

HAVE YOU KEPT UP WITH THE HEADLINES THIS SUMMER?



Research from Oxford University's Reuters Institute found that 39% of people worldwide said they sometimes or often actively avoid the news, finding it relentless, depressing and boring. This figure was up 10% from 2017's figure, where 29% of people said the same. For our first VoteTopic of the year, we wanted to see if this aversion was also felt by younger generations, and so we asked them what their relationship with the news had looked like over their summer break. We received responses from over 23,000 students aged 5-16+.

Melanie
Data Manager



23,098

TOTAL VOTES

4,553

VOTES AGE 5-11

18,545

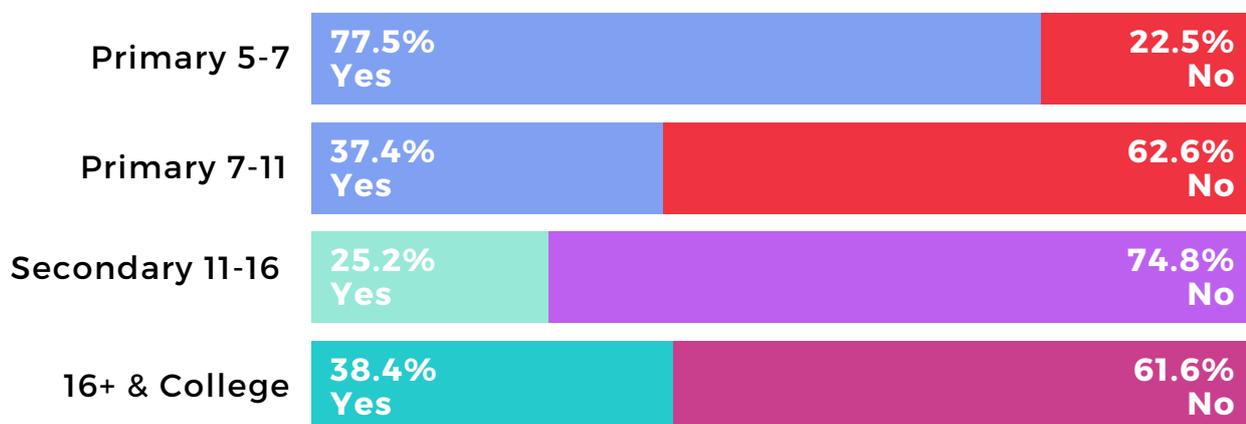
VOTES AGE 11-18+

The VoteTopic questions discussed amongst the different age groups were:

Primary 5-7: "Do you like learning about the news?"

Primary 7-11: "Have you kept up with the news this summer?"

Secondary 11-16, College & 16+: "Have you kept up with the headlines this summer?"





HAVE YOU KEPT UP WITH THE HEADLINES THIS SUMMER?

The majority of students aged 7+ said they didn't keep up with the news over the summer, with many commenting that they find it too depressing. Others, particularly Primary-aged pupils felt that the news isn't suitable for their age group.

Interestingly, the majority of young people's news sources were social media apps, such as TikTok and YouTube. Some thought this constituted keeping up with the headlines and others disagreed, arguing that social media isn't a reliable enough source to get information from. Despite this, many argued it was the most compelling way to consume news stories.

Whilst in the minority, a significant number of young people said they had actively kept up with the headlines over the summer, as they believed it was important to stay informed. Despite wanting to be up to date, some of these students did agree that news stories are often upsetting and negative.

Most of us feel it is important to know what is happening in the world around us, even if it isn't good news.

We opt not to look at the news as it can be upsetting and inappropriate for our age. It can be used to make the people who are reading it worried or angry due to things being reported that are not factual.

We watch the news and take some of it in but sometimes we often feel that the news gives it a certain slant and could be fake (especially on social media platforms).

I don't like watching the news, I get my news from Tik Tok and YouTube.

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