



Is misinformation a big threat to our health?

15th – 22nd January 2021

Sample of 11,275 voters

If you want more information of the exact split of the sample size across the different categories below, please contact us at lara@votesforschools.com.

This VoteTopic was discussed by voters in the midst of a national lockdown, as a response to the national Coronavirus vaccine rollout.

Voters mainly engaged with our content from home. While usually our votes are logged by teachers, we set up links for our voters and parents to vote independently. The response was overwhelming as many took the opportunity to have their voice heard from home.

As part of their responses, we asked voters to share how they were feeling about learning from home with us.

These are the options that voters were able to choose from:

Primary

1. Worried and confused
2. I'd like more help
3. Somewhere in between...
4. Positive and focused
5. Confident and can help others!

Secondary & College

1. Overwhelmed & stressed
2. In need of more support
3. Not quite used to it yet...
4. Optimistic & productive
5. Confident & able to help others



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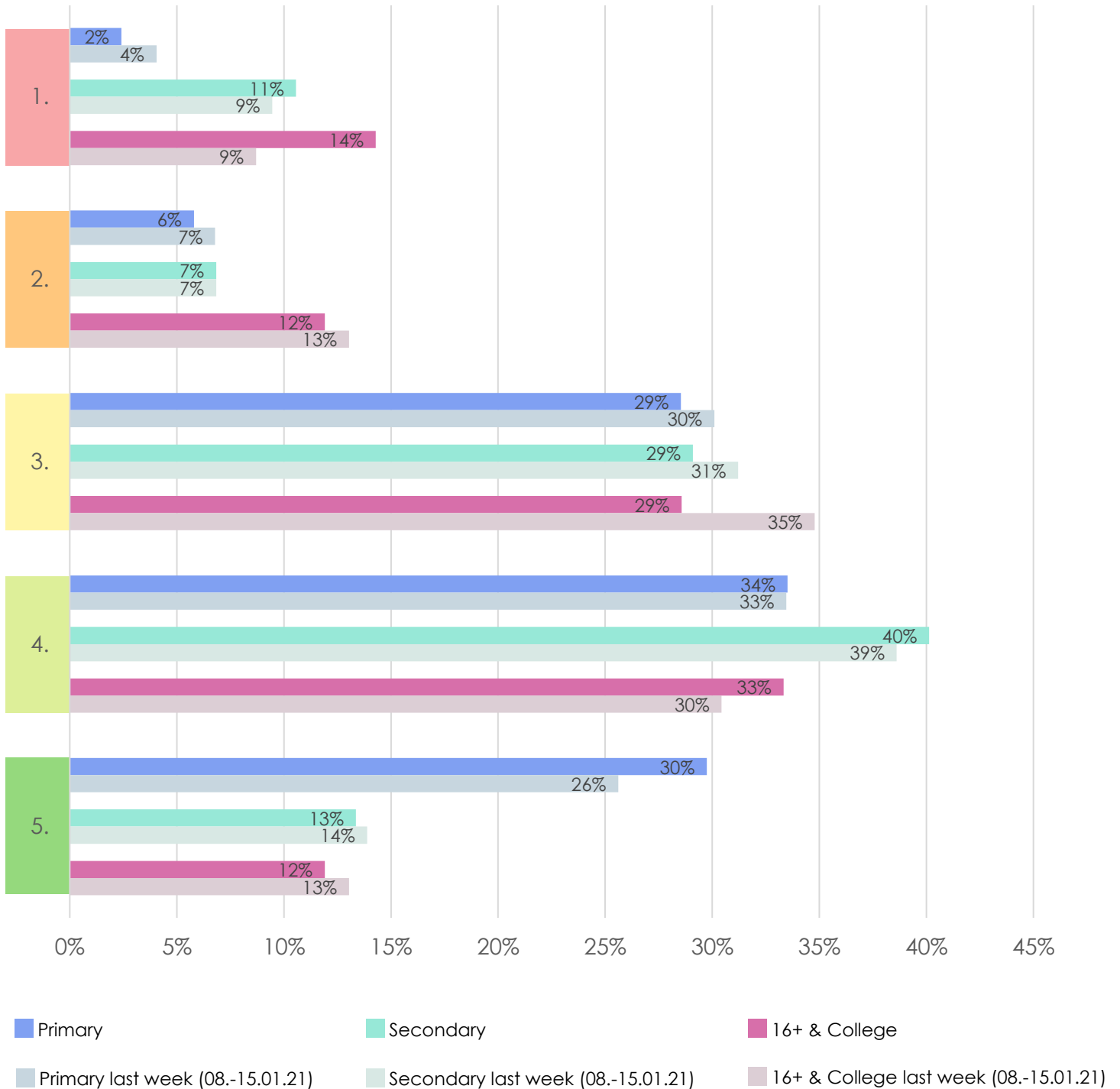
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Here is an insight into what they said compared to the previous week:





VoteTopic Overview:

Question Primary:

"Do we need to learn more about how vaccines work?"

Question Secondary:

"Is misinformation a big threat to our health?"

Question Secondary 16+ & College:

"Is misinformation a significant threat to public health?"

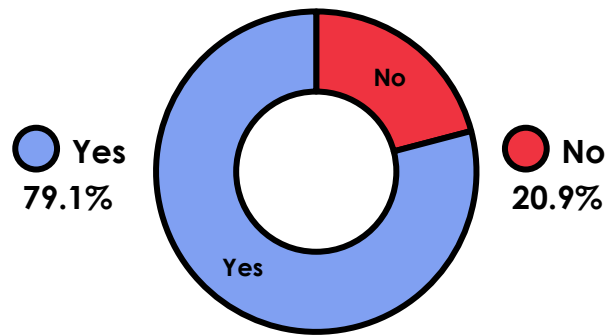
Grand Total

Primary KS1:

"Do we need to learn more about how vaccines work?"

Yes 79.08%

No 20.92%

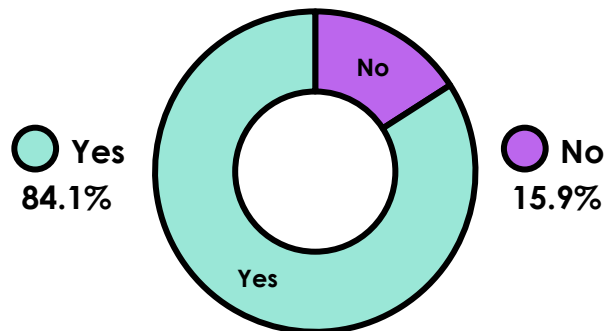


Secondary:

"Is misinformation a big threat to our health?"

Yes 84.07%

No 15.93%

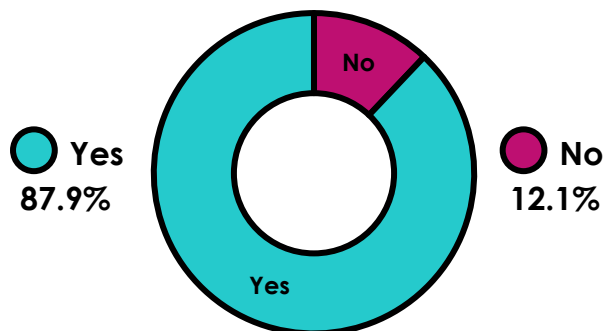


Secondary 16+ & College:

"Is misinformation a significant threat to public health?"

Yes 87.94%

No 12.06%



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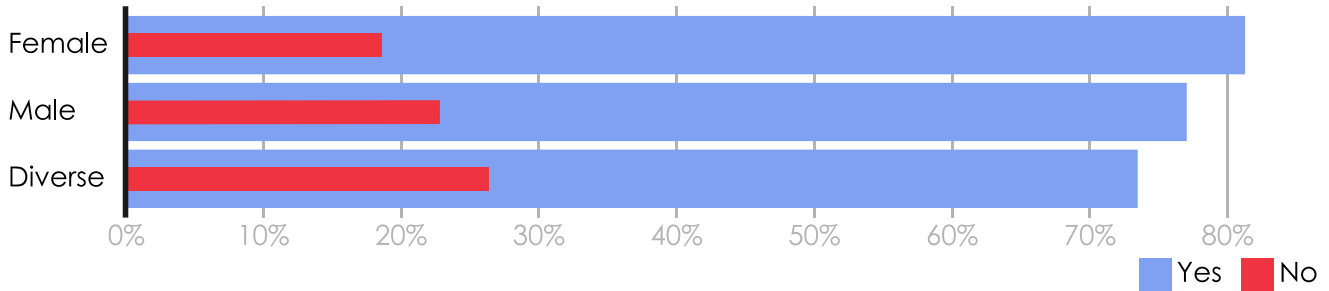


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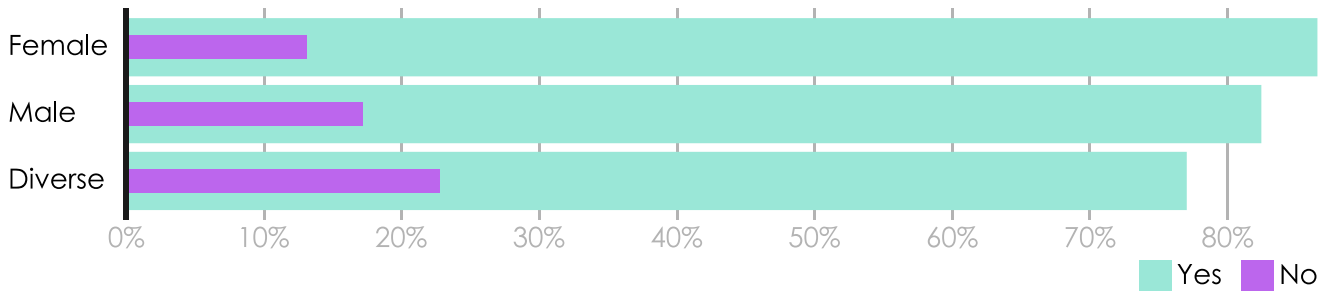


Gender

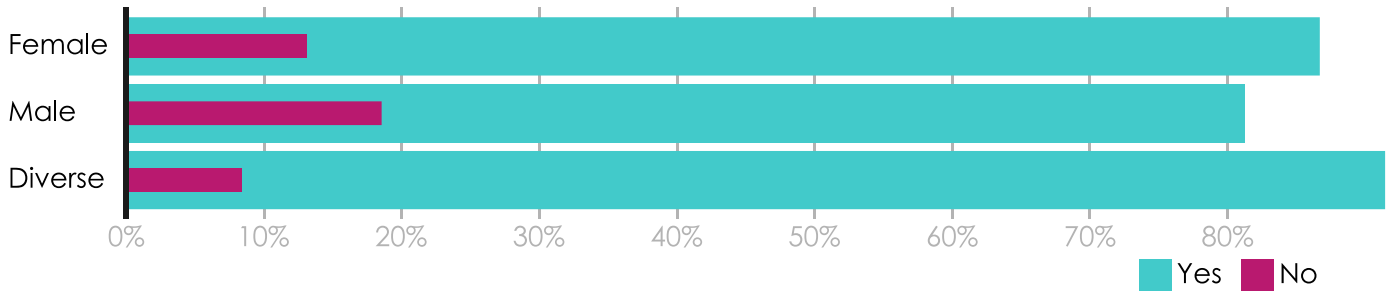
Primary KS2: "Do we need to learn more about how vaccines work?"



Secondary: "Is misinformation a big threat to our health?"



Secondary 16+ & College: "Is misinformation a significant threat to public health?"



Primary: "Do we need to learn more about how vaccines work?"

	Yes	No
Female	81.38%	18.62%
Male	77.17%	22.83%
Diverse*	73.60%	26.40%

Secondary: "Is misinformation a big threat to our health?"

	Yes	No
Female	86.75%	13.25%
Male	82.69%	17.31%
Diverse*	77.17%	22.83%

16+ & College: "Is misinformation a significant threat to public health?"

	Yes	No
Female	86.79%	13.21%
Male	81.36%	18.64%
Diverse*	91.60%	8.40%

*Votes collected as "Diverse" include students that identify as gender diverse, as well as students that wish not to disclose or were not able to specify their gender.



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Amongst **Primary and Secondary, female voters represented the biggest percentage of Yes votes** with 81.4% of female Primary pupils saying Yes, we do need to learn more about how vaccines work and 86.7% of female Secondary students saying Yes, misinformation is a big threat to our health. With this, **female Primary pupils were 2.3% above the average** of all Primary votes combined, where 79.1% voted Yes and **female Secondary students were 2.7% above the average** of all Secondary voted combined where 84.1% voted Yes.

In both cases, female voters were **followed by male voters**, with **4.2% fewer male Primary pupils** and **4.1% fewer male Secondary students** voting Yes, compared to females.

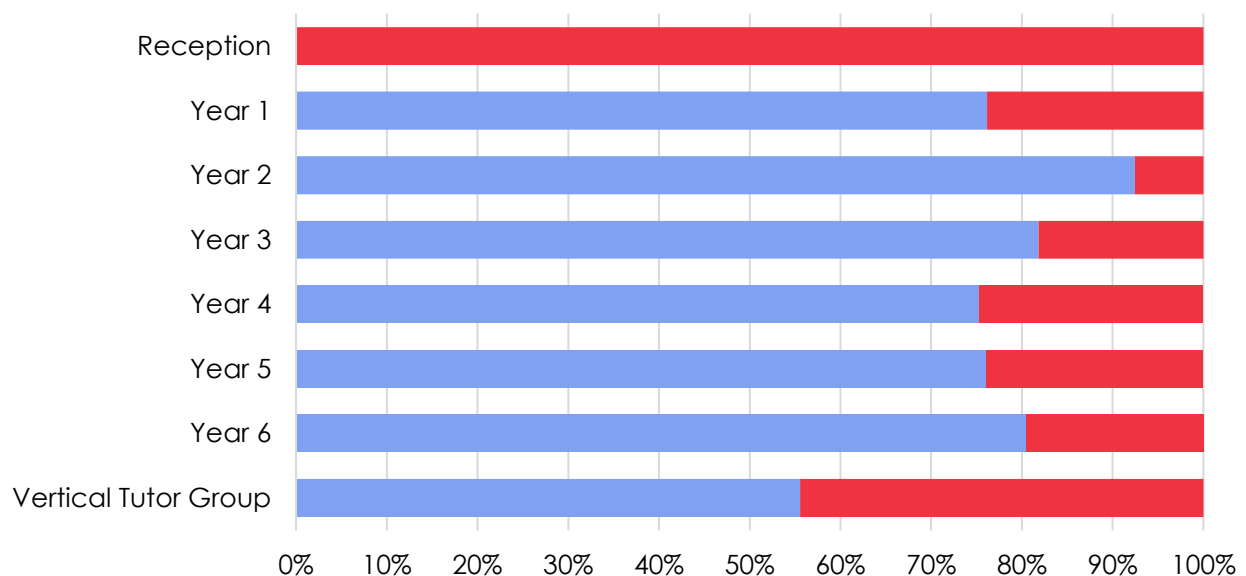
Diverse voters represented the smallest percentages of Yes votes, with **7.8% fewer diverse Primary pupils** and **9.6% fewer diverse Secondary students** voting Yes, compared to females.

Therefore, **diverse Primary pupils were 5.5% below the average** of all Primary Yes votes combined and **diverse Secondary students were 6.9% below the average** of all Secondary Yes voted combined.

Age

Primary: "Do we need to learn more about how vaccines work?"

Year Group	Yes	No
Reception	0.00%	100%
Year 1	76.15%	23.85%
Year 2	92.46%	7.54%
Year 3	81.85%	18.15%
Year 4	75.32%	24.68%
Year 5	76.11%	23.89%
Year 6	80.41%	19.59%
Vertical Tutor Group	55.56%	44.44%



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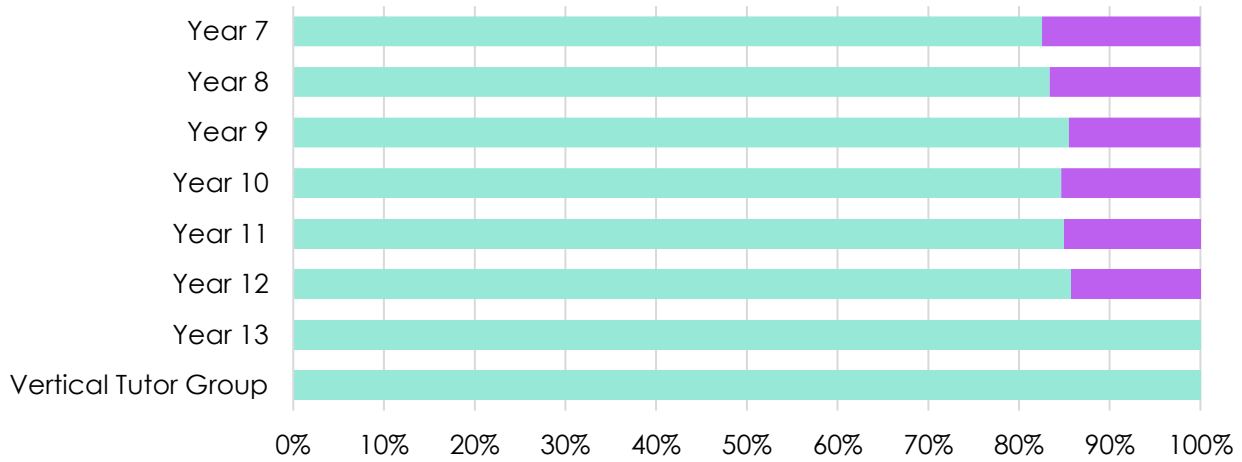


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Secondary: "Is misinformation a big threat to our health?"

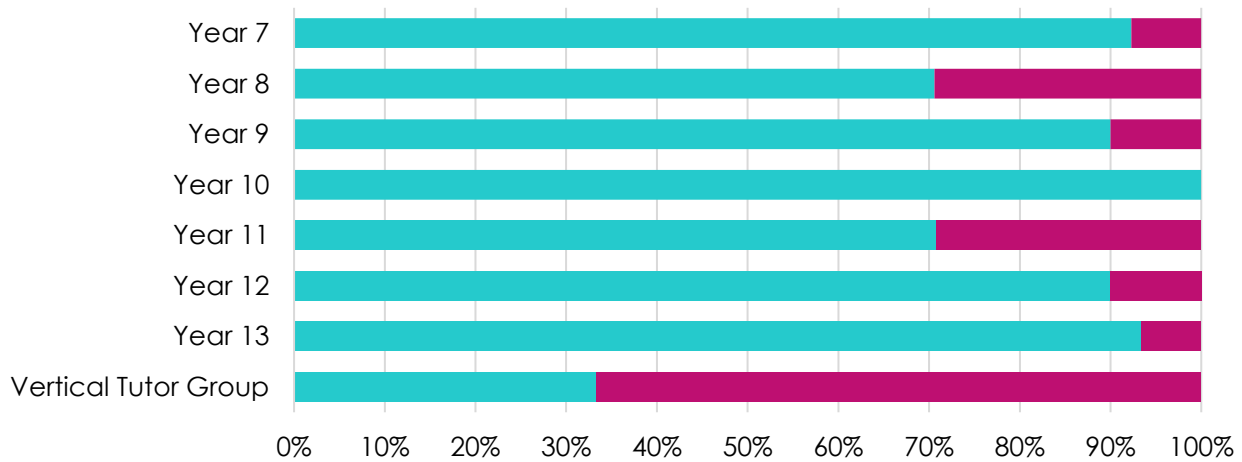
Year Group	Yes	No
Year 7	82.53%	17.47%
Year 8	83.38%	16.62%
Year 9	85.52%	14.48%
Year 10	84.64%	15.36%
Year 11	84.93%	15.07%
Year 12	85.71%	14.29%
Year 13	100%	0.00%
Vertical Tutor Group	100%	0.00%



Secondary 16+ & College:

"Is misinformation a significant threat to public health?"

Year Group	Yes	No
Year 7	92.31%	7.69%
Year 8	70.59%	29.41%
Year 9	90.00%	10.00%
Year 10	100%	0.00%
Year 11	70.83%	29.17%
Year 12	89.94%	10.06%
Year 13	93.44%	6.56%
Vertical Tutor Group	33.33%	66.67%



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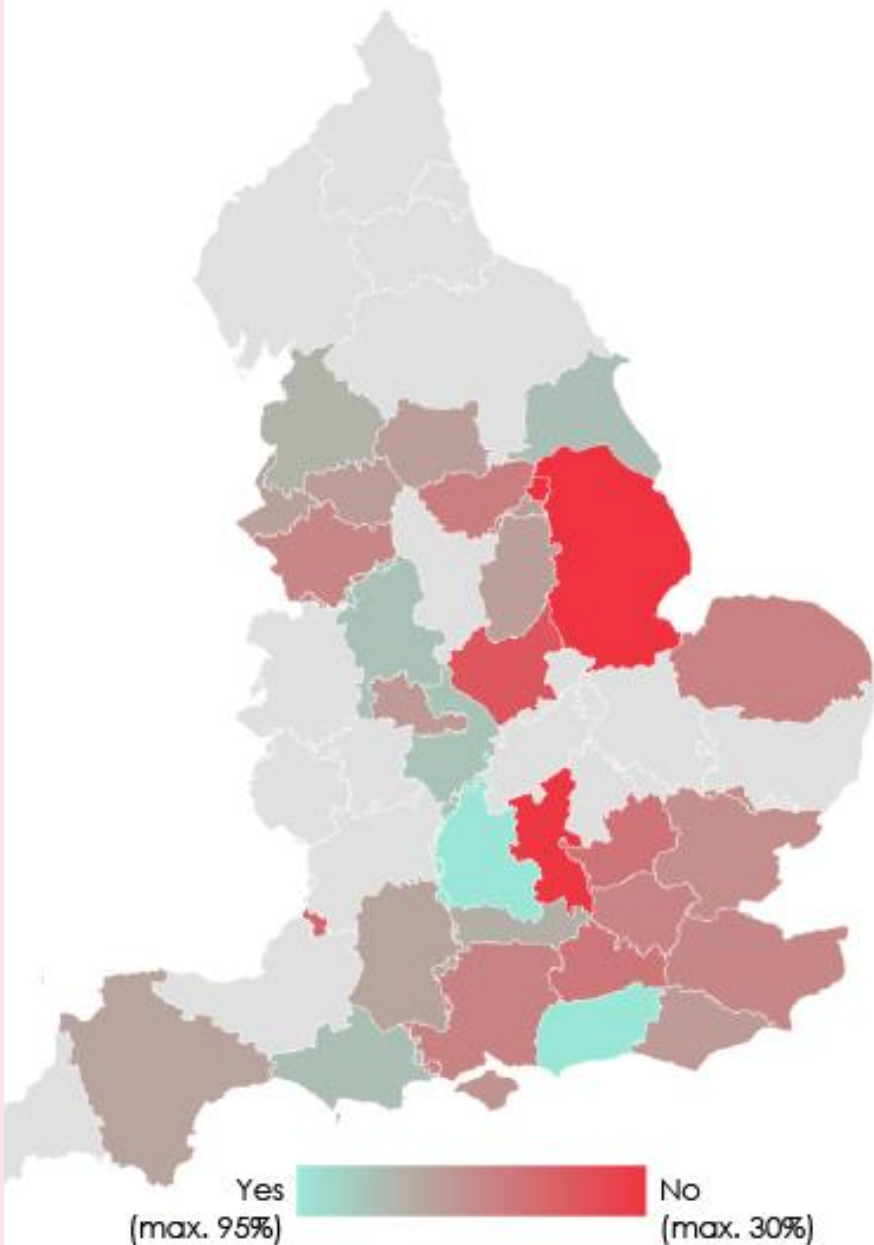
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Location

Primary, Secondary, Secondary 16+ & College:

	Yes	No
Gloucestershire*	100%	0.00%
Rutland*	100%	0.00%
Wrexham*	100%	0.00%
Cleveland*	100%	0.00%
Clwyd (Denbighshire)*	100%	0.00%
Derbyshire*	100%	0.00%
Durham*	100%	0.00%
Herefordshire*	100%	0.00%
Guernsey*	100%	0.00%
Worcestershire*	100%	0.00%
Cumbria*	100%	0.00%
Cambridgeshire*	100%	0.00%
West Sussex	94.94%	5.06%
Oxfordshire	94.74%	5.26%
Warwickshire	90.08%	9.92%
Staffordshire	89.65%	10.35%
East Riding of Yorkshire	89.47%	10.53%
Dorset	89.29%	10.71%
Lancashire	87.84%	12.16%
Berkshire	87.27%	12.73%
Greater London	86.60%	13.40%
Wiltshire	85.87%	14.13%
Devon	85.71%	14.29%
Merseyside	85.36%	14.64%
Nottinghamshire	85.00%	15.00%
West Yorkshire	84.90%	15.10%
North Yorkshire	84.85%	15.15%
Greater Manchester	84.75%	15.25%
East Sussex	84.38%	15.62%
West Midlands	84.23%	15.77%
Isle of Wight	83.46%	16.54%
Essex	82.73%	17.27%
Kent	81.98%	18.02%
Cheshire	81.85%	18.15%
Hampshire	81.11%	18.89%
Norfolk	81.07%	18.93%
London	80.97%	19.03%
South Yorkshire	80.63%	19.37%
Surrey	79.62%	20.38%
Hertfordshire	79.17%	20.83%
Bristol	77.27%	22.73%
Leicestershire	75.00%	25.00%
Buckinghamshire	70.59%	29.41%
Lincolnshire	70.04%	29.96%
Cardiff*	66.67%	33.33%
Ynys Mon (Anglesey)*	60.00%	40.00%
Bedfordshire*	57.14%	42.86%
Cornwall*	0.00%	100%
Bridgend*	0.00%	100%
Northamptonshire*	0.00%	100%



*Regions with fewer than 10 votes are not displayed on this or any of the following maps. These regions are marked with a * in the tables.



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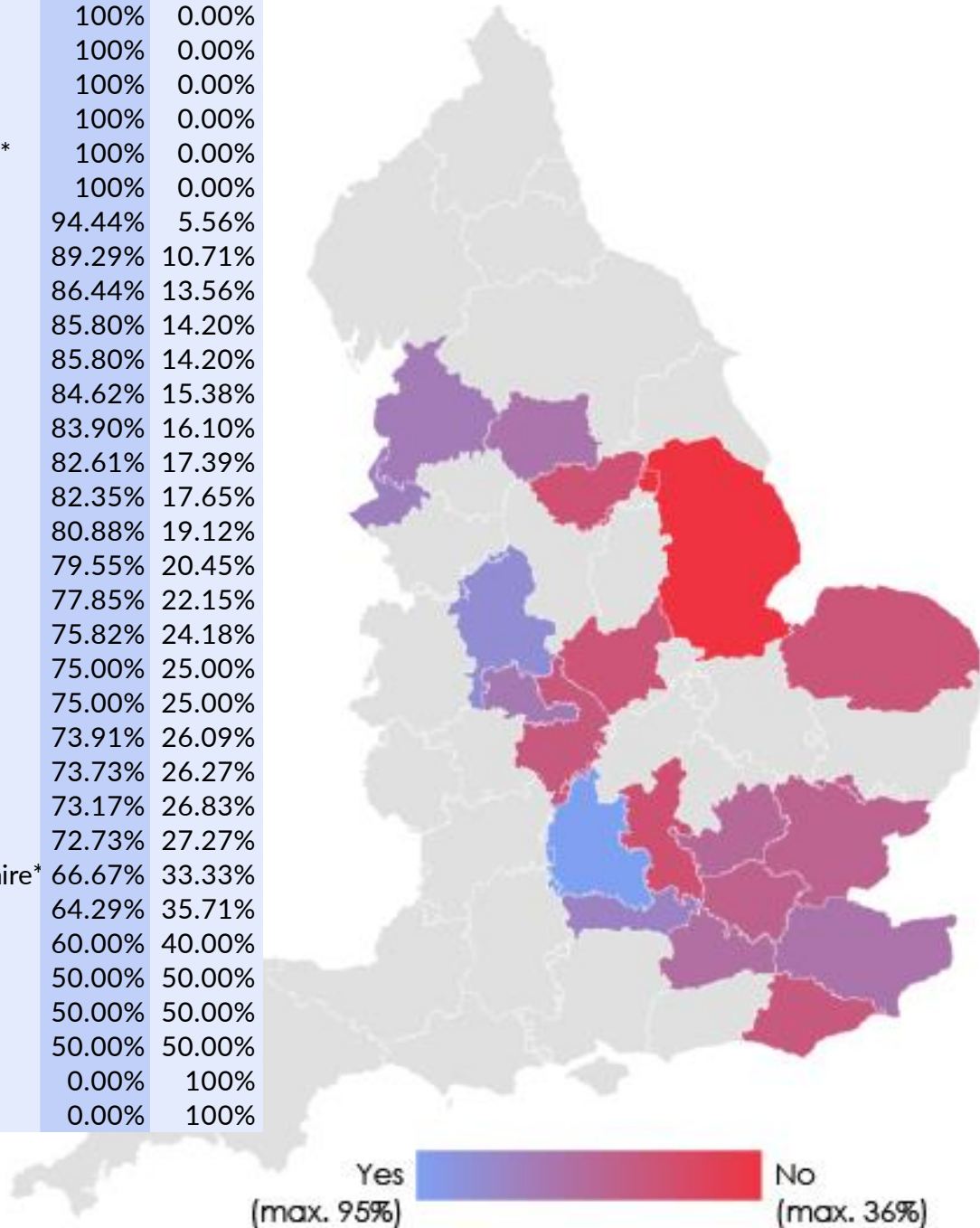
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Primary:

“Do we need to learn more about how vaccines work?”

	Yes	No
Clwyd (Denbighshire)*	100%	0.00%
Durham*	100%	0.00%
Gloucestershire*	100%	0.00%
Guernsey*	100%	0.00%
Isle of Wight*	100%	0.00%
North Yorkshire*	100%	0.00%
Rutland*	100%	0.00%
West Sussex*	100%	0.00%
Hampshire*	100%	0.00%
Herefordshire*	100%	0.00%
Ynys Mon (Anglesey)*	100%	0.00%
Cambridgeshire*	100%	0.00%
Oxfordshire	94.44%	5.56%
Staffordshire	89.29%	10.71%
Berkshire	86.44%	13.56%
Merseyside	85.80%	14.20%
Greater London	85.80%	14.20%
Lancashire	84.62%	15.38%
West Midlands	83.90%	16.10%
West Yorkshire	82.61%	17.39%
Kent	82.35%	17.65%
Surrey	80.88%	19.12%
Hertfordshire	79.55%	20.45%
Essex	77.85%	22.15%
London	75.82%	24.18%
Warwickshire	75.00%	25.00%
East Sussex	75.00%	25.00%
Norfolk	73.91%	26.09%
Leicestershire	73.73%	26.27%
South Yorkshire	73.17%	26.83%
Buckinghamshire	72.73%	27.27%
East Riding of Yorkshire*	66.67%	33.33%
Lincolnshire	64.29%	35.71%
Nottinghamshire*	60.00%	40.00%
Bedfordshire*	50.00%	50.00%
Bristol*	50.00%	50.00%
Cardiff*	50.00%	50.00%
Cornwall*	0.00%	100%
Bridgend*	0.00%	100%



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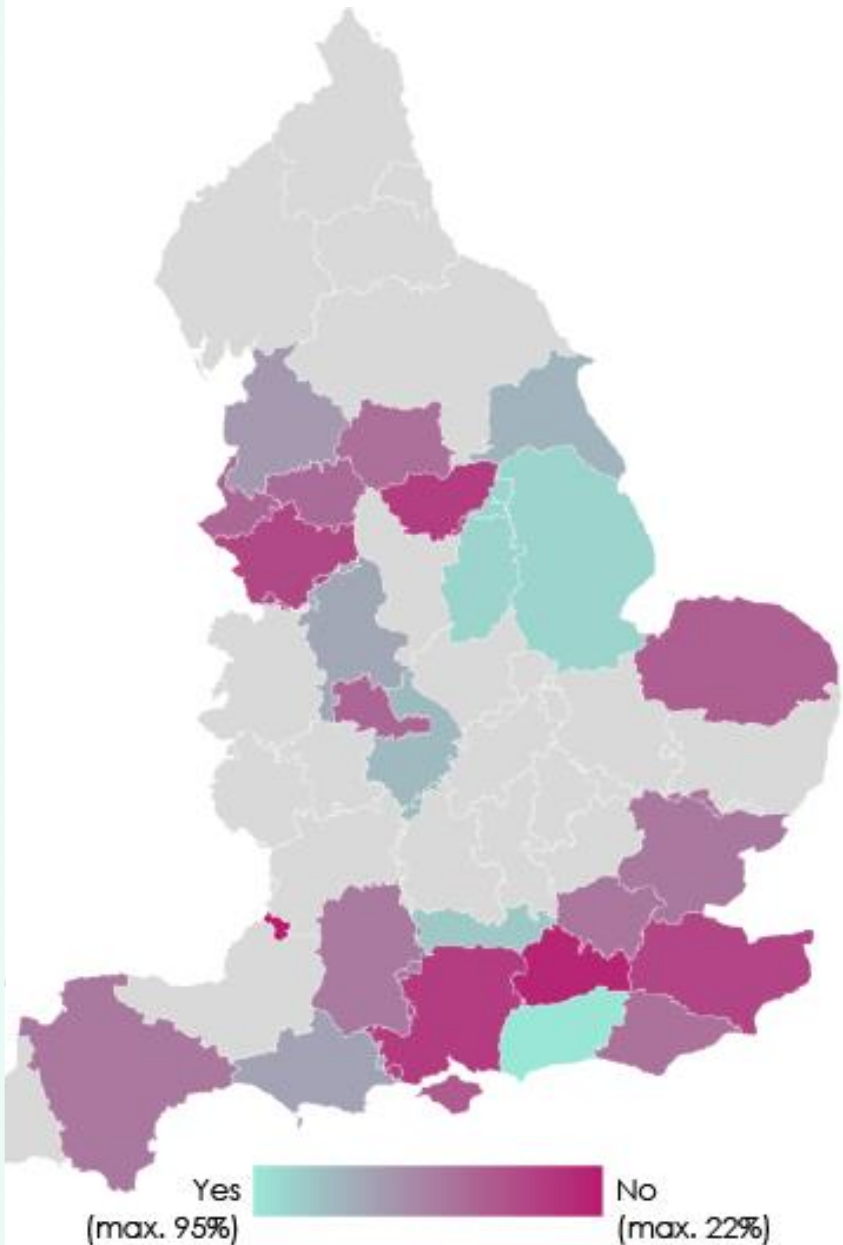
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Secondary, 16+ & College:

“Is misinformation a big/significant threat to our/public health?”

	Yes	No
Cardiff*	100%	0.00%
Clwyd (Denbighshire)*	100%	0.00%
Durham*	100%	0.00%
Oxfordshire*	100%	0.00%
Wrexham*	100%	0.00%
Cleveland*	100%	0.00%
Derbyshire*	100%	0.00%
Guernsey*	100%	0.00%
Worcestershire*	100%	0.00%
Cumbria*	100%	0.00%
Leicestershire*	100%	0.00%
West Sussex	94.87%	5.13%
Nottinghamshire	93.33%	6.67%
Lincolnshire	93.33%	6.67%
Berkshire	92.31%	7.69%
Warwickshire	91.19%	8.81%
East Riding of Yorkshire	90.74%	9.26%
Greater London	90.00%	10.00%
Staffordshire	89.68%	10.32%
Dorset	89.29%	10.71%
Lancashire	88.52%	11.48%
Wiltshire	85.87%	14.13%
Essex	85.74%	14.26%
Devon	85.71%	14.29%
London	85.47%	14.53%
East Sussex	85.24%	14.76%
West Yorkshire	85.06%	14.94%
Greater Manchester	84.75%	15.25%
Merseyside	84.42%	15.58%
North Yorkshire	84.38%	15.63%
West Midlands	84.31%	15.69%
Norfolk	83.74%	16.26%
Isle of Wight	83.33%	16.67%
Cheshire	81.85%	18.15%
Kent	81.61%	18.39%
South Yorkshire	80.91%	19.09%
Hampshire	80.90%	19.10%
Surrey	78.87%	21.13%
Bristol	77.91%	22.09%
Hertfordshire*	75.00%	25.00%
Buckinghamshire*	66.67%	33.33%
Bedfordshire*	60.00%	40.00%
Ynys Mon (Anglesey)*	33.33%	66.67%
Northamptonshire*	0.00%	100%



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Students' Comments:

"I think we should know how it works **instead of people spreading misinformation.**"

Primary School, Hertfordshire

"The better people understand things, **the more we can learn.**"

Primary School, Lancashire

"Misinformation spreads easily around social media and **people need to stop spreading fake news.**"

Primary School, Warwickshire

"We should know about how vaccines work because not everyone knows how they are used, what they are used for and what are the side effects. **Instead of sharing misinformation, you should share facts** so people can get persuaded to take the vaccine and **get better from the coronavirus pandemic.**"

Primary School, London

"The new vaccines have been **developed by expert scientists** who have been developing vaccines for years and have a **huge wealth of experience.** Sadly, there are some people who may **refuse a lifesaving vaccine** because of misinformation being posted on social media and other websites."

Secondary School, Kent

"**Spreading conspiracy theories** about the vaccines means people who believe them will not take the vaccine. However, this **can cause a domino effect** making more and more people believe this false information making it a risk to not only to their health but the people who are willing to take the vaccine. **If people don't take it then we will be stuck in this pandemic for ever.**"

Secondary School, Staffordshire

"The **end of this pandemic relies on people being vaccinated,** and if people are giving out misinformation, chances are, people aren't going to want to be vaccinated, which **puts lives at risk.**"

Secondary School, South Yorkshire

"People **need to understand** and **not be scare mongered** by the media and fake sources."

Secondary School, West Midlands



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"I think we don't need to learn about vaccines. **Most of the people already know about vaccines** so they don't need to learn more about vaccines **that's why we have doctors and scientists for.**"

Primary School, Berkshire

"There already has been **a lot of information about the vaccine** on the news and if you want to know more you can **ask your GP.**"

Primary School, Berkshire

"I **trust the scientists** and the doctors that the vaccine is safe for me to have. The more of us that have the vaccine, the sooner **our lives can return to normal.**"

Primary School, Leicestershire

"I would say we don't have to learn a lot about how vaccines work as **we can trust scientists** because they **have done many tests** with them to see how affective they are."

Primary School, London

"The fake news **can easily be eradicated** with proof that it is fake."

Secondary School, West Yorkshire

"People have a **responsibility to educate themselves** on the correct information."

Secondary School, South Yorkshire

"Many people have already taken and are preparing to take the vaccine and there are **many sources that can be used to verify facts** and previous **misinformation has been identified.** However, it does pose a threat to the health of those who are willing to ignore facts and believe in misinformation leading them to try and avoid taking the vaccine and **spread the misinformation further, but this can be controlled.**"

Secondary School, East Sussex

"Two million people have been vaccinated and **most people are sensible** enough to **trust government** and not everything on social media without proof."

Secondary School, Staffordshire



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