

# Survey results on behalf of Ofsted

## Sample size: 1090 parents in England

Fieldwork Dates: 5th - 11th March 2025



Total

Which of the following statements best describes your knowledge of Ofsted?

Unweighted base	1090
Base: All parents	1090
I know a lot about them	11%
I know a fair bit about them	40%
I know a little about them	42%
I have heard of them, but I don't know anything about them	6%
I have never heard of them	1%
Net: Know a lot/fair amount	51%
Net: Heard of	99%

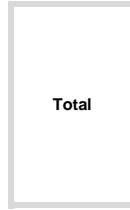
Total

Ofsted is the Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills. Ofsted inspects services providing education and skills for learners of all ages. Ofsted also inspects and regulates services that care for children and young people. As part of its regulatory services, Ofsted publishes reports to summarise the findings of its inspections. Have you read an Ofsted report for a school?

Unweighted base	1090
Base: All parents	1090
Yes	74%
No	26%

Regardless of whether you have previously read a report... To what extent, if at all, would you trust what you read about a school in an Ofsted report?

Unweighted base	1090
Base: All parents	1090
A lot	25%
A little	54%
Not very much	15%
Not at all	3%
Don't know	2%
Net: A lot/little	79%
Net: Not much/ not at all	18%



Ofsted are proposing changes to their inspection reports. On the next page you will see an example of how an Ofsted report looks now. On the following page you will see what the new Ofsted report card might look like. We will ask some questions about your views on both. Please review the following information closely before proceeding to the later questions.

Here is an example of how the current Ofsted report looks now:

## Rating and reports

### Inspection outcome

Ofsted made the following key judgements following school inspection on 14 January 2025:	
Quality of education:	Good
Behaviour and attitudes:	Good
Personal development:	Good
Leadership and management:	Good

Total

How useful or not do you think the information on the current Ofsted report is to you as a parent?

Unweighted base	1090
Base: All parents	1090
Very useful	23%
Quite useful	52%
Not that useful	23%
Not useful at all	2%
Net: Useful	75%
Net: Not useful	25%

Total

Ofsted currently evaluate schools on a 4-point scale. They look at evaluation areas such as 'quality of education' and 'personal development', grading them on a scale from 'inadequate' to 'outstanding'.

Ofsted are proposing a new 5-point scale for reporting inspection findings. This scale will group the different evaluation areas (e.g. achievement, leadership and governance etc.) on a scale from 'causing concern' to 'exemplary'. Here is an example of what the new Ofsted report card might look like:

**Our evaluation of this provider**

Causing concern	Attention needed	Secure	Strong	Exemplary
	Achievement ⌵	Leadership and governance ⌵	Attendance ⌵	
		Curriculum ⌵	Behaviour and attitudes ⌵	
		Developing teaching ⌵	Inclusion ⌵	
		Personal development and well-being ⌵		
		Sixth form ⌵		

**Safeguarding evaluation**

Safeguarding	<b>Met</b>	⌵ Show
--------------	------------	--------

Total
-------

Thinking about the information you have just seen...Which example of an Ofsted report card do you prefer?

Unweighted base	1090
<b>Base: All parents</b>	1090
I prefer the new proposed Ofsted report card	67%
I prefer the current Ofsted report card	15%
They are about the same	19%

Why do you prefer the new report? Please tick all that apply.

Unweighted base	733
<b>Base: All those that prefer the new report card</b>	729
It is more informative	72%
It is more user friendly	26%
It is more useful	41%
It is clearer	47%
It is more visually appealing	40%
It is easier to understand	43%
Other	2%
Don't know	1%

Total
-------

Why do you prefer the current report? Please tick all that apply.

Unweighted base	162
Base: All those that prefer the current report card	160
It is more informative	28%
It is more user friendly	38%
It is more useful	19%
It is clearer	64%
It is more visually appealing	20%
It is easier to understand	66%
Other	3%
Don't know	2%

**Total**

To what extent, if at all, do you support or oppose Ofsted continuing to grade schools using a scale, regardless of whether it's four or five points?

Unweighted base	1090
<b>Base: All parents</b>	1090
Strongly support	29%
Somewhat support	37%
Neither agree nor disagree	19%
Somewhat oppose	7%
Strongly oppose	4%
Don't know	5%
<b>Net: Support</b>	<b>66%</b>
<b>Net: Oppose</b>	<b>10%</b>

Considering the new Ofsted report card, how useful is each of the following?

The 5-point scale along the top of the Report Card from 'causing concern' to 'exemplary'

Unweighted base	1090
<b>Base: All parents</b>	1090
Very useful	38%
Somewhat useful	49%
Not so useful	8%
Not useful at all	3%
Don't know	3%
<b>Net: Useful</b>	<b>87%</b>
<b>Net: Not useful</b>	<b>11%</b>



<b>Total</b>
--------------

**The colour coding system from dark green to red**

Unweighted base	1090
Base: All parents	1090
Very useful	36%
Somewhat useful	47%
Not so useful	9%
Not useful at all	4%
Don't know	3%
<b>Net: Useful</b>	<b>84%</b>
<b>Net: Not useful</b>	<b>13%</b>

**The labelling of the evaluation areas (i.e. achievement, leadership and governance, etc.)**

Unweighted base	1090
Base: All parents	1090
Very useful	35%
Somewhat useful	50%
Not so useful	9%
Not useful at all	3%
Don't know	3%
<b>Net: Useful</b>	<b>86%</b>
<b>Net: Not useful</b>	<b>11%</b>

<b>Total</b>
--------------

**The safeguarding evaluation**

Unweighted base	1090
Base: All parents	1090
Very useful	40%
Somewhat useful	44%
Not so useful	9%
Not useful at all	3%
Don't know	4%
<b>Net: Useful</b>	<b>84%</b>
<b>Net: Not useful</b>	<b>12%</b>

**To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?**

**The new Ofsted report card tells me what I need to know about a school or sixth form**

Unweighted base	1090
Base: All parents	1090
Strongly agree	24%
Somewhat agree	46%
Neither agree nor disagree	16%
Somewhat disagree	6%
Strongly disagree	3%
Don't know	4%
<b>Net: Agree</b>	<b>70%</b>
<b>Net: Disagree</b>	<b>10%</b>

**Total**

**The new Ofsted report card clearly tells me what a provider is doing well and where further work is needed**

Unweighted base	1090
Base: All parents	1090
Strongly agree	35%
Somewhat agree	43%
Neither agree nor disagree	14%
Somewhat disagree	4%
Strongly disagree	2%
Don't know	2%
<b>Net: Agree</b>	<b>78%</b>
<b>Net: Disagree</b>	<b>6%</b>

**The new Ofsted report card places emphasis on children and learners' outcomes / progress**

Unweighted base	1090
Base: All parents	1090
Strongly agree	22%
Somewhat agree	38%
Neither agree nor disagree	24%
Somewhat disagree	7%
Strongly disagree	3%
Don't know	6%
<b>Net: Agree</b>	<b>60%</b>
<b>Net: Disagree</b>	<b>9%</b>

Total

The information on the new Ofsted report card will be useful to me as a parent

Unweighted base	1090
Base: All parents	1090
Strongly agree	32%
Somewhat agree	46%
Neither agree nor disagree	13%
Somewhat disagree	4%
Strongly disagree	2%
Don't know	2%
Net: Agree	78%
Net: Disagree	6%

How easy or difficult do you think you think it would be to...

Understand the information on the new Ofsted report card

Unweighted base	1090
Base: All parents	1090
Very easy	34%
Quite easy	52%
Quite difficult	8%
Very difficult	2%
Don't know	5%
Net: Easy	86%
Net: Difficult	9%

Total
-------

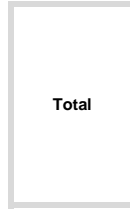
Compare between different schools when using the new Ofsted report card

Unweighted base	1090
Base: All parents	1090
Very easy	26%
Quite easy	52%
Quite difficult	8%
Very difficult	3%
Don't know	11%
Net: Easy	78%
Net: Difficult	11%

Total

Compared to previous versions of Ofsted report cards, do you think the information in the new Ofsted report card is more or less clear to understand?

Unweighted base	1090
Base: All parents	1090
Much more clear	29%
Slightly more clear	40%
No change	17%
Slightly less clear	8%
Much less clear	3%
Don't know	3%
Net: More clear	69%
Net: Less clear	11%



As you've seen, Ofsted are proposing a new 5-point scale for reporting inspection findings. This scale will group the different evaluation areas (e.g. achievement, leadership and governance etc.) on a scale from 'causing concern' to 'exemplary'. Readers will be able to click on key areas for more information. This can be seen in the image below:

**Our evaluation of this provider**

Causing concern	Attention needed	Secure	Strong	Exemplary
	Achievement	Leadership and governance	Attendance	

**Attention needed: Achievement**

[Open in a new window](#)

Pupils' attainment and progress in national examinations and assessments at the end of key stage 4 have been below national averages over time. Recent improvements in key stage 3 mean that many pupils are beginning to build their knowledge and skills more effectively across subjects.

Pupils' progress in key stage 4 remains uneven. Some pupils, including some with SEND, continue to have gaps in their basic literacy and numeracy. This limits their access to parts of the curriculum. As a result, some pupils do not make the progress that they should.

Curriculum	Behaviour and attitudes
Developing teaching	Inclusion
Personal development and well-being	

Total

Thinking about the drop-down picture you just saw, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

The information in the new Ofsted report card is detailed enough

Unweighted base	1090
Base: All parents	1090
Strongly agree	29%
Somewhat agree	45%
Neither agree nor disagree	16%
Somewhat disagree	5%
Strongly disagree	2%
Don't know	3%
Net: Agree	74%
Net: Disagree	7%



Total

The drop-down helps me select relevant information

Unweighted base	1090
Base: All parents	1090
Strongly agree	36%
Somewhat agree	46%
Neither agree nor disagree	13%
Somewhat disagree	3%
Strongly disagree	1%
Don't know	2%
Net: Agree	82%
Net: Disagree	4%

<b>Total</b>
--------------

**The drop-down is user friendly**

Unweighted base	1090
<b>Base: All parents</b>	<b>1090</b>
Strongly agree	33%
Somewhat agree	46%
Neither agree nor disagree	13%
Somewhat disagree	4%
Strongly disagree	2%
Don't know	2%
<b>Net: Agree</b>	<b>79%</b>
<b>Net: Disagree</b>	<b>6%</b>

**Selecting information in a drop down format is visually appealing**

Unweighted base	1090
<b>Base: All parents</b>	<b>1090</b>
Strongly agree	32%
Somewhat agree	43%
Neither agree nor disagree	17%
Somewhat disagree	5%
Strongly disagree	2%
Don't know	1%
<b>Net: Agree</b>	<b>75%</b>
<b>Net: Disagree</b>	<b>7%</b>

**Total**

**It provides more flexibility than the current Ofsted report card to view the school's evaluation**

Unweighted base	1090
Base: All parents	1090
Strongly agree	36%
Somewhat agree	43%
Neither agree nor disagree	14%
Somewhat disagree	3%
Strongly disagree	1%
Don't know	3%
<b>Net: Agree</b>	<b>79%</b>
<b>Net: Disagree</b>	<b>4%</b>

**It helps me visualise the provider as a whole**

Unweighted base	1090
Base: All parents	1090
Strongly agree	28%
Somewhat agree	45%
Neither agree nor disagree	16%
Somewhat disagree	6%
Strongly disagree	2%
Don't know	2%
<b>Net: Agree</b>	<b>74%</b>
<b>Net: Disagree</b>	<b>8%</b>

Total

Ofsted has moved from having a 4-point scale (inadequate, requires improvement, good, outstanding) to a 5-point scale (causing concern, attention needed, secure, strong and exemplary). The fifth point in the scale - exemplary - will be to record particularly exemplar practices. Currently, 9 in 10 schools are rated good or outstanding and 1 in 6 are rated outstanding. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the addition of an 'exemplary' grade?

Unweighted base	1090
<b>Base: All parents</b>	<b>1090</b>
Strongly agree	24%
Somewhat agree	40%
Neither agree nor disagree	22%
Somewhat disagree	7%
Strongly disagree	2%
Don't know	5%
<b>Net: Agree</b>	<b>64%</b>
<b>Net: Disagree</b>	<b>9%</b>

**Total**

Which, if any, of the following areas of evaluation are most important for you as a parent to see in the new Ofsted report card? (Please select up to three)

Unweighted base	1090
<b>Base: All parents</b>	1090
Leadership and governance	18%
Curriculum	27%
Developing teaching	14%
Achievement	35%
Behaviour and attitudes	51%
Attendance	8%
Personal development and well-being	48%
Inclusion	13%
Safeguarding	41%
Early years in schools	7%
Sixth form in schools	4%
Other, please specify	3%
Don't know	5%

Are there any other areas you would like to see in a report card?

Unweighted base	1090
<b>Base: All parents</b>	1090
Yes, please specify	12%
No	55%
Don't know	33%