

Summary of pupils' responses

Positive things that nearly all pupils said, regardless of gender or socio-economic status:

- Almost all pupils said that they worked on their own sometimes or often.
- Similar numbers made use of computers in the classroom while almost as many had opportunities to explore or investigate.
- The great majority had opportunities to talk about their learning and to give feedback to other pupils.
- The great majority had opportunities to solve problems and think things through.
- Teachers told pupils what they were going to learn, explained how they would know that they had done well and helped them understand how they could do better.
- Very many pupils stated that someone in the school would talk with them about what needed to be done to improve their learning.
- Pupils' attitudes to learning were overwhelmingly positive.
- The great majority of pupils believed that they learned things quickly and usually did well in their learning.
- Pupils' attitudes to reading were generally positive.
- The great majority got help at home with homework if needed.
- The great majority read story books and/or books that explained things.
- Around 2/3 read on-line material out of school.

Rather less positive things that pupils said, regardless of gender or socio-economic status:

- Many pupils in all four groups said their teachers sometimes went through work too slowly.
- Many pupils in all four groups said their teachers sometimes went through work too fast.
- A substantial minority belied that they were just not good at learning.
- Substantial numbers of pupils said that they read only if they had to.
- Some found reading boring.
- Substantial numbers of pupils said that they read only in school or for homework.

Differences by gender and deprivation

- The **least deprived girls and boys** were more likely than the most deprived to say that they often worked on their own.
- The **least deprived pupils** were more likely than most deprived to say they got help at home with their homework
- The **most deprived boys and girls** were more likely use computers in school than the least deprived boys and girls.

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- The **most deprived girls and boys** were more likely to give each other feedback very often than the least deprived.
- The **most deprived girls and boys** were more likely than the least deprived to say they very often thought things through.
- The **most deprived girls and boys** were more likely to say their teacher very often explained how they would know they'd done well.
- The **most deprived girls and boys** were more likely to say that teacher very often explained what they needed to do to improve.
- Almost 1 in 5 of the **most deprived boys and girls** said they felt they were just not good at learning.
- The **most deprived pupils, and boys** in particular, were much more likely to say that they read only if they had to.
- The **most deprived pupils** were more likely to say they enjoyed talking to others about what they had read.
- The **most deprived pupils** were much more likely than the least deprived to agree that they only read in school or for homework.
- The **most deprived girls and boys** said they read non-fiction very often more than least deprived.
- The **most deprived pupils** were noticeably more likely than the least deprived to say that they read on line sometimes or very often.
- **Girls** were more likely than boys to say they enjoyed talking to others about what they had read.
- More **girls** said they would be happy if someone gave them a book as a present.
- **Girls** were noticeably more likely than boys to agree a lot that they enjoyed reading.
- **Girls** overall, and the **least deprived** in particular, were more likely than boys to say they read story books very often.
- **Boys** in both groups were more likely than girls to agree that reading was boring. A quarter of the **most deprived boys** agreed that reading was boring.
- Overall, boys were more likely than girls to agree with the statement that they only read in school or for homework. Almost half of the **most deprived boys** agreed.
- Overall, **boys** were much more likely than girls to say that they played computer games.