

Teachers Perception on the impact of the engagement with the world of work on students' academic achievement in primary education

ABOUT THE DATA

Data collected by Yougov for the charity Education and Employers in April 2017. 478 primary schools participated in the survey. Data collected from primary school teachers across the UK was from school staff who felt well placed to have a view of the impact of the engagement with the world of work on children's attainment.

HEADLINE STATISTICS

Do you think that involvement in activities with employers like the ones listed above can have any impact (whether positive or negative) on the academic achievement of pupils?

	Frequency	Valid Percent
Yes	430	90.0
No	48	10.0
Total	478	100.0

Headline 1: 90% of primary school teachers who responded to the survey think that engaging children with the world of work has an impact on their academic achievement.

We asked teachers to explain why they think there is an impact? Here are some quotes showing their responses:

- *Children need to be able to aspire to something. They benefit from talking to people from all walks of life and who have different experiences. It helps children understand the value of all aspects of their education not just the passing of exams. They may see that not being good at exams does not prevent them from success. In my opinion we need to do more to change the pressures of exam driven targeting allowing children to be more creative and inquisitive. By*

bringing in role models from all walks of life we can alleviate the drudgery of a highly prescriptive curriculum

- *adds another dimension the classroom experiences*
- *adds to the 'big picture' of why we are educated*
- *Any opportunity for children to interact and learn from 'real' people from the community and businesses gives them a broader diet of interactions and helps them gain knowledge in a far more valuable way than a teacher simply teaching a lesson.*
- *Anything which refocuses children and get them reflecting on themselves and their learning/futures is a positive thing. They need time and someone to listen and advise.*
- *Being involved in activities given pupils some ownership as they are a part of the decision making process which gives the learning more value and relevance.*

Headline 2: over 80% of the primary school teachers who responded to the survey agree that pupil achievement can improve as the result of:

- By volunteers of the world of work helping pupils to believe in their own abilities
- increased motivation following exposure to role models from the world of work (adults other than teachers) interested in them and their education
- by volunteers of the world of work helping pupils to understand what life is like beyond the classroom
- as result of pupils learning knowledge and skills which are in addition to the mainstream curriculum by exposure to the world of work

	Valid Percent
Girls More likely	73%
Boys More likely	50.2%

Headline 2: 73% of the primary teachers who responded to the survey believe girls are more likely to experience positive impacts from engagement activities with the world of work on their academic achievement. Teachers in the sample believe that the impact on girls is 50% more than boys.

	Valid Percent	
Children from disadvantaged backgrounds	52.1%	
Children from advantaged backgrounds	46.4%	

Headline 3: 52.1% of primary teachers who responded to the survey believe children from disadvantaged backgrounds are more likely to experience positive impacts from engagement activities with the world of work on their academic achievement. Teachers in the sample believe that the impact on disadvantaged children is 12% more than children from advantaged backgrounds.

			Do you think that involvement in activities with employers can have any impact (whether positive or negative) on the academic achievement of pupils?	
			Yes	No
North East	%		90.5%	9.5%
North West	%		88.6%	11.4%
Yorkshire and the Humber	%		95.1%	4.9%
East Midlands	%		88.9%	11.1%
West Midlands	%		97.4%	2.6%
East of England	%		88.0%	12.0%
London	%		87.7%	12.3%
South East	%		88.7%	11.3%
South West	%		90.9%	9.1%
Wales	%		94.4%	5.6%
Scotland	%		88.9%	11.1%

Headline 4: In every major region of the UK over 87% of teachers who responded to the survey report that engagement with the world of work has an impact on the academic attainment of primary school students. In West Midlands and Yorkshire and the Humber this rises to over 95%.

Region	More likely to experience positive impacts on their academic achievement	
	Girls	Boys
North East	66.7%	52.4%
North West	61.4%	56.8%
Yorkshire and the Humber	70.7%	46.3%
East Midlands	77.8%	55.6%
West Midlands	71.1%	52.6%
East of England	70.0%	52.0%
London	75.4%	47.7%
South East	78.9%	40.8%
South West	66.7%	45.5%
Wales	77.8%	61.1%
Scotland	77.8%	57.8%
Northern Ireland	85.7%	28.6%

Headline 5: Across England, respondents believe that girls are more likely to benefit from positive impacts from engagement with the world of work on their academic achievement.

To what extent would you agree or disagree with the following statements about volunteers from the world of work helping young people? They can be very influential in helping young people understand career options:

	Frequency	Valid Percent
Strongly agree	104	21.8
Agree	297	62.1
Neither Agree nor Disagree	45	9.4
Disagree	5	1.0
Strongly disagree	1	.2
Don't know	26	5.4
Total	478	100.0

Headline 6: 83.9% of primary school teachers who responded to the survey agreed that meeting with volunteers from the world of work can be very influential in helping young people understand career options.

To what extent would you agree or disagree with the following statements about volunteers from the world of work helping young people? They help to challenge gender stereotyping about jobs and subjects studied

	Frequency	Valid Percent
Strongly agree	148	31.0
Agree	229	47.9
Neither Agree nor Disagree	60	12.6
Disagree	8	1.7
Strongly disagree	4	.8
Don't know	29	6.1
Total	478	100.0

Headline 7: Children start to rule career options in or out at an early age and girls and boys hold stereotypical vies about male and female careers by age 7.

78.9% of primary school teachers who responded to the survey agree that engagement with the world of work can help to challenge gender stereotyping about jobs and subjects studies.

To what extent would you agree or disagree with the following statements about volunteers from the world of work helping young people? They help young people to believe in their abilities (self-efficacy)

	Frequency	Valid Percent
Strongly agree	104	21.8
Agree	267	55.9
Neither Agree nor Disagree	74	15.5
Disagree	11	2.3
Strongly disagree	1	.2
Don't know	21	4.4
Total	478	100.0

Headline 8: 77.7% of primary school teachers who responded to the survey agree that engagement with the world of work can help young people believe in their own abilities.

To what extent would you agree or disagree with the following statements about volunteers from the world of work helping young people? They can change young people's attitude positively towards school

	Frequency	Valid Percent
Strongly agree	99	20.7
Agree	263	55.0
Neither Agree nor Disagree	74	15.5
Disagree	15	3.1
Strongly disagree	1	.2
Don't know	26	5.4
Total	478	100.0

Headline 9: 75.7% of primary school teachers who responded to the survey agree that engagement with the world of work can change young people's attitudes positively towards school.