

Remote Learning: the Digital Divide

January 2021



Teacher Tapp surveyed teachers in schools across England in January 2021 (comparisons with March 2020 come from the Sutton Trust's [School Shutdown Impact brief](#)). Specific dates for each question are included below each table, as well as whether questions were asked to all teachers or only to those in a school's Senior Leadership Team. Teacher Tapp asks questions to teachers every day, and not all teachers choose to respond each day, the number of respondents to each question is included within each table. Survey response are weighted to represent the national teaching population, according to school funding, phase and region, along with teacher age, gender and level of seniority.

1. Thinking just of the children in your school learning from home, what proportion do you think DO NOT have adequate access to an electronic device for learning (e.g. laptop/tablet)?

January 2021	All	School phase		Funding		Free school meals quartile			
	All	Primary	Secondary	Private	State-funded	Q1 (affluent)	Q2	Q3	Q4 (deprived)
0% - All our students have adequate access to a device	10%	7%	12%	54%	5%	8%	3%	2%	2%
1 - 2% (1 in 50)	13%	10%	18%	27%	12%	24%	14%	7%	5%
2 - 5% (1 in 20)	19%	19%	21%	12%	20%	28%	25%	18%	12%
5 - 10% (1 in 10)	20%	23%	18%	2%	22%	19%	27%	23%	22%
11 - 20% (1 in 5)	14%	16%	12%	1%	16%	8%	12%	22%	21%
21 - 33% (1 in 3)	8%	9%	6%	1%	9%	2%	6%	9%	15%
More than 33%	9%	10%	6%	2%	10%	3%	4%	10%	17%
Not relevant / cannot answer	7%	6%	7%	2%	7%	8%	8%	8%	6%
Unique responses	6208	1621	4460	410	5780	1414	1334	1290	1211

Asked on Teacher Tapp on 7th January 2021

March 2020	All	School phase		Funding		Free school meals quintile				
	All	Primary	Secondary	Private	State-funded	Q1 (affluent)	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5 (deprived)
0% - All our students have adequate access to a device	7%	6%	8%	42%	4%	9%	4%	4%	2%	2%
1 - 2% (1 in 50)	24%	22%	28%	31%	24%	41%	30%	24%	14%	11%
2 - 5% (1 in 20)	24%	24%	24%	11%	25%	25%	31%	25%	22%	20%
5 - 10% (1 in 10)	18%	19%	17%	5%	19%	12%	17%	19%	25%	21%
11 - 20% (1 in 5)	10%	12%	9%	3%	11%	5%	5%	13%	14%	17%
21 - 33% (1 in 3)	6%	6%	4%	2%	6%	2%	4%	5%	9%	10%
More than 33%	7%	8%	5%	3%	7%	2%	4%	5%	10%	15%
Not relevant / cannot answer	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	3%	5%	4%	5%	5%
Respondents (count)	6877	2023	4728	485	6387	1267	1209	1197	1104	1104

Asked on Teacher Tapp on 25th March 2020

2. Thinking just of the children in your school learning from home, what proportion do you think DO NOT have adequate access to the internet for learning purposes?

January 2021	All	School phase		Funding		Free school meals quartile			
	All	Primary	Secondary	Private	State-funded	Q1 (affluent)	Q2	Q3	Q4 (deprived)
0% - All our students have adequate internet access	10%	10%	10%	51%	5%	10%	4%	3%	1%
1 - 2% (1 in 50)	24%	22%	28%	31%	23%	39%	26%	19%	13%
2 - 5% (1 in 20)	21%	20%	22%	10%	22%	22%	27%	23%	17%
5 - 10% (1 in 10)	17%	18%	16%	3%	18%	12%	20%	20%	22%
11 - 20% (1 in 5)	10%	11%	9%	1%	11%	5%	8%	15%	18%
21 - 33% (1 in 3)	5%	5%	4%	1%	6%	2%	3%	7%	9%
More than 33%	6%	6%	4%	0%	7%	1%	2%	5%	13%
Not relevant / cannot answer	8%	7%	8%	3%	9%	9%	9%	9%	7%
Unique responses	6208	1621	4460	410	5780	1414	1334	1290	1211

Asked on Teacher Tapp on 7th January 2021

March 2020	All	School phase		Funding		Free school meals quintile				
	All	Primary	Secondary	Private	State-funded	Q1 (affluent)	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5 (deprived)
0% - All our students have adequate internet access	8%	8%	8%	38%	6%	12%	4%	5%	2%	2%
1 - 2% (1 in 50)	32%	27%	39%	39%	32%	49%	40%	34%	22%	16%
2 - 5% (1 in 20)	23%	23%	23%	12%	23%	22%	26%	23%	24%	23%
5 - 10% (1 in 10)	15%	16%	14%	3%	16%	8%	14%	15%	21%	21%
11 - 20% (1 in 5)	9%	11%	7%	2%	10%	3%	6%	10%	12%	16%
21 - 33% (1 in 3)	4%	5%	3%	1%	5%	1%	2%	5%	7%	7%
More than 33%	5%	6%	2%	1%	5%	1%	2%	3%	7%	12%
Not relevant / cannot answer	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	3%	5%	4%	5%	4%
Respondents (count)	6878	2023	4729	486	6387	1267	1209	1197	1104	1104

Asked on Teacher Tapp on 25th March 2020

3. Do you have enough laptops/devices for every pupil who has needed to be supplied with one?

	All	School phase		Funding		Free school meals quartile			
	All	Primary	Secondary	Private	State-funded	Q1 (affluent)	Q2	Q3	Q4 (deprived)
Yes, All (100%)	23%	19%	30%	70%	18%	23%	19%	13%	15%
Most (75%)	31%	24%	41%	12%	33%	35%	36%	31%	29%
Some (50%)	23%	27%	17%	1%	25%	19%	20%	30%	33%
No, we cannot help the majority of pupils in need	20%	26%	8%	0%	22%	20%	21%	24%	22%
Not relevant / cannot answer	4%	4%	3%	17%	3%	3%	3%	2%	1%
Unique responses	1489	677	778	70	1408	323	336	323	295

Asked on Teacher Tapp on 9th January 2021 – Senior Leadership Team only

4. Have you sourced alternative IT equipment for disadvantaged pupils while waiting for government support?

	All	School phase		Funding		Free school meals quartile			
	All	Primary	Secondary	Private	State-funded	Q1 (affluent)	Q2	Q3	Q4 (deprived)
Yes	60%	58%	64%	9%	66%	64%	68%	65%	65%
No	33%	36%	28%	63%	30%	31%	29%	32%	30%
Not relevant / cannot answer	6%	6%	8%	28%	4%	5%	3%	3%	5%
Unique responses	1543	687	819	74	1457	327	340	339	308

Asked on Teacher Tapp on 9th January 2021 – Senior Leadership Team only