

#WhatsYourTake - Cost of school July 2022



The #WhatsYourTake online survey is carried out each year to gather young people's views on current issues. This #WhatsYourTake survey was open from 10th June until 6th July 2022, and asked questions on the following topics:

- **Children's care and justice** - Imagining the future of children's care and justice
- **Reducing car use** - Working together to reduce car use for a healthier, fairer, greener Scotland
- **Cost of school** - Exploring the possibility of free school meals, school milk and low-cost uniform in secondary schools
- **Tobacco free Scotland** - Reaching for the future - building a Tobacco-free Scotland
- **Education** - Designing the national discussion on education
- **Children's Services** - Children's Services Reform

This report gives an overview of the key findings on the questions relating to cost of school from the July 2022 #WhatsYourTake survey.

Respondent Profile

243 young people took responded to the #WhatsYourTake survey in July 2022.

Of these:

- **67.8%** are aged between 12 and 17, **16.7%** are aged 18-20, and **15.5%** are aged 21-25.
- **52.5%** identify as female, **35.3%** identify as male, **8.0%** identify as non-binary, and **3.4%** prefer to use their own term. The remaining respondents preferred not to say.
- **60.2%** are at school, **21.4%** go to university or college, **18.1%** are in full time or part time work, **0.8%** are doing an apprenticeship or other training, and **5.3%** are unemployed. **2.1%** are not taking part in any of these activities.
- **81.5%** identify as English / Welsh / Scottish / Northern Irish / British.
- Respondents came from **28 local authorities**, [our 11 national voluntary organisations](#), and various others representing a diverse range of communities of interest and lived experience (including youth voice organisations, student unions, a range of cadets, and various sports clubs).

This report was compiled by Rosy Burgess, SYP Governance and Events Manager - rosy.b@syp.org.uk.

Exploring the possibility of free school meals, school milk and low-cost uniform in secondary schools

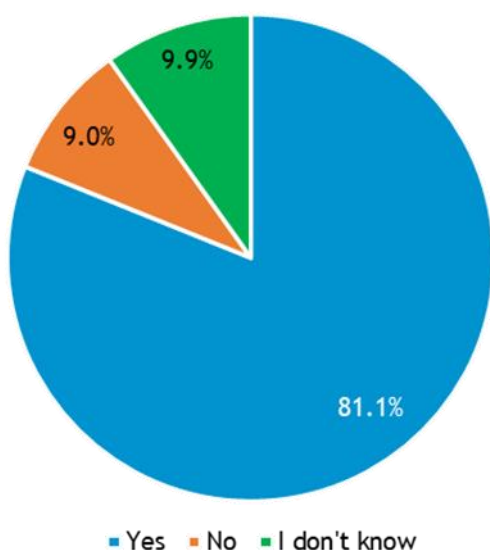
The Scottish Government has committed to developing a pilot to explore the benefits of offering all secondary age young people free school milk and free school lunches in the future. Would this be welcomed? What are the benefits to health, wellbeing and learning? Are there barriers which might prevent or discourage young people from taking up this offer?

The Scottish Government has also committed to producing national school uniform guidance aimed at reducing costs for families. What would young people like guidance to say about setting school uniform policy? What would they keep? What would they get rid of? What is important to young people about wearing school uniform?

This session seeks to gather young people's views which will be used to develop school uniform guidance, and a free school milk and free school lunch pilot in a way that gives maximum benefit to young people.

The Scottish Government has committed to developing a pilot to explore the benefits of potentially offering all secondary age young people free school milk and free school lunches in the future.

Is this something you would like?



The Scottish Government has committed to introduce guidance which aims to address equalities issues around school uniform policy and reduce the cost of school uniform.

Do you agree that a national school uniform policy should...
(results shown overleaf)

Do you agree that a national school uniform policy should...

