

Kids' Life and Times 2026

Hello and welcome to the Kids' Life and Times survey!

Some of the teachers at Queen's University Belfast and Ulster University are carrying out a survey on what children think about school and whether they feel healthy and happy in their lives. There are no right or wrong answers to the survey questions - just give your opinions!
We don't need your name so no-one will know who you are.

If you are happy to do the survey, then please click 'Yes' below.

If you don't want to do the survey, that's OK, click 'No' below.

Thank you for agreeing to take part in the survey. First there are a few questions about you and then we ask the opinion questions. Ask for help from your teacher if you do not understand a question. You can skip any question you do not want to answer.

Please enter your school's KLT ID (your teacher will give you this).

Is this your school:

Name and location of the school appears and the child confirms that it is their school

First, some questions about you.

1. Which one of the following describes you best? (Please select one answer) **RSEX**

Boy	1
Girl	2
Neither	3
I don't want to say	4

2. How would you describe the place where you live? (Please select one answer) **PLACELIV**

A city or town	1
A village or in the country	2
I'm not sure	3

3. In general, how would you say your health is? (Please select one answer) **KY10PHYS**

Excellent	1
Very good	2
Good	3
Fair	4
Poor	5

4. Do you have a long-term disability, illness or medical condition? (Please select one answer) **LONGILL**

Yes	1	Go to next question
No	2	Skip to question 6
I'm not sure	3	Skip to question 6

5. What long-term disability, illness or medical condition do you have? (Please select all that apply) **LONGILL1**

Physical disability (e.g. walking or getting around) LONGILL11	1
Intellectual disability (e.g. finding it hard to understand things or remember things) LONGILL12	1
Sensory disability (e.g. hearing, seeing or both) LONGILL13	1
Autism LONGILL14	1
Communication (e.g. talking to others or stammering) LONGILL15	1
Specific learning difficulty (e.g. dyslexia) LONGILL16	1
Mental health condition (e.g. anxiety or depression) LONGILL17	1
Other long-term condition (e.g. asthma, diabetes or chronic fatigue) LONGILL18	1
I'm not sure LONGILL19	1

6. Do you have your own bedroom for yourself in the home where you normally live?

(Please select one answer) **OWNROOM**

No	1
Yes	2

7. How many bathrooms (room with a bath, shower or both) are there in the home where you normally live? (Please select one answer) **NUMBATH**

None	1
One	2
Two	3
More than two	4

8. Does your family own a car, van or truck? (Please select one answer) **FAMCAR**

No	1	Go to next question
Yes, one	2	Go to next question
Yes, two or more	3	Go to next question
I don't live with a family	4	Skip to question 12

9. How many computers (including laptops and tablets but **not** including game consoles and smartphones) does your family own? (Please select one answer) **NUMCOMP**

None	1
One	2
Two	3
More than two	4

10. How many times did you and your family travel out of Northern Ireland or Ireland for a holiday last year? (Please select one answer) **ABROAD**

Not at all	1
Once	2
Twice	3
More than twice	4

11. Does your family have a dishwasher at home? (Please select one answer) **FAMDISH**

No	1
Yes	2

The next questions are about school.

12. Looking back over the time that you were at this school, would you say you were mostly happy at this school or mostly unhappy? (Please select one answer) **HAPPYSCH**

Mostly happy	1
Mostly unhappy	2
I can't decide	3

13. Have you personally ever been bullied in school? (Please select one answer)

BULLEVER

Yes	1	Go to next question
No	2	Skip to question 15
I don't know	3	Skip to question 15

14. What form(s) did this bullying take? (Please select all that apply) **BULLFMEV**

Being teased or called hurtful names BULLFMEV1	1
Being left out of things on purpose BULLFMEV2	1
Being hit, kicked, punched, slapped or physically hurt in any other way BULLFMEV3	1
Having my money or possessions taken from me BULLFMEV4	1
Having lies/rumours or gossip spread about me BULLFMEV5	1
Cyber bullying - bullying using mobile phones, tablets, online games, social media etc. BULLFMEV6	1

The next few questions are about how you feel about doing classes or projects or sharing facilities with other schools where pupils are from a different religion or background.

Sometimes primary schools get together with other schools WHERE PUPILS ARE FROM A DIFFERENT RELIGION OR BACKGROUND. Pupils might go to another school to do classes or projects with the pupils from the other school. THIS IS CALLED SHARED EDUCATION.

15. Have you done anything like this? (Please select one answer) **SEDUC**

Yes	1	Skip to question 17
No	2	Go to next question

16. Would you like to be involved in Shared Education? (Please select one answer) **SEFUT**

Yes	1	Skip to question 23
No	2	Skip to question 23
I don't know	3	Skip to question 23

17. Please click on all the things you have done. (Please select all that apply) SEDONE

I have had classes with pupils from other schools	1
I have done projects with pupils from other schools	1
I have used or shared sports facilities or equipment, like computers with pupils from other schools	1
Something else (Please type what you did with pupils from other schools in the box below)	1

18. How much did you like or dislike doing any of the following? (Please select one answer on each line)

	Liked it a lot	Liked it a little	Did not like it very much	Did not like it at all	I did not do this
Sharing classes SEDIS1	1	2	3	4	5
Doing projects together in person SEDIS2	1	2	3	4	5
Sharing sports facilities and computers or equipment SEDIS3	1	2	3	4	5
Being taught by different teachers SEDIS4	1	2	3	4	5
Travelling to a different school SEDIS5	1	2	3	4	5
Learning new things with pupils from another school SEDIS6	1	2	3	4	5
Doing classes we normally don't get to do at our school SEDIS7	1	2	3	4	5
Making new friends SEDIS8	1	2	3	4	5
Being with children who are a different religion to you SEDIS9	1	2	3	4	5
Being with children who have a different skin colour or who speak a different language than you SEDIS10	1	2	3	4	5
Being with children who are richer or poorer than you SEDIS11	1	2	3	4	5
Shared digital and online activities SEDIS12	1	2	3	4	5

19. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Since taking part in Shared Education, I am better able to respect the views of others. (Please select one answer) **SERESP**

Strongly agree	1
Agree	2
Neither agree nor disagree	3
Disagree	4
Strongly disagree	5
I don't know	6

20. Since taking part in Shared Education, have you made any close friends from the other school(s)? (Please select one answer) **SEFNDS2**

Yes	1	Go to next question
No	2	Skip to question 22

21. Do you see or keep in contact with the friends you met in Shared Education outside of school? (Please select one answer) **SECONT**

Yes	1
No	2

22. Overall, how did you feel about sharing classes, projects or equipment with other schools? (Please select one answer) **SEFEEL**

Very favourable	1	Skip to question 24
Favourable	2	
Neither favourable nor unfavourable	3	
Unfavourable	4	
Very unfavourable	5	
I don't know	6	

23. Suppose a group of children from another school were coming to do a project with your class. Would you mind if they were from these kinds of schools? (Please select one answer on each line)

	I would mind a lot	I would mind a little	I would not mind at all	I don't know
A primary school near this school SHPRIM	1	2	3	4
A school for children with special educational needs or disabilities SHSNEEDS	1	2	3	4
A secondary school for older children SHSEC	1	2	3	4
A school where most of the children are a different religion to you SHDIFREL	1	2	3	4

A school where most of the children are richer or poorer than you SHDIFSC	1	2	3	4
A school where most of the children have a different skin colour or speak a different language than you SHDIFMEC	1	2	3	4

A **SHARED EDUCATION CAMPUS** is where two (or more) schools share one building or where there are facilities in each school building which both schools use. One school would usually have mostly pupils from a Catholic background and the other school would usually have pupils mostly from a Protestant background and they would share classes and facilities with each other.

24. Would you like your school to be part of a Shared Education Campus? (Please select one answer) **SHLIKE1**

Yes	1
No	2
I don't know	3

25. In **your school** you might have lessons and discussions about the different groups of people living in our society and about treating people fairly and with respect. As a result of being involved in any of these activities in **your school** do you think your attitude towards any of the following groups has changed or has stayed the same? (Please select one answer on each line)

	I am more positive towards them	My attitude to them has not changed	I am more negative towards them	I have not had any lessons or discussions about this topic
People with different religious beliefs CREDREL	1	2	3	4
People who have a different skin colour or speak a different language to you CREDMEC	1	2	3	4
People of different ages (older and younger people/children) CREDAGE	1	2	3	4
People who are not the same gender as you CREDGEND	1	2	3	4

People with a disability and those without a disability CREDDIS	1	2	3	4
People with different political opinions CREDPOL	1	2	3	4

The next set of questions is about children's use of social media

26. Approximately how many hours would you say you spend on social media on an average day? (Please select one answer) **SMTIME**

Fewer than 3 hours	1	Go to next question
3-5 hours	2	Go to next question
6-8 hours	3	Go to next question
More than 8 hours	4	Go to next question
I don't know	5	Go to next question
I don't spend any time on social media	6	Skip to question 34

27. What social media apps do you use? (Please select all that apply) **SMAPPS**

Instagram	1
Snapchat	1
WhatsApp	1
X/Twitter	1
TikTok	1
Facebook	1
YouTube	1
Other (Please type in the other apps you use in the box below)	1

28. How do you access social media? (Please select all that apply) **SMDEVICE**

My smart phone	1
My games console	1
My iPad or other tablet computer	1
My laptop or computer at home	1
A friend's phone, laptop or computer	1
My parent's/guardian's phone, laptop or computer	1
Another device (Please type in the device in the box below)	1

29. Have you ever seen something or been sent something on social media that upset or worried you? (Please select one answer) **SMUPSET**

Yes	1	Go to next question
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No	2	Go to question 34
I can't remember	3	Go to question 34

30. How did you come across this upsetting content? *(Please select all that apply)*

SMACROSS

I came across it myself	1
A friend/classmates sent this to me	1
Another young person I know sent this to me	1
Someone I had met on social media sent this to me	1
An adult known to me offline sent this to me	1
A stranger sent this to me	1
I don't know	1
I prefer not to say	1

31. What happened that worried or upset you? *(Please select all that apply)* **SMUPWHAT**

I came across content that was not suitable for children/young people	1
Someone bullied me using social media	1
Someone sent me upsetting or harmful content	1
Someone asked me to do something I did not want to do	1
Something else happened that worried or upset me <i>(Please type in what worried or upset you into the box below)</i>	1

32. What did you do when you came across something worrying or upsetting on social media? *(Please select all that apply)* **SMDO**

I left the site/app or turned off my computer or device	1	Skip to question 34
I told an adult	1	Skip to question 34
I told a friend	1	Skip to question 34
I reported it on the site/the app	1	Go to the next question
I contacted Childline or another helpline	1	Skip to question 34
I did something else <i>(Please type what you did into the box below)</i>	1	Skip to question 34
I didn't do anything	1	Skip to question 34
I can't remember	1	Skip to question 34

33. When you reported something that upset you on social media to the site/the app, what happened? *(Please select one answer)* **SMREPORT**

Someone dealt with this quickly	1
Someone dealt with this, but it took a long time	2

Nothing happened	3
Something else happened (<i>Please type in what happened in the box below</i>)	4
I don't know what happened	5

34. Have you ever received any information about staying safe on social media? (Please select all that apply) SMINFO

Yes, my parents/guardians have talked to me about this	1
Yes, I have had lessons in school	1
Yes, my friends told me about staying safe on social media	1
Yes, I have found information on staying safe on social media on the Internet	1
Yes, I have found information on staying safe on social media somewhere else (<i>Please type in where you found this information into the box below</i>)	1
I have never received any information on how to stay safe on social media	1

35. Have you ever received any information on how you should behave when you are on social media? (Please select one answer) SMBEHAV

Yes	1
No	2
I can't remember	3

36. In 2025 Australia brought in a law to stop children and young people under 16 years of age using some social media sites. Other countries are planning to do the same. Do you think it is a good idea to restrict children's and young people's access to social media? (Please select one answer) SMBAN

Yes	1
No	2
I am not sure	3

37. In the box below, please tell us why you are in favour or not in favour of restricting children's and young people's access to social media, or why you are not sure. (Please type your answer in the box below) SMBANWHY

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Now some questions on how you have been feeling in your day-to-day life

38. In general, how would you describe your mental health and wellbeing? (Please select one answer) **MHCWELLB**

Excellent	1
Very good	2
Good	3
Fair	4
Poor	5

39. Read the statements below and choose the answer which best describes how you have been feeling over the **last two weeks**. **WHO5** (Please select one answer in each line)

	All of the time	Most of the time	A lot of the time	Some of the time	A little of the time	None of the time
I have felt cheerful and in good spirits MHCWHO1	5	4	3	2	1	0
I have felt calm and relaxed MHCWHO2	5	4	3	2	1	0
I have felt active and vigorous (full of energy) MHCWHO3	5	4	3	2	1	0
I woke up feeling fresh and rested MHCWHO4	5	4	3	2	1	0
My daily life has been filled with things that interest me MHCWHO5	5	4	3	2	1	0

Now some questions about school.

40. You will be starting a new school in September. Did you have a say in choosing the schools you would like to go to? (Please select one answer) **INTNEW**

Yes, my parents or guardians asked me what schools I would like to go to	1
No, I was not asked what schools I would like to go to	2
I don't really care what school I go to	3
I can't remember	4

41. If you could choose what school to go to when you leave primary school how important or unimportant would the following be to you? (Please select one answer on each line) **INTCHOICE**

	Very important	Quite important	Not very important	Not at all important	I don't know
The school is easy to get to	1	2	3	4	5
The school is a grammar school	1	2	3	4	5
I have a brother or sister who goes to the school	1	2	3	4	5
The school has a good reputation (everyone says it is a good school)	1	2	3	4	5
The school is attended by a mix of pupils from Catholic, Protestant and other religious backgrounds	1	2	3	4	5
The school is attended by children from different countries and/or who speak different languages	1	2	3	4	5
The school can provide extra help to pupils who need it	1	2	3	4	5
The subjects taught in the school	1	2	3	4	5
Some of my friends go to the school	1	2	3	4	5
The extra activities they have including the sports they play	1	2	3	4	5
The school has good facilities and is modern	1	2	3	4	5
Good pastoral care - teachers listen to pupils and make them feel safe and supported	1	2	3	4	5
Something else (please type in what else is important or unimportant to you in the box below)					

42. Looking at the list below what **THREE** things do you think were most important to your parents or guardians when they were choosing the school you will go to in September? Remember you can only choose the **THREE** most important. (Please select three answers) **INTTHREE**

The school is easy to get to	1
The school is a grammar school	1
I have a brother or sister who goes to the school	1
The school has a good reputation (everyone says it is a good school)	1
The school is attended by a mix of pupils from Catholic, Protestant and other religious backgrounds	1
The school is attended by children from different countries and/or who speak different languages	1
The school can provide extra help to pupils who need it	1
The subjects taught in the school	1
Some of my friends go to the school	1
The extra activities they have including the sports they play	1
The school has good facilities and is modern	1
Good pastoral care - teachers listen to pupils and make them feel safe and supported	1
Something else (please type in the factor you think is important in the box below)	1

43. Did you do the **SEAG** test last year? (Please select one answer) **TRANSFER**

Yes	1	Go to next question
No	2	Skip to question 45

44. Did you feel under pressure because of the **SEAG** test? (Please select one answer) **TESTPRES**

Lots of pressure	1
No pressure	2
Somewhere in between lots of pressure and no pressure	3
I don't know	4

45. Some people in Northern Ireland want to get rid of the **SEAG** test but other people want to keep it. What do **YOU** think should happen? (Please select one answer) **TESTOPT**

Get rid of the SEAG test	1
Keep the SEAG test	2
I'm not sure	3

Now some questions about living in Northern Ireland.

46. Thinking about Northern Ireland today, how divided do you think the children who live here are in terms of each of the following: *(Please select one answer on each line)*

	Very divided	Quite divided	Not really divided	Not at all divided	I don't know
Their religion DIVREL	1	2	3	4	5
Their skin colour and/or the language they speak DIVETH	1	2	3	4	5
Their cultural traditions and festivals DIVCULT	1	2	3	4	5
The schools they attend DIVSCH	1	2	3	4	5
The sports they play DIVSPO	1	2	3	4	5
How rich or how poor they are DIVCLAS	1	2	3	4	5

47. Thinking about Northern Ireland again, how much integration (mixing) do you think there **SHOULD** be between the children who live here in terms of each of the following: *(Please select one answer on each line)*

	Much more integration	A bit more integration	Keep things as they are	A bit less integration	Much less integration	I don't know
Their religion INTREL	1	2	3	4	5	6
Their skin colour and/or the language they speak INTETH	1	2	3	4	5	6
Their cultural traditions and festivals INTCULT	1	2	3	4	5	6
The schools they attend INTSCH	1	2	3	4	5	6
The sports they play INTSPO	1	2	3	4	5	6

How rich or poor they are INTCLAS	1	2	3	4	5	6
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48. Thinking about the future, if you had children of your own would you prefer them to attend a school where all the children had the same religion as you, or would you prefer them to attend a mixed-religion school? (Please select one answer) **OWNMXSCH**

Own religion only	1
Mixed religion	2
I don't know	3

49. If a new pupil came to your school, how welcome **do you think the other pupils** in your class would make them feel if they were a different... (Please select one answer on each line)

	Very Welcome	A bit welcome	Not at all welcome	I don't know
Religion from most other pupils WELRELG	1	2	3	4
Skin colour and/or spoke a different language from most other pupils WELETHN	1	2	3	4
Financial background - they are richer or poorer than most other pupils WELCLAS	1	2	3	4

50. Now thinking about yourself, if a new pupil came to your school how welcome **do you think you** would make them feel if they were a different ... (Please select one answer on each line)

	Very welcome	A bit welcome	Not at all welcome	I don't know
Religion from you WELRELGU	1	2	3	4
Skin colour and/or spoke a different language from you WELETHNU	1	2	3	4
Financial background - they are richer or poorer than you WELCLASU	1	2	3	4

51. Children can learn lots of different skills and values in primary school. What sort of things do you feel are important in your school? (Please type your answer in the box below) **INTFEEL**

You are nearly at the end, just one more question to go!

52. What do you like most about Northern Ireland? *(Please type your answer in the box below)* **SUGG2026**