑</p>
<p>If you needed mental health support at school... I would know where to go and who I could talk to</p> <p>Spotlight on: % of pupils answering either “Strongly agree” or “Agree”</p> <p>No. of pupils answering in 2023: N=10,427</p>	<p>56.9% (n=5934)</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>If you needed mental health support at school... I would feel okay about asking for help or support</p> <p>Spotlight on: % of pupils answering either “Strongly agree” or “Agree”</p> <p>No. of pupils answering in 2023: N=10,348</p>	<p>44.4% (n=4590)</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>If you needed mental health support at school... I would find it easy to get the support I need</p> <p>Spotlight on: % of pupils answering either “Strongly agree” or “Agree”</p> <p>No. of pupils answering in 2023: N=10,272</p>	<p>42.6% (n=4372)</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>How satisfied are you with your life?</p> <p>Spotlight on: % of pupils answering either “Satisfied” or “Quite satisfied”</p> <p>No. of pupils answering in 2023: N=10,115</p>	<p>65.2% (n=6597)</p>	<p>↓</p>

Data analysis narrative for Dashboard 2: Mental Health

Happiness:

10,178 pupils in years 4 to 13 answered the question “How happy have you been feeling most of the time this week?”.

63.9% (n=6500) answered either “happy most of the time” or “quite happy”. This figure is similar to the 2021 figure of 65.5% (n=4464).

Figure 17 below shows strong evidence that primary pupils (71.9%, n=3719) were more likely than all other groups to report being happy most of the time or quite happy. This contrasts markedly with secondary pupils (55.8%, n=2516) and post 16 pupils (53.1%, n=265) for whom there was strong evidence that they were considerably less likely to answer in this way compared with all South Glos pupils (63.9%, n=6500) and those in primary school (71.9%, n=3719).

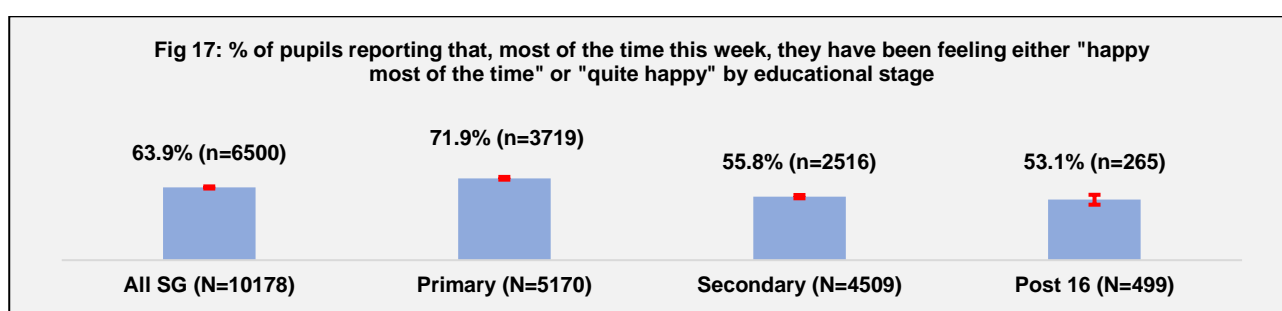
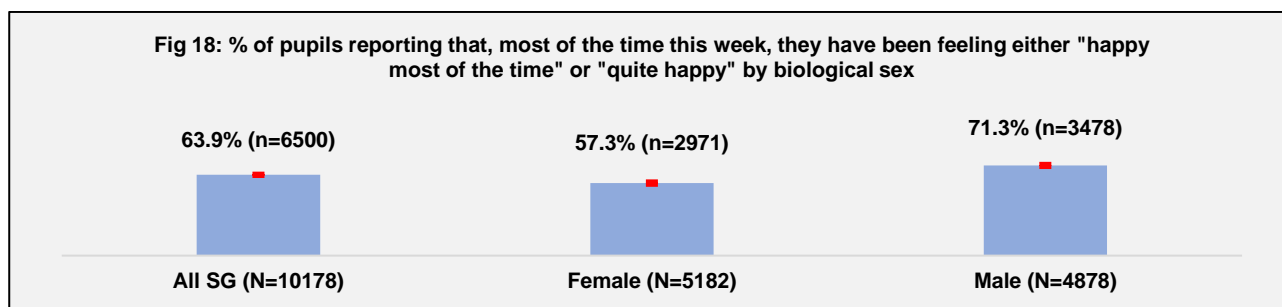


Figure 18 below shows strong evidence of a difference in responses by biological sex. Female pupils (57.3%, n=2971) were significantly less likely than all South Glos pupils (63.9%, n=6500) and male pupils (71.3%, n=3478) to have chosen the answer options “happy most of the time” or “quite happy”.



Worries impacting sleep:

The OPS asked pupils: In the past year, how often have you been so worried about something you could not sleep at night?

Of the 10,360 pupils in years 4 to 13 who answered the question, 29.0% (n=3004) selected either “quite often (e.g. weekly)” or “most nights” as their answer option.

There is strong evidence that this is an increase from the 2021 survey value of 21.8%% (n=1539).

The overlapping error bars evident in **Figure 19** below indicates no obvious differences exist when examining this data by educational stage.

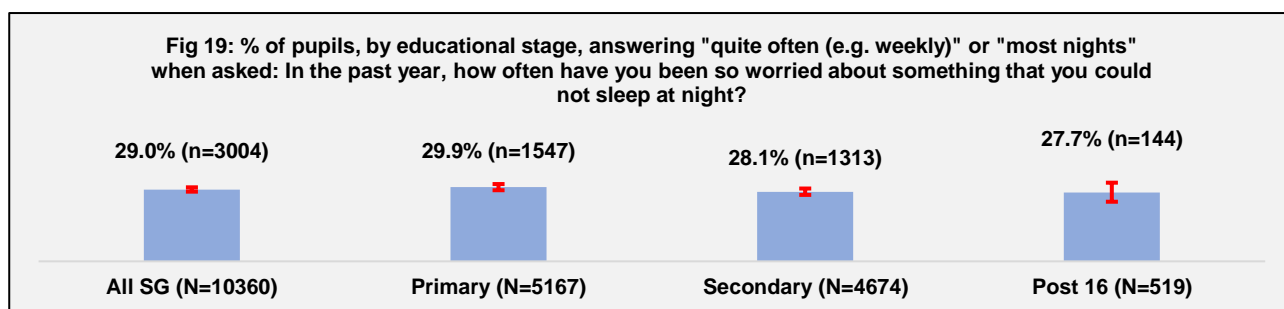
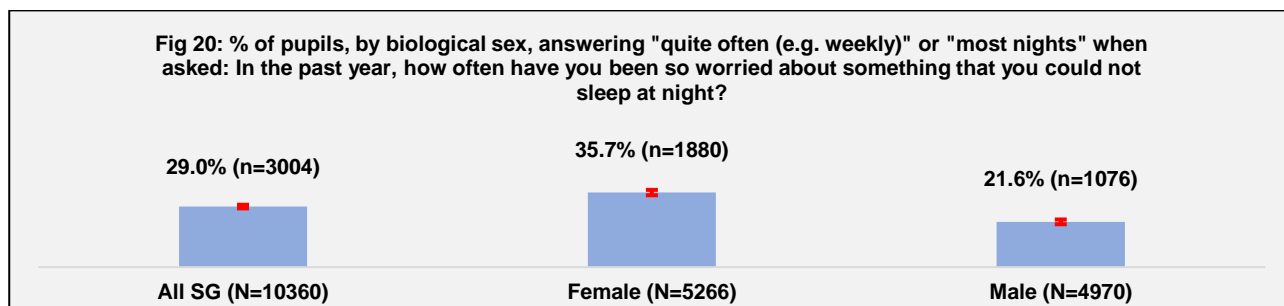


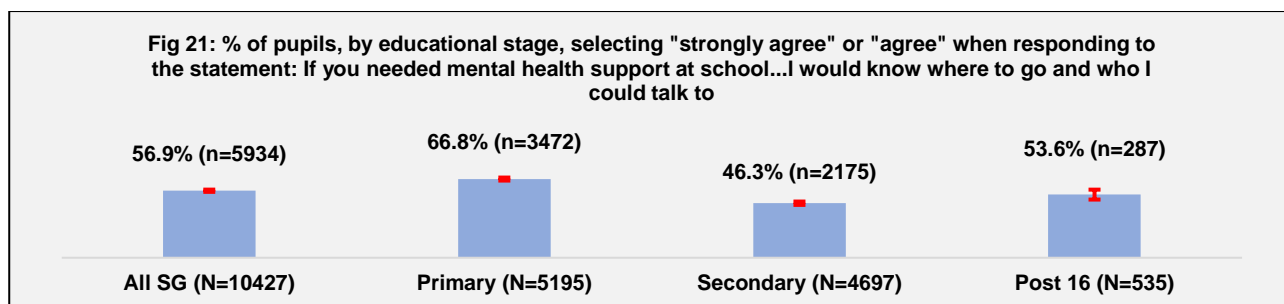
Figure 20 below shows strong evidence that biologically female pupils (37.5%, n=1880) were the group most likely to have answered “quite often (e.g. weekly)” or “most nights” when asked how frequently, in the past year, they had been so worried about something they couldn’t sleep at night. Male pupils (21.6%, n=1076) were the group least likely to have answered in this way.



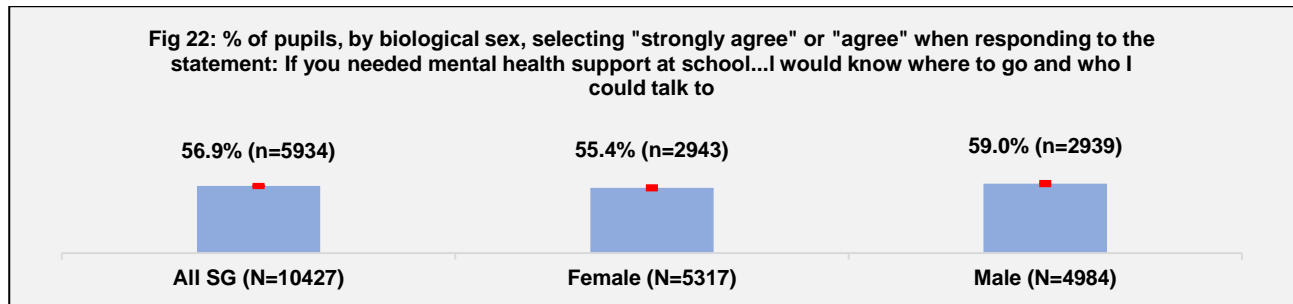
Mental health support at school:

10,427 pupils in years 4 to 13 responded to the statement: *If you needed mental health support at school...I would know where to go and who I could talk to.* Of these, 56.9% (n=5934) chose either “strongly agree” or “agree” as their response option.

Figure 21 below shows strong evidence that primary stage pupils (66.8%, n=3472) were most likely to choose “strongly agree” or “agree” as response options. Secondary pupils (46.3%, n=2175) were statistically the least likely to pick either of these answer options. There was no apparent difference when comparing post 16 pupil responses (53.6%, n=287) with the figure for all South Glos pupils combined (56.9%, 5934).



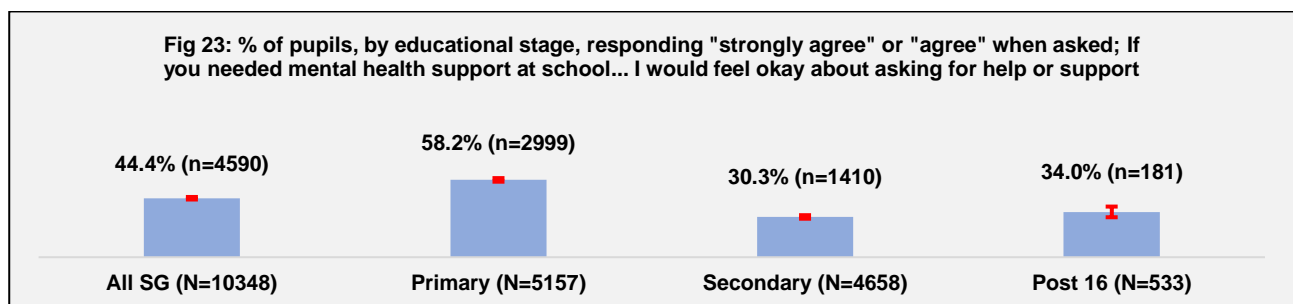
When examining responses by biological sex, **Figure 22** below shows strong evidence that biologically female pupils (55.4%, n=2943) were less likely than their biologically male counterparts (59.0%, n=2939) to have answered “strongly agree” or “agree” when responding to the statement: *If you needed mental health support at school...I would know where to go and who I could talk to.*



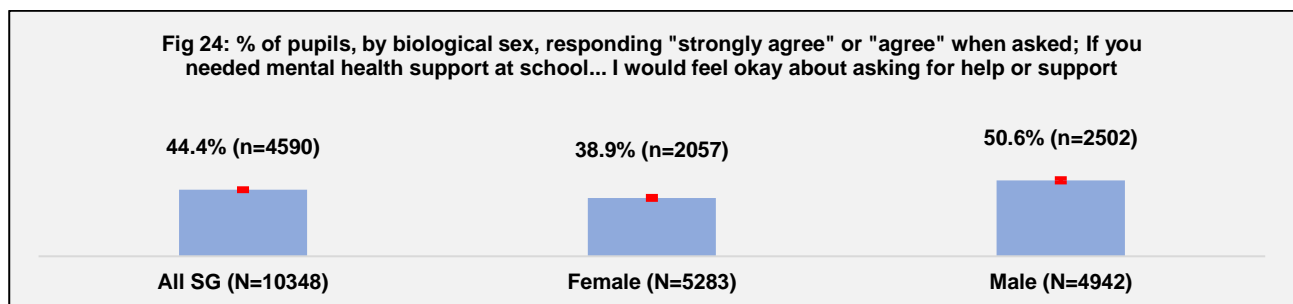
A similar picture arises when examining pupil responses to the statement: *If you needed mental health support at school...I would feel okay about asking for help or support.*

10,348 pupils in years 4 to 13 provided a response, with 44.4% (n=4590) selecting either “strongly agree” or “agree”.

Figure 23 below shows strong evidence that primary pupils (58.2%, n=2999) were most likely to select the response options “strongly agree” or “agree”. Conversely, there is strong evidence that secondary (30.3%, n=1410) and post 16 pupils (34.0%, n=181) were significantly less likely than all South Glos pupils to select the same response options.



When examining responses by biological sex (see **Figure 24** below), strong evidence emerges that female pupils (38.9%, n=2057) were less likely than male pupils (50.6%, n=2502) and all South Glos pupils (44.4%, n=4590) to have answered “strongly agree” or “agree” when responding to the statement: *If you needed mental health support at school...I would feel okay about asking for help or support.*



The consistency of this pattern is maintained by pupils' responses to the statement; [If you needed mental health support at school...I would find it easy to get the support I need.](#)

10,272 pupils in years 4 to 13 responded to this question, with 42.6% (n=4372) selecting the response options "[strongly agree](#)" or "[agree](#)".

Figure 25 below shows strong evidence that pupils at the primary stage (54.2%, n=2774) were more likely to respond "[strongly agree](#)" or "[agree](#)" than all other groups. Secondary pupils (30.6%, n=1414) and post 16 pupils (34.7%, n=184) were statistically less likely to respond in this way compared with both their primary and all South Glos counterparts.

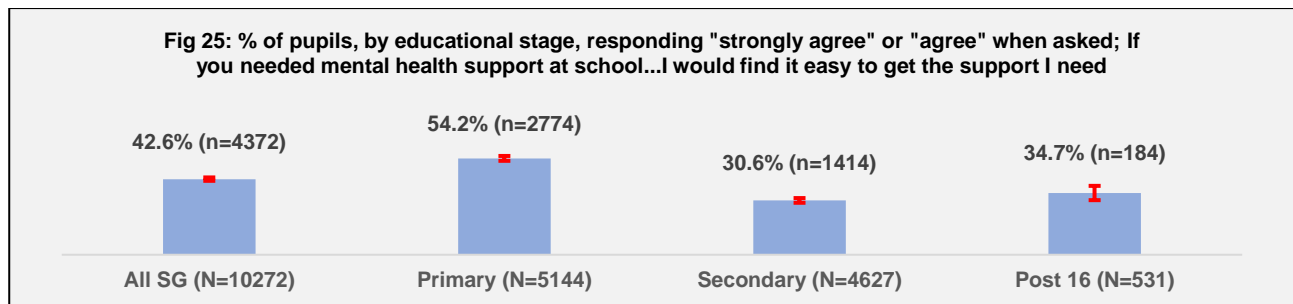
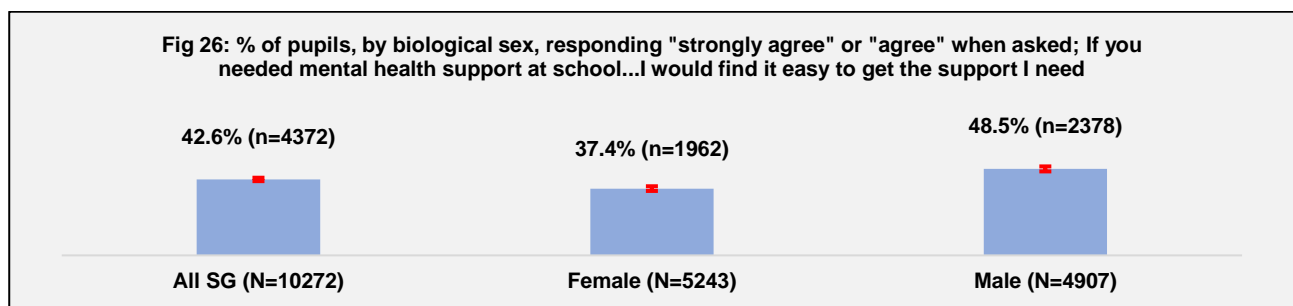


Figure 26 below, once again, shows strong evidence of a statistical difference in relation to biological sex. As before, female pupils (37.4%, n=1962) were the group least likely to have selected answer options "[strongly agree](#)" or "[agree](#)", whereas the reverse is true for male pupils (48.5%, n=2378).



Life satisfaction:

10,115 pupils in years 4 to 13 responded to the question: [How satisfied are you with your life?](#) 65.2% (n=6597) of pupils selected the answer options "[satisfied](#)" or "[quite satisfied](#)".

There is strong evidence that this is a decrease from the 2021 survey value of 67.8% (n=4394).

Figure 27 below shows strong evidence that pupils at the primary stage (72.8%, n=3736) were the group most likely to have answered “satisfied” or “quite satisfied”. Secondary (58.0%, n=2601) and post 16 pupils (52.2%, n=260) were statistically less likely to answer in this way when compared to their primary (72.8%, n=3736) and all South Glos counterparts (65.2%, n=6597). There was only weak evidence of a difference between secondary (58.0%, n=2601) and post 16 pupils (52.2%, n=260).

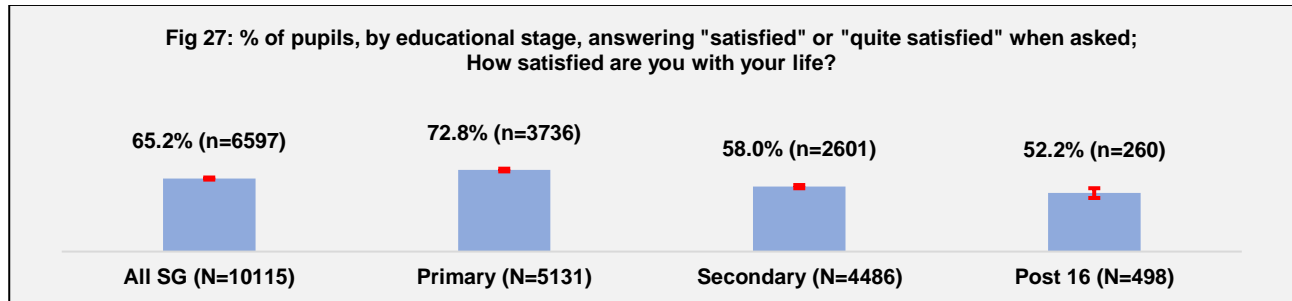
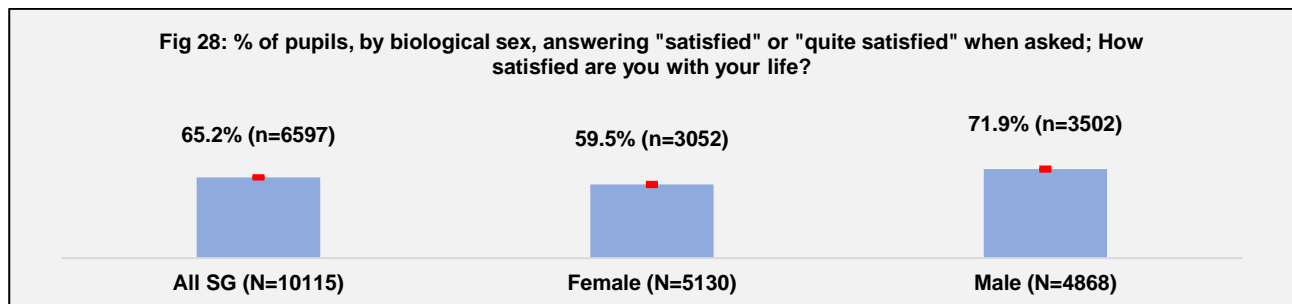








Figure 28 below shows strong evidence that female pupils (59.5%, n=3052) were significantly less likely to have answered “satisfied” or “quite satisfied” when asked: “how satisfied are you with your life?” than their male counterparts (71.9%, n=3502).



Dashboard 3: Safety

Questions and answer option (All questions asked to pupils in years 4 to 13)	2023 result % (count)	Statistical change between 2021 and 2023 (95% confidence intervals)
Have you been bullied in the last year? Spotlight on: % of pupils answering either “No” or “Not often (e.g. once or twice)” No. of pupils answering in 2023: N=10,200	76.0% (n=7755)	
How well do you think your school stops and prevents bullying? Spotlight on: % of pupils answering either “Extremely well” or “Quite well” No. of pupils answering in 2023: N=10,047	43.9% (n=4409)	
How safe do you feel at school? Spotlight on: % of pupils answering either “Very safe” or “Safe” No. of pupils answering in 2023: N=10,798	65.2% (n=7035)	
How safe do you feel on your way to and from school? Spotlight on: % of pupils answering either “Very safe” or “Safe” No. of pupils answering in 2023: N=10,682	79.6% (n=8498)	
How safe do you feel in the place where you live? Spotlight on: % of pupils answering either “Very safe” or “Safe” No. of pupils answering in 2023: N=11,040	88.6% (n=9780)	
How safe do you feel when you go out in your local area? Spotlight on: % of pupils answering either “Very safe” or “Safe” No. of pupils answering in 2023: N=10,896	66.5% (n=7249)	

Data analysis narrative for Dashboard 3: Safety

Bullying:

10,200 pupils in years 4 to 13 gave an answer to the question: [Have you been bullied in the last year?](#) 76.0% (n=7755) said either “no” or “not often (e.g. once or twice)” in response.

There is strong evidence that this is a decrease from the 2021 survey, in which 89.6% (n=6308) reported having not experienced bullying or having experienced it only once or twice.

Figure 29 below shows strong evidence that whilst secondary (78.2%, n=3566) and post 16 pupils (93.6%, n=483) were more likely than all South Glos pupils (76.0%, n=7755) to answer “no” or “not often (e.g. once or twice)”, primary pupils (72.3%, n=3706) were significantly less likely than all other pupil groups to answer in this way.

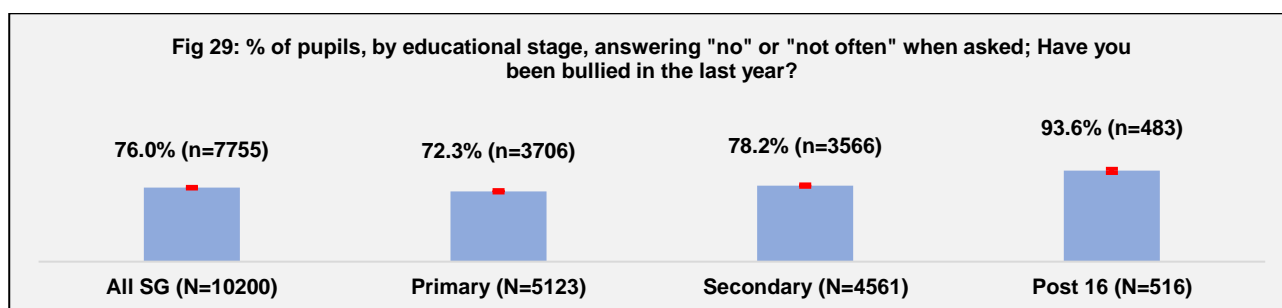
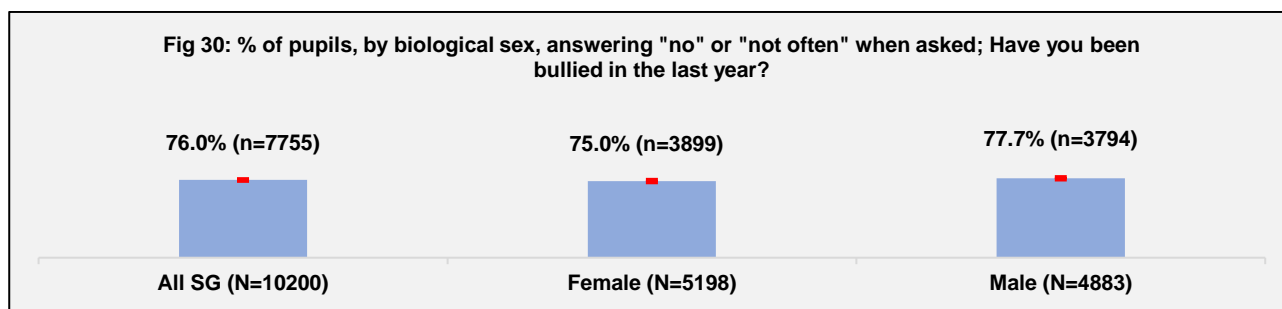


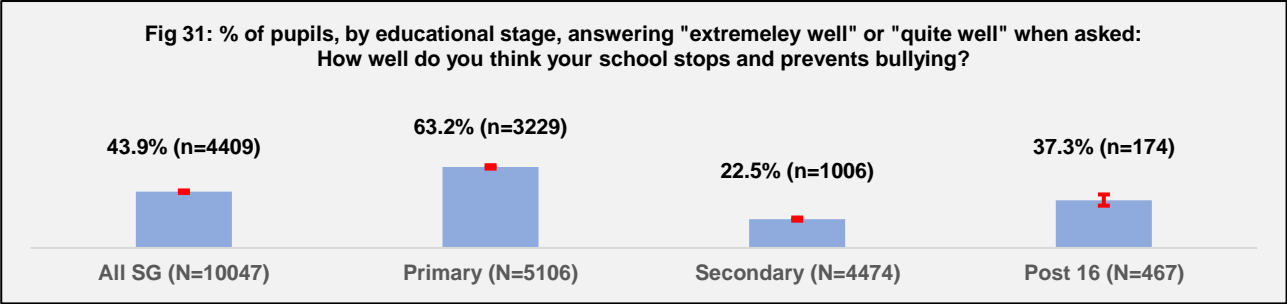
Figure 30 below indicates that when analysing bullying experience data by biological sex, there is strong evidence that female pupils (75.0%, n=3899) were less likely than their male counterparts (77.7%, n=3794) to have responded either “no” or “not often (e.g. once or twice)” when asked: [Have you been bullied in the last year?](#)



Pupils in years 4 to 13 were also asked to assess how well they think their school stops and prevents bullying. Of the 10,047 pupils who provided an answer, 43.9% (n=4409) selected either “[extremely well](#)” or “[quite well](#)”.

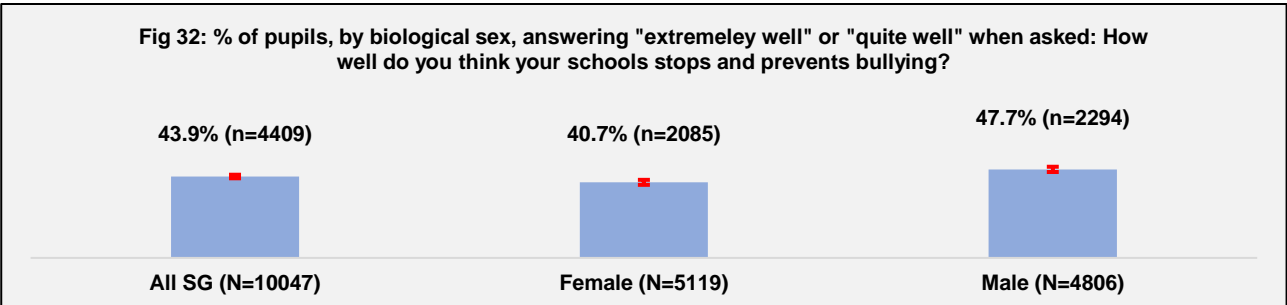
However, as shown by **Figure 31** below, there is significant variation when analysing this data by educational stage.

There is strong evidence that primary pupils (63.2%, n=3229) were significantly more likely than their secondary (22.5%, n=1006) and post 16 (37.3%, n=174) counterparts to have indicated that they thought their school stopped or prevented bullying “[extremely well](#)” or “[quite well](#)”. There is also strong evidence of secondary pupils (22.5%, n=1006) being less likely than their post 16 counterparts (37.3%, n=174) to respond in this way.



A similar picture of difference emerges when analysing pupil’s responses by biological sex.

Figure 32 below shows strong evidence that biologically female pupils (40.7%, n=2085) were significantly less likely than their male counterparts (47.7%, n=2294) to believe that their school stops and prevents bullying either “[extremely well](#)” or “[quite well](#)”.



Feelings of safety at school:

10,798 pupils in years 4 to 13 responded to the question: [How safe do you feel at school?](#)

65.2% (n=7035) of pupils selected the answer options “[very safe](#)” or “[safe](#)”. This compares to the 73.0% of pupils (n=5346) who selected one of these two answer options in the 2021 survey edition. Comparing the confidence intervals shows strong evidence that pupils were less likely to answer in this way in 2023 compared to 2021.

Figure 33 below shows strong evidence that primary (75.6%, n=4104) and post 16 pupils (87.3%, n=468) were significantly more likely than secondary (51.0%, n=2463) and all South Glos pupils (65.2%, n=7035) to select the answer options “[very safe](#)” or “[safe](#)”. There is also strong evidence that secondary pupils (51.0%, n=2463) were the least likely cohort to report feeling “[very safe](#)” or “[safe](#)” at school.

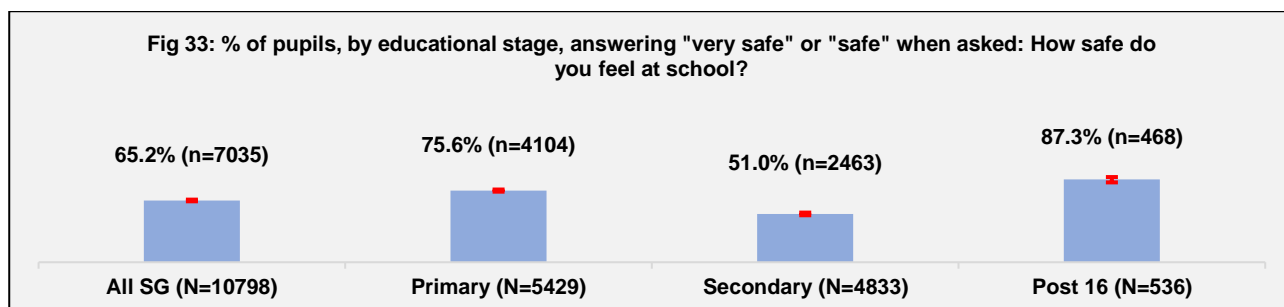
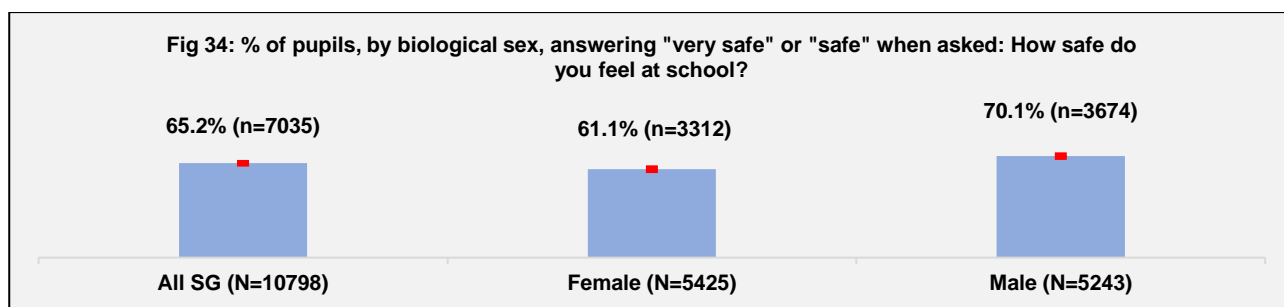


Figure 34 below shows there is strong evidence of a difference in relation to responses by biological sex. Female pupils (61.1%, n=3312) were significantly less likely than their male counterparts (70.1%, n=3674) to report feeling either “[very safe](#)” or “[safe](#)” at school.



Feelings of safety travelling to and from school:

10,682 pupils in years 4 to 13 answered the question: [How safe do you feel on your way to and from school?](#) 8,498 (79.6%) selected either “[very safe](#)” or “[safe](#)” as their answer option. This represents no obvious alteration from the figure of 79.8% (n=5820) recorded in the 2021 survey edition.

When analysing question responses by educational stage, **Figure 35** below shows strong evidence that primary pupils (84.8%, n=4471) were more likely than their all South Glos (79.6%, n=8498) and secondary (73.5%, n=3575) counterparts to answer in this way. Whilst there is strong evidence that post 16 pupils (82.9%, n=452) were more likely than their secondary counterparts to answer, “[very safe](#)” or “[safe](#)”, their responses show no apparent difference when compared to those of all South Glos (79.6%, n=8498) and primary age pupils (84.8%, n=4471).

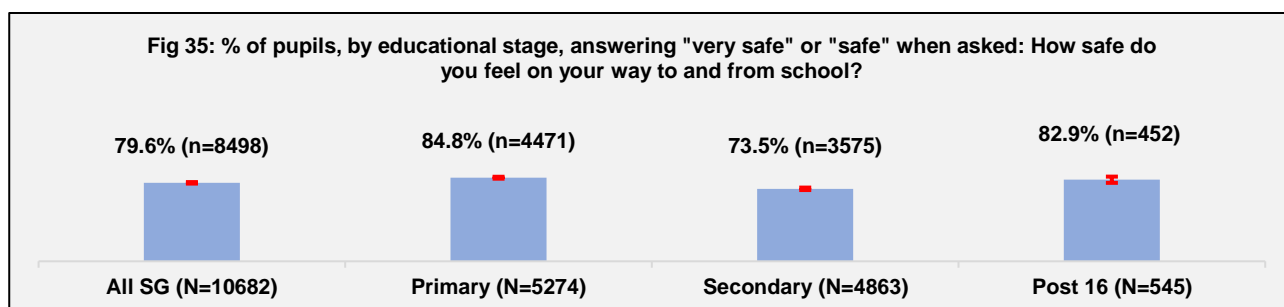
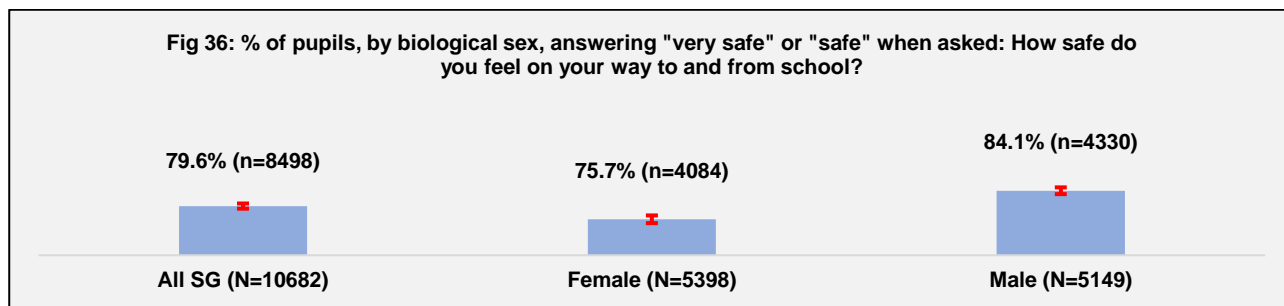


Figure 36 below shows strong evidence that female pupils (75.7%, n=4084) were significantly less likely than their male counterparts (84.1%, n=4330) to report feeling either “very safe” or “safe” on their way to, or from, school.



Feelings of safety in the place where you live:

The question: [How safe do you feel in the place where you live?](#) was answered by 11,040 pupils in years 4 to 13. 88.6% (n=9780) chose the answer option “very safe” or “safe”. 91.1% (n=6719) answered in either of these ways to the same question in the 2021 survey edition. As such, there is strong evidence that pupils were less likely to select answer options “very safe” or “safe” in 2023 when compared to 2021.

Figure 37 below shows strong evidence that post 16 pupils (92.9%, n=512) were more likely than any other group to have chosen answer options “very safe” or “safe”. There are no apparent differences in response rates for primary (88.7%, n=4850) and secondary pupils (88.0%, n=4418) when compared to each other, or when compared to the figure for all South Glos pupils (88.6%, n=9780).

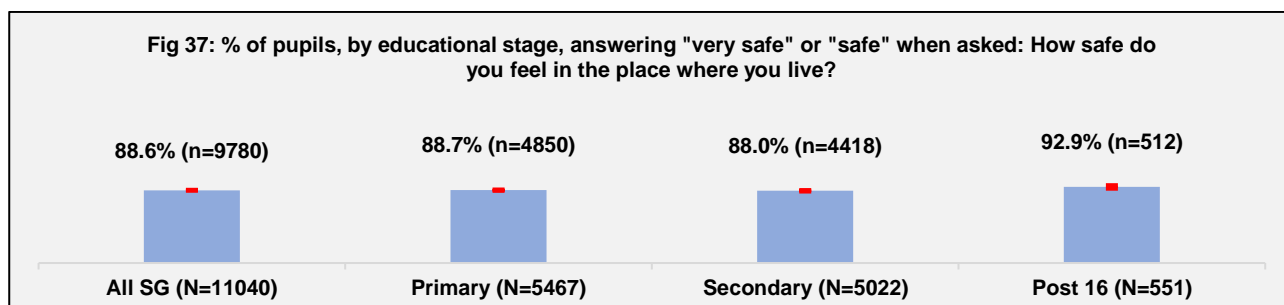
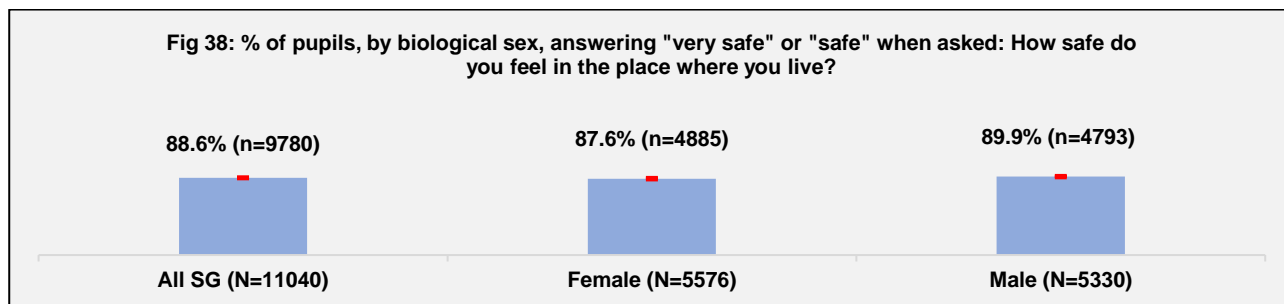


Figure 38 below displays responses by biological sex. The overlapping error bars indicate that no obvious difference exists. 87.6% of females (n=4885) and 89.9% of males (n=4793) chose either “very safe” or “safe” as their answer option – compared to 88.6% (n=9780) for all South Glos pupils.



Feelings of safety when out in the local area:

Pupils in years 4 to 13 were asked: [How safe do you feel when you go out in your local area?](#)

10,896 pupils provided an answer, with 66.5% (n=7249) choosing either “[very safe](#)” or “[safe](#)” as their answer option. 76.9% (n=5598) of pupils answered in this way to the same question in the 2021 survey edition. Comparing the confidence intervals shows strong evidence that pupils were less likely to select answer options “[very safe](#)” or “[safe](#)” in 2023 when compared to the 2021 survey edition.

Figure 39 below shows strong evidence that pupils at the primary (68.7%, n=3732) and post 16 (75.1%, n=402) stages were more likely to answer in this way than all South Glos pupils (66.5%, n=7249). There is also strong evidence that secondary pupils (63.2%, n=3115) were the cohort least likely to select answer options “[very safe](#)” or “[safe](#)”.

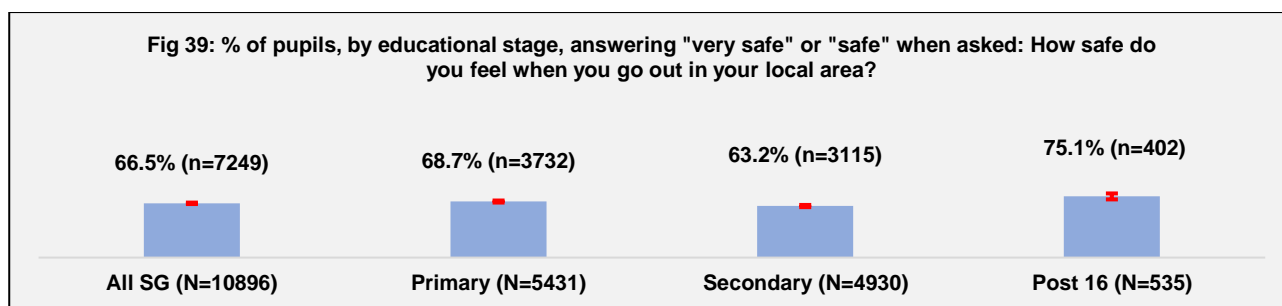
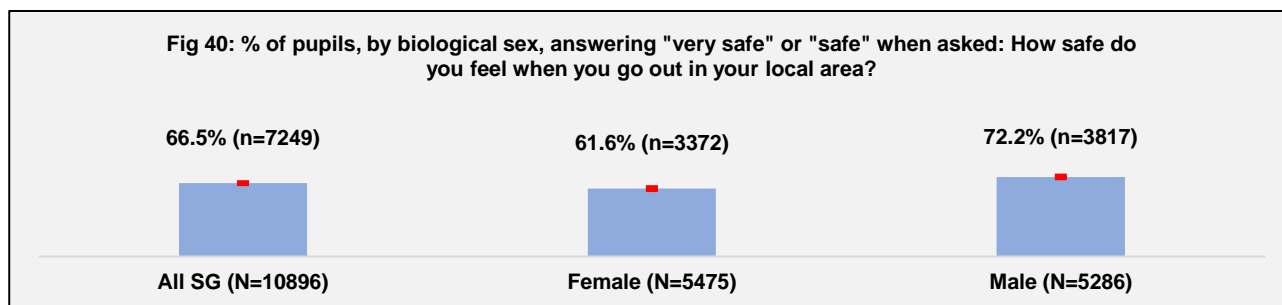


Figure 40 below shows strong evidence that when asked: [How safe do you feel when you go out in your local area?](#) female pupils (61.6%, n=3372) were statistically less likely than their male counterparts (72.2%, 3817) to select the answer options “[very safe](#)” or “[safe](#)”.



Dashboard 4: Educational experience

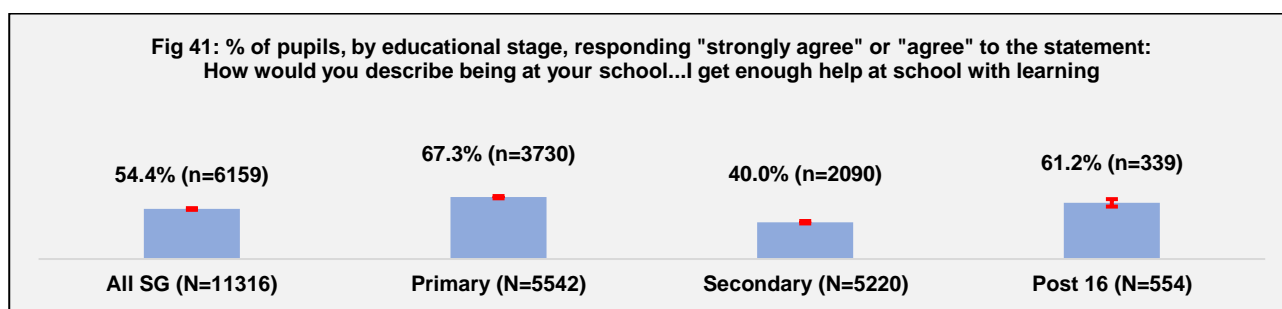
Questions and answer option (All questions asked to pupils in years 4 to 13)	2023 result % (count)	Statistical change between 2021 and 2023 (95% confidence intervals)
<p>How would you describe being at your school...I get enough help at school with learning</p> <p>Spotlight on: % of pupils answering either "Strongly agree" or "Agree"</p> <p>No. of pupils answering in 2023: N=11,316</p>	54.4% (n=6159)	↓
<p>How do you feel about being at school...I feel I get the help and support that I need at school</p> <p>Spotlight on: % of pupils answering either "Strongly agree" or "Agree"</p> <p>No. of pupils answering in 2023: N=11,601</p>	51.0% (n=5911)	↓
<p>How do you feel about being at school...I feel like I belong in this school</p> <p>Spotlight on: % of pupils answering either "Strongly agree" or "Agree"</p> <p>No. of pupils answering in 2023: N=11,594</p>	52.1% (n=6038)	↓
<p>How do you feel about being at school...At least one teacher or trusted adult cares about me at this school</p> <p>Spotlight on: % of pupils answering either "Strongly agree" or "Agree"</p> <p>No. of pupils answering in 2023: N=11,531</p>	69.4% (n=7999)	↑
<p>How would you describe being at your school...My school has lots of activities (like sport and drama) to take part in at lunchtime or after school</p> <p>Spotlight on: % of pupils answering either "Strongly agree" or "Agree"</p> <p>No. of pupils answering in 2023: N=11,321</p>	54.7% (n=6192)	→

Data analysis narrative for Dashboard 4: Educational experience

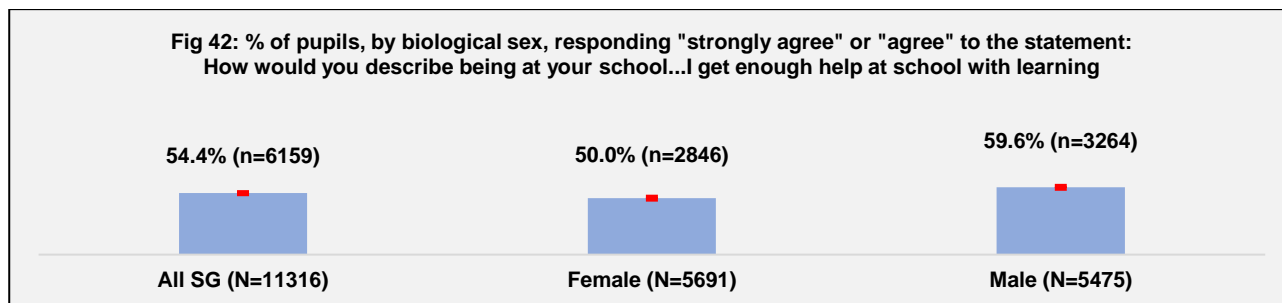
Help and support:

11,316 pupils in years 4 to 13 responded to the statement: [How would you describe being at your school...I get enough help at school with learning](#). 54.4% (n=6159) chose either “strongly agree” or “agree” as their response option. This is a statistically significant reduction from the 60.7% (n=4874) of pupils who chose either of these answer options in the 2021 survey edition.

Figure 41 below shows strong evidence that primary (67.3%, n=3730) and post 16 pupils (61.2%, n=339) were more likely to choose answer options “strongly agree” or “agree” than their secondary (40.0%, n=2090) and all South Glos counterparts (54.4%, n=6159).



When analysing these data by biological sex (see **Figure 42** below), there is strong evidence that male pupils (59.6%, n=3264) were significantly more likely to have answered “strongly agree” or “agree” than their female (50.0%, n=2846) or all South Glos counterparts (54.4%, n=6159).



11,601 pupils in years 4 to 13 provided a response to the statement: [How do you feel about being at school...I feel I get the help and support that I need at school](#). 51.0% (n=5911) selected “strongly agree” or “agree” as their answer option. This represents a statistically significant reduction from the 55.7% (n=4295) of pupils who chose either of these answer options in the 2021 survey edition.

When analysing these data by educational stage, **Figure 43** below shows strong evidence that primary (66.4%, n=3733) and post 16 pupils (60.6%, n=355) were the cohorts most likely to have answered “strongly agree” or “agree”. Secondary pupils (33.8%, n=1823) were significantly less likely to have answered in this way when compared to all other groups.

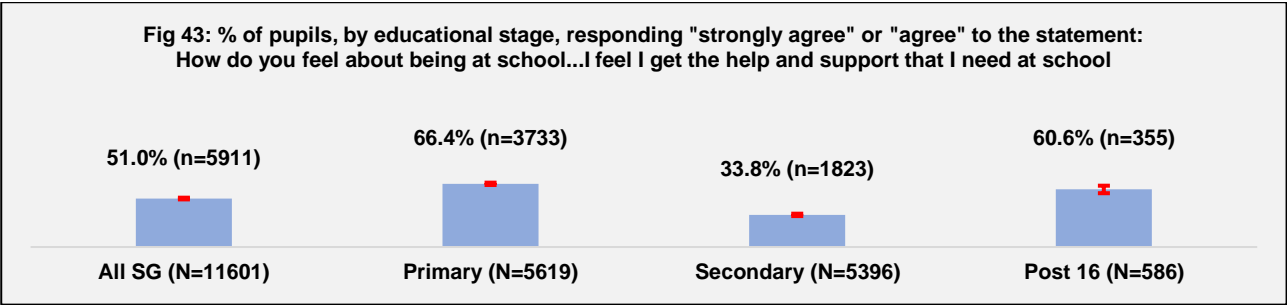
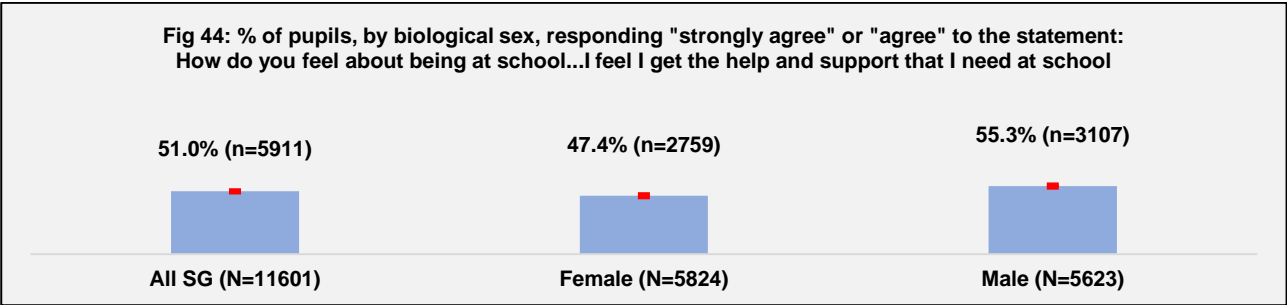


Figure 44 below shows that significant differences also exist when analysing these data by biological sex. There is strong evidence that female pupils (47.4%, n=2759) were significantly less likely than their male (55.3%, n=3107) or all South Glos (51.0%, n=5911) counterparts to have answered “strongly agree” or “agree”.



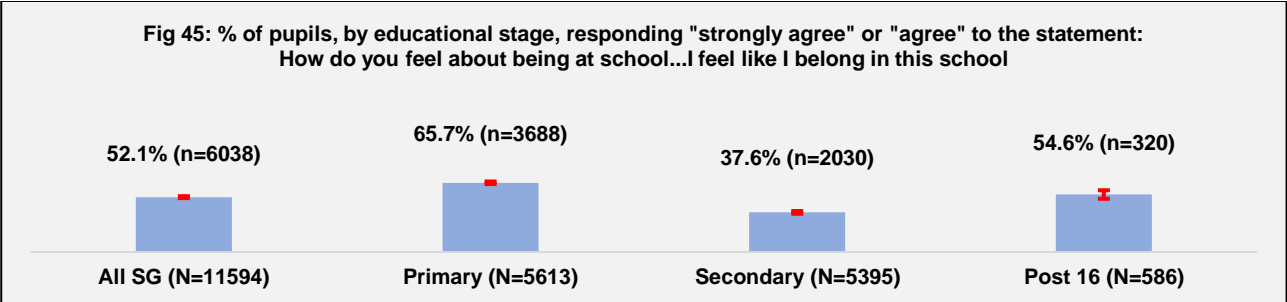
Belonging:

11,594 pupils in years 4 to 13 selected a response option when asked: [How do you feel about being at school...I feel like I belong in this school.](#)

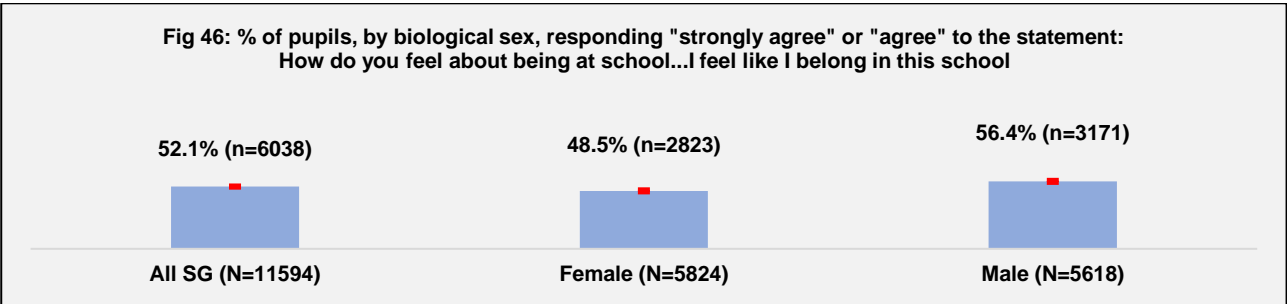
52.1% (n=6038) selected either “strongly agree” or “agree” as their response option. In the 2021 survey, 58.4% (n=4500) of pupils selected either of these response options.

Comparing confidence intervals shows there is strong evidence that pupils were less likely to answer “strongly agree” or “agree” in 2023 when compared to the 2021 survey edition.

Figure 45 below analyses these data by educational stage. Here we see strong evidence that primary pupils (65.7%, n=3688) were significantly more likely than all other pupil groups to have responded “strongly agree” or “agree”. Secondary pupils (37.6%, n=2030) were the least likely to have responded in this way. There is no apparent difference between the responses from post 16 pupils (54.6%, n=320) and those of all South Glos pupils (52.1%, n=6038).



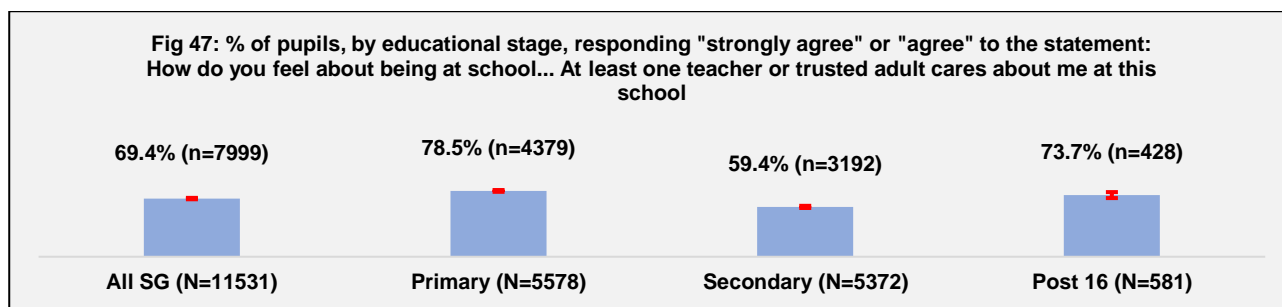
When looking at these data by biological sex (**Figure 46** below), we see a familiar pattern emerge. There is strong evidence that female pupils (48.5%, n=2823) were significantly less likely than male pupils (56.4%, n=3171) to have answered “strongly agree” or “agree”. Conversely, male pupils (56.4%, n=3171) were the group most likely to have answered in this way.



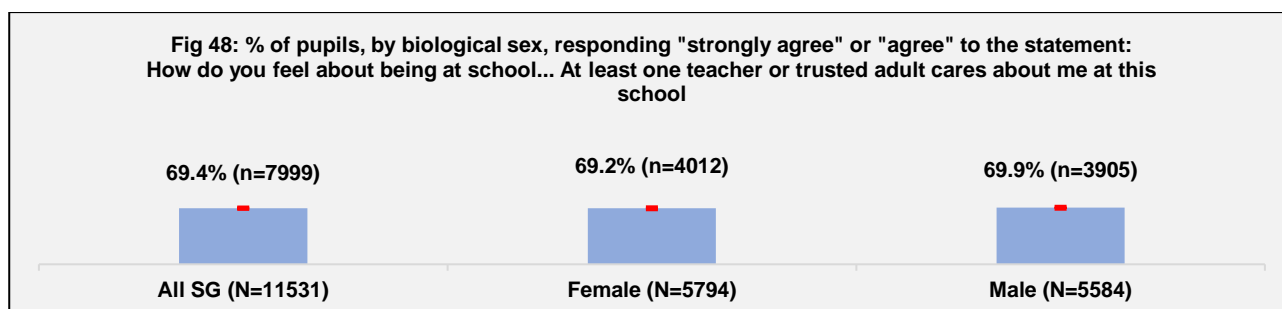
11,531 pupils in years 4 to 13 selected a response option when asked: [How do you feel about being at school...At least one teacher or trusted adult cares about me at this school.](#)

69.4% (n=7999) selected either “strongly agree” or “agree” as their response option. In the 2021 survey, 63.0% (n=4828) of pupils selected either of these response options. Comparing confidence intervals shows there is strong evidence that pupils were more likely to answer “strongly agree” or “agree” in 2023 when compared to the 2021 survey edition.

Figure 47 below examines responses by educational stage. There is strong evidence that secondary pupils (59.4%, n=3192) were less likely than all other cohorts to have answered in this way, and primary pupils (78.5%, n=4379) were significantly more likely than all other groups to have answered in this way. For post 16 pupils (73.7%, n=428), there was no apparent difference when compared to all South Glos pupils (69.4%, n=7999).



When examining these data by biological sex, Figure 48 below shows no obvious difference between female (69.2%, n=4012) and male (69.9%, n=3905) pupils when compared to the figure for all South Glos pupils (69.4%, 7999).

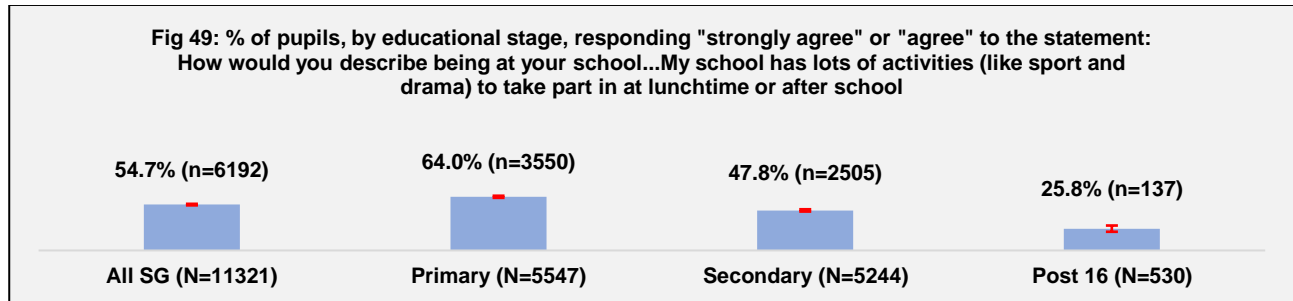


Extra curricula activities:

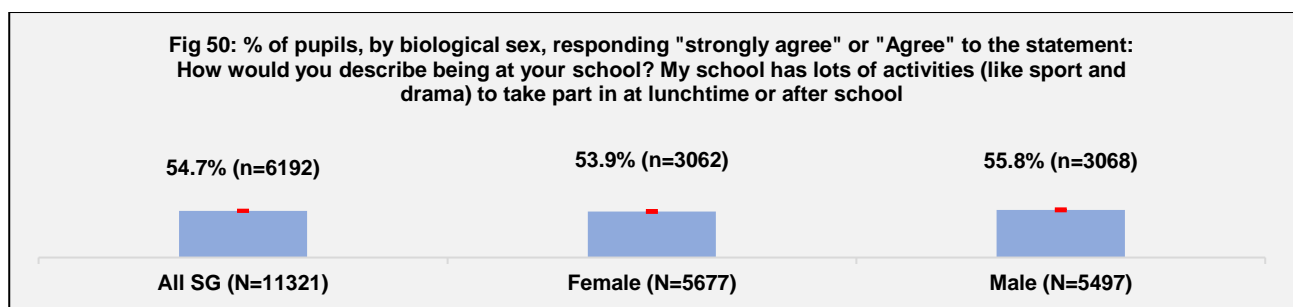
11,321 pupils in years 4 to 13 selected a response option when asked: [How would you describe being at your school...My school has lots of activities \(like sport and drama\) to take part in at lunchtime or after school.](#) 54.7% (n=6192) selected either "strongly agree" or "agree" as their response option.

Comparing confidence intervals shows no evidence of difference in the percentage of pupils answering "strongly agree" or "agree" in 2023 when compared to the 2021 survey edition, when 55.1% (n=4204) of pupils answered in this way.

Figure 49 below shows strong evidence that, primary pupils (64.0%, n=3550) were significantly more likely to have answered “strongly agree” or “agree” than any other cohort. There is strong evidence that secondary pupils (47.8%, n=2505) were more likely than post 16 pupils (25.8%, n=137) to have answered in this way, but less likely than all South Glos pupils (54.7%, n=6192). Post 16 pupils (25.8%, n=137) were statistically the group least likely to have answered “strongly agree” or “agree”.



When comparing results by biological sex, the overlapping error bars evident in **Figure 50** below indicate that no statistical difference exists in the responses for female pupils (53.9%, n=3062) when compared to male pupils (55.8%, n=3068) and all South Glos pupils (54.7%, n=6192) for those responding “strongly agree” or “agree” when asked: *How would you describe being at your school...My school has lots of activities (like sport and drama) to take part in at lunchtime or after school.*



Using summary report data

Use and publication of Health and Wellbeing Online Pupil Survey (OPS) data in any context is subject to:

- a) Adherence to the OPS Data Sharing Terms and Conditions
- b) Prior written approval by South Gloucestershire Council's Public Health and Wellbeing Division. Email: healthpromotionineducation@southglos.gov.uk

Following approval, any publication or presentation containing these data must acknowledge the **South Gloucestershire Health and Wellbeing Online Pupil Survey** as the source of the data.

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Participants:

South Gloucestershire Council and the Health and Wellbeing Online Pupil Survey Strategic Group extend a special, and sincere, thank you to our colleagues in the many education settings that agreed to participate in the 2023 survey. We recognise the significant logistical challenge represented by enabling such a large proportion of all South Gloucestershire's pupils across years 4 to 13 to participate and as such, are truly grateful for their dedication and commitment to the survey.

Finally, we would like to thank the thousands of South Gloucestershire pupils who chose to participate, and whose data we have thoughtfully and respectfully presented in this report. Their participation plays a significant part in enabling South Gloucestershire Council to hear and acknowledge the voice of the child, in turn using these data to help shape the actions required to meet the overarching Council Plan priorities of; **reducing health inequalities**; and **supporting children and young people to thrive**.