

School Leaders Survey Autumn 2024: The results are in

26 November 2024

This week we're publishing the latest findings from our [School Leaders Survey](#), which provide valuable insight on a range of key policy issues as well as challenges and priorities of the day.

Research for this survey was carried out during October 2024 and over 200 school leaders responded, representing over 1,650 schools, collectively responsible for nearly 1 million pupils from across all regions of England.

A position of neutrality

The survey was open during the weeks which marked the conclusion of the Labour government's first 100 days in office. Responses show a marked shift in the picture painted of school leaders' views around key government policy areas, from widespread dissatisfaction to a position of neutrality.

This suggests the sector is still waiting to learn what the government's education agenda will be and that there's been no substantial impact on education policy during those first 100 days. However, only two in ten school leaders judge the financial prospects of their organisation as positive in light of the new government.

Artificial intelligence and SEND

In this survey, we also revisit two key issues for the sector for a more detailed look – artificial intelligence and SEND.

Whilst a sizeable proportion of leaders have not yet engaged with AI tools, many others are optimistic about its potential and are using AI for a variety of functions, including assessment, pupil report writing and even recruitment processes. However, this exploratory approach is often being done without a clear strategy or being underpinned by strong governance.

A lack of clear guidance

Beyond the unanimous cry for increased funding and support for SEND, school leaders flag a lack of clear guidance, inconsistencies across local authorities and challenges in recruiting individuals with SEND expertise as significant ongoing issues.

There's lots here that will provide leaders food for thought when planning their priorities and approaches in 2025. Download the full report to learn more.

Download the report [↓](#)

</BrowneJacobson/media/Media/education/SLS-Autumn-2024-findings-FINAL.pdf>

As always, we're grateful to all the school leaders who gave their time generously to participate in this survey. To partake in the next edition of the survey and be among the first to receive these reports, [please get in touch](#) and we'll include you on our mailing list.

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