

Announcement of methodological changes to Smoking, Drinking and Drug Use among Young People in England

Background

The Smoking, Drinking and Drug Use among Young People in England (SDD) survey has been running since 1982. Recently the survey has been run every 2 years. Since 2016 the survey has been carried out by Ipsos UK on behalf of NHS England.

The survey collects responses from a sample of pupils aged between 11 and 16 and is administered in schools that are randomly selected and agree to take part.

The information collected is used by central and local government to better understand these behaviours and to develop policies, plan services and new initiatives, and to monitor and evaluate their impact. The data is also used by a wide variety of other organisations.

Methodological changes

Survey delivery mode

Up to and including 2021, pupils completed an anonymous paper questionnaire in school, under exam conditions. Completed questionnaires were scanned and processed by the survey provider. For 2021, survey sessions were led by interviewers from Ipsos in some schools, and class teachers in other schools.

The 2023 survey was administered online. In May 2022 school discussions started to understand the practicalities of moving to an online self-completion survey. This was followed by two pilot phases in 2023; prior to launching the live survey in September 2023. Key areas of focus for this stage were:

- ensuring that limited burden was placed on teaching staff in participating schools
- how anonymity of participants would be guaranteed in all stages of the survey process
- Understanding how familiar schools are with technology and identifying any issues that may need to be overcome, such as firewalls that may prevent questions on drug misuse being answered

- Testing how long it would take to complete the survey

Participating schools were emailed links to the survey for pupils to use to complete the questionnaire under the class teacher's supervision in exam conditions.

As in earlier SDD survey years, schools were asked to sample one class from Years 7 and 8, and two classes from Years 9, 10 and 11. More classes were sampled in the older year groups to increase the precision of estimates. Maintaining the sampling approach will ensure that the data is directly comparable to earlier surveys and time series are preserved.

Change to a single survey questionnaire

For earlier SDD surveys there were two versions of the paper survey questionnaire, one with a focus on smoking and alcohol and the other with a focus on drug use. This design was used to reduce the time taken within a school lesson for pupils to complete the paper questionnaire.

For the 2023 online survey, all pupils completed the same questionnaire. This was possible because pupils were routed to relevant sections based on their question answers, so it took them less time to complete the survey. In addition, a full review of the questionnaire was undertaken in the planning stage, with a number of questions being removed to shorten the time it would take to complete.


Where more pupils answered a question, the precision of estimates based on that question will generally be increased compared to previous SDD surveys.

Question routing

For 2021 and earlier paper surveys, pupils had to follow complex routing instructions. This could result in missing questions or take pupils more time to understand, so they did not complete the whole questionnaire.

Changing to an online survey for 2023 is expected to improve data quality because pupils were automatically routed to the next relevant question based on their answers. Pupils could answer 'Prefer not to say' or 'Don't know' to move on to the next relevant question. (For some questions these response options were only shown if the 'next' button was clicked without a response being given.)

The impact of automatic question routing will vary between questions. There are expected to be fewer missing values, and where the 'Prefer not to say' or 'Don't know' options were not immediately available, more specific responses. However, some pupils may have dropped out of the survey if they wished to skip a question completely but could not.



Analysis that requires answers to multiple questions may be able to include an increased number of pupils because the routing has ensured that relevant questions are not missed out.

Participating schools

During the development of the 2023 survey, the decision was taken to open-up the survey to schools that wanted to volunteer to take part, to test how many schools would potentially volunteer without recruiters contacting the schools.

Promotional activities were put in place including a publicity campaign and promotion by the PSHE Association. Schools outside the sample contacted Ipsos to take part in the survey.

The schools were sent a confirmation email by the research team, that included the link to the test, student and teacher surveys, as well as core materials such as the parent/carer letter. Volunteer schools were asked to ensure that one unstreamed/mixed ability class from each year group (years 7-11) took part in the survey. The profile of volunteer schools will be available in the SDD 2023 annual report.

Data quality checks

For 2021 and earlier paper surveys, invalid answers or unclear handwriting could only be detected when the questionnaires were processed centrally. Data cleaning decisions sometimes had to be made on an individual record basis.

For the 2023 online survey, pupils' responses could be checked as they completed the survey. For example, maximum allowed values were set for questions requiring a number to be entered. Soft checks for inconsistent answers were included that gave pupils an opportunity to change their responses.


Excluding records from the dataset used to produce the publication

Volunteer schools

Data gathered from the volunteer schools would not be included in the national dataset, as the profile of volunteer schools was unknown. However, data from volunteer schools will be made available in an anonymised dataset later in 2024.

Fictional drug semeron

Questions about awareness and use of the fictional drug semeron have been included in the SDD survey for a number of years to attempt to identify instances of over-reporting.



For the 2023 report, the answers from pupils who said they had been offered or tried semeron will be excluded from the dataset used to produce the publication.

High quantities of cigarettes and alcohol consumed in last 7 days

In the SDD survey pupils who reported smoking cigarettes or drinking alcohol in the last 7 days are asked to report the following:

- For smoking, the number of cigarettes smoked per day for each of the last 7 days. Pupils could enter values between 0 and 50 per day.
- For drinking alcohol
 - the total number of each of a range of different types and measures of alcohol drinks, such as pints of beer, cans of cider or glasses of wine, in the last 7 days.
 - on which of the last 7 days they drank alcohol.

Some of the responses received in the 2023 survey reported extremely unlikely quantities of cigarettes and/or alcohol consumption in the previous 7 days.

For the 2023 published report we will exclude pupils' data from all parts of the report where their responses included one or more of the following:

- 49 or more cigarettes smoked on any of the last 7 days
- 49 or more of any measure of alcohol in the last 7 days
- a number of every measure of beer and lager, cider, wine, spirits and alcoholic pre-mixed drinks (14 different measures in total) in the last 7 days
- over 50 units of alcohol per reported day of drinking (calculated total number of units in the last 7 days divided by the number of days the pupil reported drinking alcohol).

Impact of exclusion rules

Applying the 5 rules to the 2023 data excludes a total of 195 of the 13,387 pupils from sampled schools who took part in the survey. The number of survey responses excluded by each rule is shown in the table below.

Exclusion rule	Number of excluded responses
Offered or tried semeron	126
49 or more cigarettes smoked on any of the last 7 days	49
49 or more of any measure of alcohol in the last 7 days	59
Number of every measure of beer and lager, cider, wine, spirits and alcoholic pre-mixed drinks in the last 7 days	22
Over 50 units of alcohol per reported day of drinking	39

Many of the pupil surveys identified for exclusion fall within more than 1 of the 4 exclusion groups, providing additional evidence that these rules detect over-reporting.

Limitations of this approach

Less obvious over-reporting of cigarette and alcohol consumption will not be detected and excluded by this method.

The mean number of cigarettes or units of alcohol can be influenced by relatively small amounts of over-reported high values. The 2023 report will report median quantities rather than means as this measure is much less likely to be affected.

Changes to questionnaire content – overview

NHS England and Ipsos reviewed the 2021 survey questionnaire, and agreed with the SDD survey steering group which questions should be removed, changed or added. Questions were further updated following feedback from piloting the survey.

Appendix A lists all changes to the questionnaire.

For most of the questions that were removed, the associated tables or parts of tables from the 2021 survey report can no longer be produced for 2023.

For some analysis, the methodology could be amended to produce tables using different questions. These changes to the methodology are explained in the following sections, grouped by the pupil behaviours and indicating which parts of the report each change impacts.



Demographic questions

These changes affect multiple tables in all sections of the 2023 report.

Gender categories and terminology

In the 2021 SDD survey, pupils were asked “Are you a boy or a girl?”. Feedback from schools participating in SDD 2021 was that this question was not inclusive and needed to allow a wider a set of responses.

For the 2023 SDD survey pupils were asked “Which of the following best describes your gender?” with the response options of “Boy”, “Girl”, “Non-binary”, “My gender is not listed” and “Prefer not to say”. These categories are used in other school surveys.

An additional category of “Another gender identity” will be included in each table with a gender breakdown. This category will include pupils who selected the “Non-binary” and “My gender is not listed” responses. The combined category will help ensure that the sample size is large enough to present estimates for this gender in many of the outputs in the publication.

The updated question does not represent a break in the time series for boys and girls, as the previous question collected pupils’ self-declared gender responses. In the 2023 report we will refer to gender instead of sex, to more accurately describe the data that has been collected.

Ethnicity

For the 2023 SDD survey, “Roma” was added as a response option to align with the 2021 Census. In the report tables, this is included within the “White” category.

Smoking

Average cigarette consumption (Part 1)

As set out in the ‘Excluding records with over-reporting’ section, the 2023 report will not include mean numbers of cigarettes smoked per week or per day. The median number of cigarettes smoked will be shown in the time series and shown by gender and smoking status.



Table bases changed to current smokers only (Parts 2 and 3)

Pupils asked about accessing help or services to give up smoking

The 2021 survey asked all pupils who had smoked or currently smoked about if they had tried to give up smoking and if so what sources of help or services they had used.

For 2023, ex-smokers were not asked these questions. The 2023 report will include data for current smokers only.

Pupils asked about perceived family attitude to pupil's smoking

The 2021 survey asked all pupils about their family's attitude to the pupil smoking or if they were to start smoking.

For 2023, only a subset of pupils who smoked were asked about their family's attitude. Also, pupils who smoked but said their parents did not know were not asked what their family would think if they knew. 2023 data will be reported for current smokers only, and the proportion of pupils who said their family did not know will be included in the table.

Drinking alcohol

Alcohol types and quantities (Parts 5, 6 and 7)

The SDD survey asks pupils about the quantities of different types of alcoholic drinks that they have consumed in the last 7 days.

For 2023 there have been changes to:

- the types of alcoholic drink that pupils were asked about
- the calculations for converting measures of some drinks to units of alcohol

Types of alcoholic drink (Part 5)

Some of the types of alcoholic drink asked about were changed for the 2023 survey:

- 'Beer and lager' and 'cider' were asked about as separate categories – previously 'beer, lager and cider' was a single category.
- Shandy consumption was no longer asked about.
- The description of 'Alcopops' was changed to 'Alcoholic pre-mixed drinks'.

Alcohol unit calculations (Parts 5, 6 and 7)

Pupils enter the quantity of each measure of each type of drink they consumed in the last 7 days, and we convert these quantities into units of alcohol.

Following recommended changes for the Health Survey for England

(<https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/areas-of-interest/public-health/health-survey-for-england-2022-alcohol-consumption-methodology-changes-to-alcohol-unit-conversion-factors/appendix-a>), the conversion factors used in SDD calculations for units of beer and lager, cider and wine, martini and sherry will be updated for the 2023 report.

The table below shows the conversion factors used for beer, lager and cider for 2021 and the new conversion factors that will be used for 2023 for the separate categories of beer and lager, and cider:

Measure	Normal strength		Strong (ABV 6% or more)		Unknown strength	
	2021	2023	2021	2023	2021	2023
Pint	2	2.3	3	4	2.5	2.3
Half pint	1	1.15	1.5	2	1.25	1.15
Large can	2	2.2	3	3.5	2.5	2.2
Small can	1.5	1.5	2.25	2	1.875	1.5
Bottle	1.5	2	2.25	3	1.875	2

For wine, martini and sherry a glass will be converted to 2.2 units (previously 2 units).

Alcohol unit consumption means and medians (Part 5)

As set out in the 'Excluding records with over-reporting' section, the 2023 report will show only median units of alcohol consumed.

Whether and how pupils obtained alcohol (Part 6)

For 2023, these tables will be based on pupils who answered 'Yes' or 'Prefer not to say' to the question 'Have you ever had an alcoholic drink?' as pupils who answered 'No' were not asked the questions about if they had been given or taken alcohol.



Parental awareness of and attitude to pupil's drinking (Parts 6 and 7)

The 2021 survey asked all pupils about their parents' attitude to the pupil drinking alcohol or if they were to start drinking alcohol.

For 2023, pupils who said they never drink alcohol were not asked about their parents' attitude. Also, pupils who drank but said their parents did not know were not asked what their family would think if they knew. 2023 data will be reported for current drinkers only, and the proportion of pupils who said their parents did not know will be included in the tables.

Drug use

Occasions and frequency of drug use

The 2021 survey included 3 questions about drug use in general, asking:

- Had pupils ever used or taken any drugs
- When did pupils last take drugs
- On how many occasions had pupils taken drugs

Pupils were routed to answer follow up questions about drug-taking based on their answers. The 'number of occasions' tables and analysis in the 2021 report were based on this 'on how many occasions' question.

These questions were removed from the 2023 survey.

For the 2023 report:

- a different method will be used to report the number of occasions of drug use, based on pupils' answers to questions about using individual drugs
- some analysis that was previously only for pupils who had taken drugs in the last year will now include all pupils who have taken drugs
- where analysis refers to 'pupils who have ever taken drugs' or 'pupils who have taken drugs in the last year' this will be consistently based on pupils' answers to the questions about individual drugs.
- there will be minor changes to the way the 'usual frequency of taking drugs' is derived



Number of occasions that a pupil has taken drugs (Parts 8 and 10)

In 2021, the number of occasions that a pupil had taken drugs was reported as 'Once', '2-5 occasions', '6-10 occasions' and 'More than 10 occasions', based on the pupil's answer to the question 'On how many occasions have you taken drugs' with these response options. Only pupils who said they had taken drugs in the last year were asked this question.

For the 2023 report we have derived the number of occasions of drug use based on the number of occasions a pupil said they had used individual drugs. Pupils could answer the occasions question for each individual drug they said they had taken at any time, not limited to drugs they had taken in the last year.

The categories will be 'Once' and '2 or more occasions' only. This is because the grouped numbers of occasions for individual drugs cannot be added together.

We will count a pupil as taking drugs on '2 or more occasions' if they answered '2-5 occasions', '6-10 occasions' or 'More than 10 occasions' for one or more individual drugs.

Pupils are counted in the 'Once' category only if they have answered 'Once' for exactly one individual drug. No overall number of occasions can be derived where pupils answered 'Once' to more than one individual drug, as it is not known whether each drug were taken once on different drug-taking occasions, or all the drugs were taken on a single drug-taking occasion.

Most recent occasion of drug use (Parts 8, 9 and 10)

In the 2021 survey, questions about the most recent occasion that a pupil took drugs were only asked to pupils who said that they had taken drugs in the last year.


For the 2023 survey, this question routing was removed. In the 2023 report, all tables that refer to the most recent occasion of drug use are not limited to that drug use being in the last year.

Tables for the most recent occasion of drug use are limited to pupils who have used drugs on more than one occasion. For the 2023 report, these will be pupils in the '2 or more occasions' of drug use category described in the previous section.

First occasion of drug use (Parts 9 and 10)

In the 2021 survey, questions about the first time a pupil tried any drugs were only asked to pupils who had answered 'Yes' to the question 'Have you ever used or taken any drugs'.

In the 2023 survey, the questions were asked to pupils who had answered that they had tried any of the individual drugs.



This means that in the 2023 report, pupils are included as having ‘ever taken drugs’ in these tables consistently with the definition of ‘ever taken drugs’ in the prevalence tables.

Usual frequency of drug use (Part 8)

The report tables showing usual frequency of drug use include a category ‘taken drugs in last year but only ever taken drugs once’. Following the removal of the overall drug use timing and occasions questions for the 2023 survey, this category will identify ‘in last year’ consistently with the prevalence tables and identify ‘once’ using the new method described above for the number of occasions.

Change in classification of some amphetamine use (Parts 8, 9 and 10)

In the 2021 survey, pupils who said they had taken amphetamines were asked whether they usually injected them. This allowed injected amphetamines to be include in the Class A drug category in the 2021 report.

This question was no longer asked in the 2023 survey. This means that no amphetamine use will be included in the Class A drug category. Amphetamines will also no longer be counted as Class A for drugs offered, the drug tried first or on the most recent occasion. All amphetamines will be counted as Class B. We anticipate this will have had a very small impact on reporting, based on the proportions of Class A and B amphetamines in SDD 2021.

Perceived family attitude to pupil taking drugs (Part 10)

The 2021 survey asked all pupils about their family’s attitude to the pupil taking drugs or if they were to start taking drugs

For 2023, pupils who took drugs and said their family did not know were not asked what their family would think if they knew. To reflect this change and to align the perceived attitude tables for all behaviours, the 2023 tables will include proportions for pupils who took drugs and said their family did not know, and for pupils who answered ‘Don’t know’.



Questions relating to impact of Covid (Parts 1,4,5,8 and 11)

The 2021 survey included 3 questions relating to the impact of the pandemic on smoking, drinking alcohol and drug misuse, these questions were:

- How pupils took part in school learning during the previous school year (Sept 2020 to July 2021)
- How often pupils met in person with two or more people or a group in the last 4 weeks
- How often pupils met in person with two or more people or a group in the last 7 days

These questions were removed from the survey for 2023.

Timing

The first publication to be affected by this change will be the Smoking, Drinking and Drug Use among Young People in England, 2023 report, due for publication 17 October 2024.

Available at: <https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/smoking-drinking-and-drug-use-among-young-people-in-england/2023>

Further information

Questions and feedback on the publication are welcomed and should be sent to enquiries@nhsdigital.nhs.uk or alternatively call 0300 303 5678.

Appendix A Questionnaire changes

Full details of the changes made to the questionnaire between 2021 and 2023:

Questions in 2021	Change in 2023
Demographics	
Are you a boy or a girl? Boy Girl	Which of the following best describes your gender? Boy Girl Non-binary My gender is not listed Prefer not to say
Which year were you born in? What month were you born in?	Removed in 2023
What is your ethnic group? Read all of the options first and then select the one that is most true for you. White [Expandable Header] White British (English / Welsh / Scottish / Northern Irish) White Irish White Gypsy or Irish traveller Any other White background, please write in _____ Mixed / multiple ethnic groups [Expandable Header] White and Black Caribbean White and Black African White and Asian Any other Mixed / multiple ethnic background, please write in _____ Asian / Asian British [Expandable Header] Indian Pakistani Bangladeshi Chinese Any other Asian background, please write in _____ Black / African / Caribbean / Black British [Expandable Header]	"Roma" answer code added

<p>African Caribbean Any other Black / African / Caribbean background Other ethnic group [Expandable Header] Arab Any other ethnic group, please write in _____</p> <p>Prefer not to say (VISIBLE)</p>	
Smoking	
<p>The next questions are about cigarettes. This means tobacco cigarettes and not other things that you might smoke.</p>	<p>Added: "Remember that your name is not on the questionnaire, so no-one who knows you will find out your answers."</p>
<p>How old were you when you first tried smoking a cigarette, even if it was only a puff or two? Write in the box your age then, in numbers not words.</p>	<p>Removed: "Write in the box your age then, in numbers not words."</p>
<p>How do you think your family would feel if they knew that you smoked?</p>	<p>Removed in 2023</p>
<p>On the whole, do you find it easy or difficult to buy cigarettes from a shop?</p> <p>Very difficult Fairly difficult Fairly easy Very easy I don't usually buy cigarettes from a shop</p>	<p>Removed answer code 5</p>
<p>The next questions should be answered by all students.</p>	<p>Removed in 2023</p>
<p>In the past year, have you seen cigarette packets on display in any of the shops listed below?</p> <p>In the past year, have you ever gone into a shop to buy cigarettes?</p> <p>At any of these times when you went into a shop to buy cigarettes, did the shopkeeper refuse to sell them to you?</p>	<p>Removed in 2023</p>

<p>The last time you went into a shop to buy cigarettes, what happened?</p> <p>How many cigarettes did you buy last time? Write the number in the box.</p> <p>How often do you buy cigarettes from a shop?</p> <p>In the past year, have you ever asked anyone else to buy cigarettes for you from a shop?</p> <p>At any time when you asked someone to buy cigarettes for you, did anyone actually buy you any from a shop?</p>	
<p>Do any of these people that you know smoke cigarettes? Tick all that apply</p>	<p>Removed: "Tick all that apply"</p>
<p>The next few questions should be answered by all students.</p>	<p>Removed in 2023</p>
<p>Below are some things people say about why people of your age smoke. Some people agree with them and some disagree. What do you think?</p>	<p>Removed in 2023</p>
<p>How many cigarettes did you smoke on each day in the last 7 days ending yesterday. If you did not smoke on a day write 0.</p> <p>Last Monday I smoked cigarettes</p> <p>Last Tuesday I smoked cigarettes</p> <p>Last Wednesday I smoked cigarettes</p> <p>Last Thursday I smoked cigarettes</p> <p>Last Friday I smoked cigarettes</p> <p>Last Saturday I smoked cigarettes</p> <p>Last Sunday I smoked cigarettes</p> <p>Prefer not to say</p>	<p><i>Instructions changed and answer codes shortened.</i></p> <p>How many cigarettes did you smoke on each day in the last 7 days ending yesterday? Please do not include vapes/e-cigarettes or e-shisha. Please do not include electronic cigarettes or e-shisha. If you did not smoke on a day write 0.</p> <p>Monday</p> <p>Tuesday</p> <p>Wednesday</p> <p>Thursday</p> <p>Friday</p> <p>Saturday</p> <p>Sunday</p>
<p>E-Cigarettes/Vapes</p>	
<p>The next questions are about electronic cigarettes, sometimes called e-cigarettes or vaping devices. Please include shisha pens or</p>	<p><i>This question, and all other questions referring to electronic cigarettes changed to "vapes" after feedback during pilot</i></p>

e-shisha when answering these questions on electronic cigarettes.	The next questions are about vapes, sometimes called electronic or e-cigarettes. Please include shisha pens or e-shisha when answering these questions on vapes.
In the past year, have you ever asked anyone else to buy electronic cigarettes or any refills for you from a shop? At any time when you asked someone to buy electronic cigarettes or refills for you, did anyone actually buy you any from a shop?	Removed in 2023
Drinking	
How would your parents/guardians feel if you started drinking alcohol? How would your parents/guardians feel about you drinking alcohol?	Removed in 2023
During the last 7 days, how much BEER, LAGER AND CIDER have you drunk?	<i>This question, and all other questions about beer, lager, and cider, "cider" were separated out into its own set of questions.</i> During the last 7 days, how much BEER and LAGER have you drunk? During the last 7 days, how much CIDER have you drunk?
During the last 7 days, how much SHANDY have you drunk?	<i>This question, and all other questions about shandy:</i> Removed in 2023
During the last 7 days, how many ALCOPOPS (e.g. Bacardi Breezer, Red Square, Reef, Smirnoff Ice, WKD, Archers) have you drunk?	<i>This question, and all other questions referring to alcopops changed to "alcoholic pre-mixed drinks" after feedback from pilot. Examples of this kind of alcohol also updated to be more current.</i> During the last 7 days, how many alcoholic pre-mixed drinks (e.g. VK, WKD, Smirnoff Ice, pre-mixed cocktails) have you drunk?
How old were you when you first got drunk? WRITE IN ≅ THE BOX YOUR AGE THEN, IN NUMBERS NOT WORDS.	Instructions changed: ENTER THE AGE WHEN YOU FIRST GOT DRUNK IN THE BOX

<p>What happened the last time you bought or tried to buy alcohol from a shop, supermarket or off-licence?</p> <p>What happened the last time you bought or tried to buy alcohol in a pub, bar or club?</p> <p>Have you got anyone else to buy any alcohol for you in the last 4 weeks?</p>	Question removed in 2023
<p>Have you been given alcohol by any of these people in the last 4 weeks? Tick one box on each row. Yes/No</p> <p>Have you got alcohol in any of these other ways in the last 4 weeks? Tick one box on each row. Yes/No</p>	Instructions changed: "Please select all that apply"
<p>The next questions should be answered by all students.</p>	Removed in 2023
<p>Below are some things people say about why people of your age drink alcohol. Some people agree with them and some people disagree. What do you think? Against each sentence, tick one box to show if you agree or disagree.</p>	Question removed in 2023
<p>Please read the following statements about alcohol and say if you agree or disagree with each one.</p>	Question removed in 2023
Drugs	
<p>The next set of questions are about Cannabis, also called Weed, Marijuana, Hash, Skunk, Dope, Pot, Blow, Puff, Grass, Draw, Ganja, Spliff, Smoke, Wacky Backy</p>	<p>The next set of questions are about Cannabis and Edibles, also called Weed, Marijuana, Hash, Skunk, Dope, Pot, Blow, Puff, Grass, Draw, Ganja, Spliff, Smoke, Wacky Backy</p>
<p>How do you usually take Speed or other Amphetamines? Please tick any that apply</p>	Question removed in 2023
<p>The next questions are about Glue, gas (butane, lighter refills), aerosols or solvents (to inhale or sniff).</p>	<p><i>Updated due to student confusion during pilot</i></p> <p>The next questions are about Glue, gas (butane, lighter refills), aerosols or solvents (to inhale or sniff). Where 'Glue' is mentioned in the questions below, please</p>

	do not include 'Pritt' sticks or other types of glue sticks.
The next questions are about new substances that have the same effects as other drugs. These are sometimes called 'legal highs' and can come in different forms such as herbal mixtures, powders, crystals or tablets (e.g. Spice).	<i>Updated for new terminology for this and all questions referring to 'legal highs'</i> The next questions are about new substances that have the same effects as other drugs. These are sometimes called 'new psychoactive substances' (previously known as 'legal highs') and can come in different forms such as herbal mixtures, powders, crystals or tablets (e.g. Spice, Mamba).
What other drugs have you heard of? Please write in the names below.	What drugs, other than the ones that have been covered in this survey, have you heard of?
Do you think that these other drugs that you have used or taken were legal to buy?	Question removed in 2023
Just to check, have you ever used or taken any drugs, including sniffing glue or solvents, but not including cigarettes or alcohol? (even if only once)	Question removed in 2023; replaced with hidden derived variable
When did you last take drugs (including sniffing glue or solvents, but not including cigarettes or alcohol)?	Question removed in 2023
On how many occasions have you taken drugs (including sniffing glue or other solvents but not including cigarettes or alcohol)?	Question removed in 2023
For the following two questions Thinking about the first time you tried any drugs (including sniffing glue or solvents but not cigarettes or alcohol), which of the following did you take? Please tick all that you tried. Last time you used or took drugs, which of the following drugs did you use or take? If you used or took more than one drug at the same time, please tick all those you used or took	Thinking about the first time you tried any drugs (including sniffing glue or solvents but not cigarettes or alcohol), which of the following did you take? Please tick all that you tried. Last time you used or took drugs, which of the following drugs did you use or take? If you used or took more than one drug at the same time, please tick all those you used or took

Mephedrone, also called M-Cat, Meow Meow, Bubble, Charge, Drone, 4MMC Glue, gas (butane, lighter refills), aerosols or solvents (to inhale or sniff) So-called 'legal highs' – herbal or synthetic substances you take to get high, which may or may not be illegal to buy (e.g. Spice).	Mephedrone, also called M-Cat, Meow Meow, Bubble, Drone, 4MMC Glue (not glue sticks), gas (butane, lighter refills), aerosols or solvents (to inhale or sniff) New psychoactive substances (previously known as 'legal highs') – herbal or synthetic substances you take to get high, which may or may not be illegal to buy (e.g. Spice, Mamba).
For the next set of questions, you should include sniffing glue or other solvents but not smoking cigarettes or alcohol. Remember that your name is not on the questionnaire, so no-one who knows you will find out your answers.	Changed to: ""sniffing glue (from tins or tubs, not sticks)"
How does your family feel about you taking drugs (including sniffing glue or solvents but not cigarettes or alcohol)?	Changed to "sniffing glue or other solvents"
How do you think your family would feel if they knew you took drugs?	Question removed in 2023
Opinions/Education on survey topics	
Do you think it is OK for someone your age to do the following? Try using an electronic cigarette to see what it's like Use electronic cigarettes once a week	Do you think it is OK for someone your age to do the following? Try using a vape/electronic cigarette to see what it's like Use vapes/electronic cigarettes once a week
The next questions are about people your own age, such as people at your school and other schools. Remember that no-one who knows you will find out your answers.	Question removed in 2023
Thinking about people your own age, how many of them do you think smoke cigarettes?	Question removed in 2023
How many people your own age do you think drink alcohol?	Question removed in 2023
How many people your own age do you think take drugs (including sniffing glue or other solvents)?	Question removed in 2023

Have you got helpful information about smoking cigarettes, from any of these people?	Question removed in 2023
Have you got helpful information about drinking alcohol, from any of these people?	Question removed in 2023
Have you got helpful information about taking drugs from any of these people?	Question removed in 2023
Have you got helpful information about smoking cigarettes, from any of these places?	Question removed in 2023
Have you got helpful information about drinking alcohol, from any of these places?	Question removed in 2023
Have you got helpful information about taking drugs from any of these places?	Question removed in 2023
In the last twelve months have you had any lessons, videos or discussions in class or at school (including during remote / home learning) on the following topics: Tick one box on each row. Yes/no/DK Smoking? Alcohol? Drugs in general?	In the last twelve months have you had any lessons, videos or discussions in class or at school (including during remote / home learning) on the following topics: Tick one box on each row. Yes/no/DK Smoking? Alcohol? Drugs?
Do you think your school has given you enough information on the following topics: Tick one box on each row. Yes/no/DK Smoking? Alcohol? Drugs in general?	Do you think your school has given you enough information on the following topics: Tick one box on each row. Yes/no/DK Smoking? Alcohol? Drugs?
General	
	Intro added in 2023: The next questions ask about how you feel about your life. Please think about how you feel at the moment.
	Question added in 2023: How often do you feel that you have no one to talk to?
	Question added in 2023: How often do you feel left out?
	Question added in 2023:

	How often do you feel alone?
	Question added in 2023: How often do you feel lonely?
During the last school year (from September 2020 to July 2021), which of the following best describes how you took part in school learning?	Question removed in 2023
In the last 4 weeks, how often, if at all, have you met up in person with two or more people at a time or a group of people who you don't live with? (This does not include going to school.)	Question removed in 2023
In the last 7 days, how often, if at all, have you met up in person with two or more people at a time or a group of people who you don't live with? (This does not include going to school.)	Question removed in 2023
How many people do you live with? Include your parents, brothers and sisters and anyone else you live with. Write in the box: I live with ___ other people	Question removed in 2023
How many of them smoke? Do not count yourself. Write in the box: I live with ___ people who smoke	Question removed in 2023
Does anyone you live with usually smoke inside your home?	Question removed in 2023
How many of the people you live with drink alcohol? Do not count yourself. Write in the box. I live with ___ people who drink alcohol	Question removed in 2023
Does anyone you live with usually drink alcohol inside your home?	Question removed in 2023
The next questions ask about how you feel about your life. Please think about how you feel at the moment.	Question removed in 2023
Were there any questions you meant to go back and complete? Please check.	Question removed in 2023
Please answer the following questions.	Please answer the following questions, select one option per row.



Please tick one box on each row.

None/One/Two/More than two

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