

Survey of teachers - key findings

About the survey

The survey ran for one month from 7 November to 7 December 2012. There were 164 respondents who were head teachers, deputy heads, teachers and a small number of teaching assistants, business managers and other school staff. Respondents broke down accordingly: 9% infant schools, 46% primary schools, 47% secondary schools and 7.8% other. Respondents were working in schools from 21 different boroughs with a good balance between inner and outer London boroughs. Lewisham, Lambeth, Tower Hamlets had the highest response rates.

The key findings

How many pupils do you think regularly start the formal school day without breakfast? (149 responses)	
1- 5 pupils per class	36.9%
6 - 10 pupils per class	35.6%
11 - 15 pupils per class	18. 8%
16 – 20 pupils per class	4%
None	3.4%
26 – 30 pupils per class	1.3%
21 – 25 pupils per class	0.7%

Why do you think these pupils usually start the formal school day without breakfast? (144 responses)	
Families do not take responsibility to provide this	63.9%
There's no time	60.4%
They eat a snack on the way to school	54.9%
Families cannot afford it	50.7%
Don't know	9.7%

Have you ever taken action to address pupils coming to school hungry? (144 responses)	
Yes	77.1%
No	18.8%
Don't remember	4.2%

What action have you taken if pupils start the school day hungry? (100 responses)	
Given food to pupils at my own expense	61%
Spoken to a parent or carer about their behaviour	55%
Alerted senior staff	53%
Spoken to a parent or carer about entitlement to free school meals	49%
Spoken to a parent or carer about entitlement to a breakfast club	44%
Contacted social services	20%

If you have given food to pupils, roughly how frequently does this occur? (101 responses)	
Occasionally (up to once a month)	43.8%
Regularly (1-4 times a month)	19.0%
Never	16.2%
Every day	8.6%
Very frequently (more than 8 times a month)	6.7%
Frequently (5-8 times a month)	4.8%

If children start the school day hungry what impacts can this have? (141 responses)	
Worse concentration	97.2%
Worse behaviour	83%
Worse attainment	75.2%
Less ability to take part in sport	50.2%
Fainting or other illness	41.1%