

SHOULD 'RESPECT ORDERS' APPLY TO 16-YEAR OLDS?

For our 6th VoteTopic of the year, young people have been sharing their views on new proposals to tackle anti-social behaviour. As the Crime & Policing Bill makes its way through Parliament, a key question has emerged: should 'Respect Orders' apply to 16-year olds? First outlined in the Labour Party's manifesto, Respect Orders aim to ban individuals who repeatedly act antisocially from town and city centres, or from drinking in public places such as high streets and parks. This report presents the results of the vote and reveals what young people think about these proposals and how they believe respect and responsibility should be encouraged in their communities.

Melanie
Data Manager



65,400

TOTAL VOTES

13,320

VOTES AGE 5-11

52,080

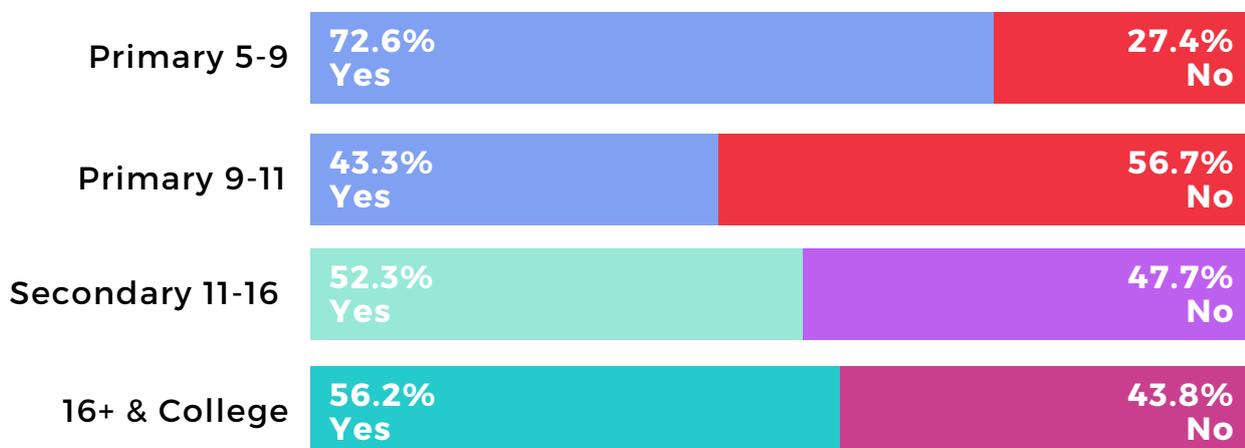
VOTES AGE 11-16+

The VoteTopic questions, discussed amongst the different age groups:

Primary 5-9: "Do rules always help you feel safe?"

Primary 9-11: "Will 'Respect Orders' work?"

Secondary 11-16, 16+ & College: "Should 'Respect Orders' apply to 16-year olds?"



Please contact info@votesforschools.com to find out more about the data relating to this VoteTopic.

SHOULD 'RESPECT ORDERS' APPLY TO 16-YEAR OLDS?

Just over half of Secondary, 16+ & College voters believe that 'Respect Orders' should apply to those aged 16 and some argued that those younger than 16 should also be included. Many in favour used the age of consent and the recently lowered voting age as reasons why anti-social laws should include 16-year olds; if they are mature enough for the former, it follows that they should be mature enough to understand the consequences of their actions.

However, a significant number of students were against enforcing the order on 16-year olds. They believe behaviour at that age should not be criminalised and some were dubious as to whether strict rules would make a difference anyway.

The 9-11 vote was also close to split, however the majority leaned the opposite way, with close to 60% arguing that 'Respect Orders' will not work. Whilst some were hopeful that strict consequences, fines and imprisonment could serve as a deterrent, many said that rules won't be successful against people who do not respect the law in the first place. Others highlighted police shortages and prison overcrowding as reasons why this order would struggle to make a positive difference.

Yes, as then the people will know there will be consequences and that will prevent them from doing the irresponsible action.

We don't think this will work as previous efforts like ASBO didn't work. We don't think the consequences or rules of the behaviour order are enough of a deterrent.

We think that it doesn't matter your age, if you are anti-social then there should be some sort of consequence. We all agree that respect orders should be in place for 16-year olds.

While there has been an increase in anti-social behaviour, 16 years old is too young to criminalise behaviour and respect orders may disproportionately target minority groups.