

School Uniforms (Guidelines and Allowances) Bill (2025)

Youth Assembly Members' views for Committee for Education

3 June 2025

Youth Assembly Background

The Youth Assembly was established in June 2021. The current 90 Youth Assembly Members took their seats in October 2023. At the time of recruitment, they were in school years 9-12 which is approximately age 12-16. They are a diverse group. Membership includes young people from every constituency and recruitment was designed to ensure proportionate representation of Section 75 categories including gender, religious background, race, care experience, sexuality, disability, and young people with caring responsibilities. In addition, there is proportionate representation of young people with care experience and those in receipt of Free School Meals.

The Youth Assembly was established to perform three functions:

- To engage with the work of the Northern Ireland Assembly, specifically with Assembly Committees on legislation and inquiries relevant to young people.
- To undertake project work generated by the three Youth Assembly committees;
 and
- To enable consultation with government Departments and to participate in youth voice projects.

The Youth Assembly Members established three committees for their focus in this mandate. These are Education, Health and Rights and Equality. Members have worked with several Assembly Committees on inquiries and legislative scrutiny. These include the Tobacco and Vapes Bill, the Pensions (Extension of Automatic Enrolment) Bill, the PAC inquiry into 'Developing the skills for Northern Ireland's Future' and the RSE mini-inquiry with the Education Committee. Members have also met with Department of Education officials to help shape policy on the recent curriculum review, the school improvement review, the Free School Meals and Uniform Grant review, and pre-consultation on the School Uniform Bill.

Members are in favour of attempts to make uniforms more affordable however they have raised a number of points in relation to the Bill which are contained in this paper.

The Youth Assembly Members wish to record their gratitude to the Committee for the opportunity to share their views on the Bill directly on 3 June 2025.

School Uniforms (Guidelines and Allowances) (2025) Bill

Pre-consultation – July 2024 to September 2024

In July 2024, Youth Assembly Members met with Department for Education (DE) officials for a pre consultation meeting about school uniforms. The Minister for Education and his officials met with Members in September 2024 to discuss his proposals for a Bill on school uniforms. This was a constructive meeting, during which Youth Assembly Members raised a number of issues:

- What is the timeframe of the consultation and the Bill which will follow?
- How can we ensure that single suppliers particularly in rural areas do not lose out?
- What about schools who have just brought in new uniforms?
- How can we keep costs down while ensuring quality?
- How can we ensure that young people with special educational needs or those who have sensory issues will have a uniform like everyone else's?
- How can we ensure that there is no cost difference between girls and boys uniforms?
- Can the Bill make uniforms more flexible e.g. do we need blazers at all? Can we wear shorts in hot weather?
- What about sponsorship of PE kits? Will that continue?
- · How can we ensure that uniforms are not dry clean only?
- Will a price cap be considered?
- How can we ensure that ensure that schools have uniform banks and preloved sales?
- How will this new Bill be monitored and enforced?
- How will the Department ensure that young people's voices are heard on this important issue?

DE Consultation response – September 2024

Members met again throughout September 2024 to submit a response to the Department's consultation. Their views were submitted via the Departments' Citizen Space survey. Their response is summarised below:

General views

Youth Assembly Members felt that schools should be legally required to comply with Departmental uniform guidance and agreed with the six principles:

- 1. School uniforms should be affordable
- 2. School uniforms should be comfortable
- 3. School uniforms should be sustainable
- 4. School uniform policy should be publicly published
- 5. School uniform policy should be regularly reviewed
- 6. School uniform policy should be developed in partnership with children, and parents/carers

They also advocated for three additional principles:

Modesty:

Youth Assembly Members would encourage the Department to include specific reference to ensure that all uniforms maintain the modesty of the wearer. They report that girls do not always feel comfortable in skirts at school.

Equality:

Youth Assembly Members would wish the Department to include specific reference to the inclusion of all young people no matter their religious belief, gender, race, disability, age

and sexual orientation. All uniform should be comfortable and include everyone in its design. There should be no difference in cost for boys' and girls' uniforms.

Seasonality:

Youth Assembly Members have expressed concerns that the uniform chosen should be appropriate and adaptable for all seasons rather than having different summer and winter uniforms. They report that in some schools, heavy wool blazers are mandatory in classrooms even in very warm weather.

Youth Assembly agree that:

- it should be compulsory for schools to demonstrate how they have taken costs into account when designing their uniform;
- it should be compulsory for schools to publish details of the costs of their uniform;
- schools must review their uniform policy and explain their decision to use any unusual colours or designs;
- where a crest is considered necessary on a blazer or jumper that an option to purchase the crest alone should be available and that this crest should be reusable;
- that branded sports kits should not be compulsory elements of a school PE kit;
- that parents should only have to purchase specific branded or school sports kits when their child is chosen to represent the school;
- that schools should aim to have team kits available for loan for those representing the school;
- all schools should be required to list more than one supplier of their compulsory uniform items;
- any financial or in-kind benefits to schools from arrangements with suppliers or manufacturers should be published;
- a key consideration in all actions taken by the Department should be to encourage schools to change their practice in setting uniform policies to ensure there is a competitive market for uniform items;

- it should be compulsory for schools to demonstrate how their school uniform policy fulfils the conditions of comfort, flexibility and safety;
- that all schools should be required to establish a Uniform Bank;
- engagement with pupils and parents on uniform policy should be mandatory;
- schools should be required to publish details of stakeholder consultation on uniform policy; and that
- it should become a legal requirement to publish details on the development of the uniform policy.

Engagement

Youth Assembly Members ask that schools must not only report that they have engaged with all relevant parties but also that they should have to say <u>how</u> they engaged (face to face, focus group, survey); how often; how many pupils, parents, suppliers etc. were asked and how many responses were received.

When conducting engagement with young people, the Lundy Principles¹ should be adhered to.

Youth Assembly Members feel that, as stated in the public consultation document, schools must consult, review and publish information on school uniform <u>at least</u> every three years.

Cost Controls

The Youth Assembly were broadly in favour of a price cap although they recognise that there are advantages to not introducing the cap, at least at the start of any changes. They recognise that there would be an additional cost to administer a cost cap system which should not be passed on to schools. There were concerns expressed about how a price cap could be seen as a target to reach rather than helping to keep costs down. Some Members felt that a cost cap could drive down the quality of the uniforms and compromise the ethical sourcing of materials.

¹ https://www.qub.ac.uk/Research/case-studies/childrens-participation-lundy-model.html.

On balance, most Members felt that a price cap allows families to budget and plan ahead for the annual cost. The Youth Assembly recognises that there is a big difference in the cost of Primary school and Post Primary school uniforms. The Youth Assembly points out that school uniform is just one of the costs of attending school. There are many other costs including school bags, clubs, sports equipment, stationery, music lessons and trips.

Quote from a Youth Assembly Member: "There is no such thing as a free education."

Monitoring and evaluation

The Youth Assembly feel that the Department must publish returns which should include details on <u>how</u> the engagement was undertaken e.g. (face to face, focus group, survey); how often the engagement took place within the three-year reporting period; how many pupils, parents, teachers, suppliers etc. were asked and how many responses were received.

The Youth Assembly is concerned about the following statement:

"...that the Education and Training Inspectorate may identify highly effective practices and/or specific areas for action relating to the implementation of the statutory guidance."

It is the view of the Youth Assembly that the Education and Training Inspectorate <u>must</u> publish this information at the earliest opportunity when data has been collected and analysed.

Youth Assembly Members were clear that the Education and Training Inspectorate <u>must</u> ask young people, parents and teachers about school uniform as part of all whole school inspections.

The proposal for an independent evaluation must involve young people, parents and all stakeholders including all staff in the school and local suppliers. Any engagement with young people should be based on the Lundy Principles.²

7

² https://www.qub.ac.uk/Research/case-studies/childrens-participation-lundy-model.html.

Further comments raised in the DE consultation

Youth Assembly Members are supportive of a school uniform. They recognise how it can create a level playing field for all, instil pride in their schools and maintain safeguarding duties.

Young people have the right to an education under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.³

Members asked why uniform must be different for boys and girls. They feel the Department should recommend that schools explore the option of one uniform worn by all pupils. They feel this could reduce the cost and would be inclusive of all young people. A quote from a Youth Assembly Member:

"For a long time, it was "traditional" in our society for women to wear dresses and skirts and men to wear trousers. It is time to set uniform rules in a way that reflects the social values of the time. Since the 1920s, women had been wearing trousers and eventually by the 1960s thanks partly to WW2, trousers were the social norm.

But here we are in 2024 and most schools in Northern Ireland don't not allow trousers as an option for girls although it is the gender norm in today's society. Should school not reflect the outside world?"

Members asked why "post primary uniforms can't be like primary – PE kit, trainers?"

Members felt strongly that children with sensory issues should not feel different from their peers. A school uniform should be for everyone and there should be no need to be made to feel different.

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³ Convention on the Rights of the Child text | UNICEF

Members feel that there should not be a different uniform for sixth form. This can push additional costs onto families. The same would apply to those schools who have honours systems. A badge or a tie is a cheaper alternative to a blazer.

They feel they should be able to travel home in PE kit and not have to change at the end of a school day.

Youth Assembly Members felt that school rules around uniform are often very strict. They report that they cannot have hair which is too long or too short, dyed hair, tattoos, beards and piercings which they feel is unfair and often the rules are not consistently applied.

Finally, Youth Assembly Members would like the Department to consider a ban on punishment such as isolation, suspension or exclusion for non-compliance with uniform polices.

Consideration of the School Uniforms (Guidance and Allowances) Bill (2025) - May 2025

In May 2025, Youth Assembly Members met to consider the Bill. Members welcome the move make the current guidance statutory as in England and Wales. They welcome the commitment to parent and pupil voices in setting new uniform policies. They feel that it is a shame that it might take this Bill to make schools listen to these important stakeholders on this important issue.

Article 28 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child⁴ (UNCRC) states that children and young people have the right to education no matter who they are: regardless of race, gender or disability; if they're in detention, or if they're a refugee. Article 3 states that in all actions concerning children, the best interests of the child shall be a primary consideration. Article 12 states that children should have the right to express their views freely in all matters affecting them and that the views of the child should be being given due weight in accordance with their age and maturity. Youth Assembly Members have examined the Bill through the lens of the UNCRC. They key stakeholders of this Bill and feel that it is crucial that their voices are heard.

Youth Assembly Members raised the following points in relation to the clauses of the Bill:

Clause 1

The Bill will compel the DE to publish guidelines for the school uniform policies set by schools in Northern Ireland. There is no detail in the Bill as to what the guidelines may look like, how often they will be reviewed and who must be consulted. This is of concern to Members.

Clause 2

This clause discusses unfair costs, comfort and practicality, affordability and accessibility. It may also address specific suppliers or manufacturers, schools requiring individual items of

⁴ Convention on the Rights of the Child text | UNICEF

clothing in a particular style and if branded clothing is required. Again, it is not clear how what the final guidelines might say and how they will be developed. Will there be further consultation? Who will be consulted?

Clause 3

The guidelines *may* limit the number of specific clothing items a school is allowed to enforce e.g. limiting a school to one branded item such a tie. Again, it is not clear what the final guidelines might say.

Clause 4

The Department *could* have the power to set a price cap. DE officials told the Committee for Education in March that any cap would be subject to further consultation. Who would this consultation include? When would this be? Many Youth Assembly Members feel that this is a missed opportunity and that appropriate price caps for each stage of school life should be part of this legislation.

Clause 5

Is it the view of Youth Assembly Members that all children, including those in pre-school settings, where uniform is required, should be included in this Bill.

Clause 6

Youth Assembly Members welcome this clause which means that policies will be published on the school's website. They feel that the Bill should include the availability of children's and young people's versions of all relevant documents.

Clause 7

7 (1)

"The Department may give directions to a manager of a school as follows if the Department is satisfied that-

(b)

the school's pupils are liable to disciplinary measures or participatory disadvantages at the insistence of the manager (or staff at the school) in consequence of breaching a school uniform policy applying at the school."

Youth Assembly Members feel that the Bill should require schools to make all pupils and parents aware of school and DE complaints procedures regarding school uniform. This information should be available on a school's website. The school and the Department should keep records of complaints.

Members feel that breaches of uniform policy should have a proportionate disciplinary response and never be used to isolate, suspend or exclude children.

7 (2) (b)(ii)

In the Minister's speech to the Assembly during the Bill's second stage he said:

"... there is a specific reference in clause 7 to Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI) reports as a source of information when the Department is considering whether a school has materially failed to adhere to the guidelines or is subjecting its pupils to disciplinary measures due to a breach of uniform policy."

Members support the inclusion of a school's uniform policy as part of a whole school inspection. They feel that the ETI should consider how a school they arrived at their decision, who they consulted and should ensure that schools have robust consultation and complaints mechanisms.

The Minister continued:

"Throughout this school year, the ETI is working to develop case studies of good practice to assist schools. In addition, my officials are engaging with the ETI about the potential for inspectors to include questions about the consultation process and the overall uniform cost and policy for parents and pupils of a school as part of its inspection. There is also scope to commission an evaluation by inspectors."

Members support the move to provide good practice case studies and would welcome the involvement of young people in the creation of such case studies.

Clauses 12 and 13

The Bill currently does not include those children at pre-school and nursery school though Clause 13 would give powers to do this in the future. Uniform grants are not currently available for pre-school children. The Youth Assembly recommends that the Department looks again at extending grants to pre-school children who are required to wear a uniform, and that the Bill is immediately applicable to all children regardless of their age, stage or school type.

Additional questions from the Youth Assembly:

Timeframe

- What is the timeframe to produce the guidelines?
- What are the likely timings of a consultation on a potential price cap?
- The Bill mentions transition periods between existing and new uniform policies at schools. How long does the Department intend that a school should be given to transition uniform policies?
- What should be the lead-in times for any changes for suppliers?

Consultation

- Who will be consulted on the price cap and the guidelines?
- Will young people be key consultees?

Costs

 Research shows higher school uniform costs for female pupils.⁵ How can this be addressed given DE's intention to place any potential cost cap on schools, rather than uniform manufacturers?

⁵ Parents still spending £30 more on girls' school uniform than boys'

Pre-schools

• Can the guidance and the uniform grant be extended to nursery and pre-schools?

Equality and Inclusivity

• There have been calls for gender neutral uniforms, especially around the right of girls to wear trousers. Members feel these views should be considered. Comments from the Youth Assembly survey on 'Young Women's Rights in Schools', March 2025, (Appendix A), highlighted that, in many schools, trousers are not an option for girls or there may be limitations on which girls may wear them. The Youth Assembly broadly agree with the amendment proposed by Claire Sugden MLA on 23 May 2025 which allows for greater flexibility in all schools:

Clause 3, Page 2, Line 34 At end insert - '(2) Guidelines under this Chapter must include provision requiring all schools to offer every pupil the option of wearing shorts of a specific style or styles as part of school uniform for all sporting or leisure activities or occasions, and trousers of a specific style or styles as part of school uniform on all other occasions.'6

- How will religious expression be addressed in the guidance?
- Should there be specific principles on uniform flexibility and inclusivity (religious and disability-related) included in the Bill?
- How will the rights of trans students be reflected in the Bill?

Clarity

• Will there be sufficient clarity in the guidelines for schools? Is there a risk that the guidelines might appear subjective and/or open to interpretation?

Adherence

⁶ https://www.niassembly.gov.uk/globalassets/documents/legislation/bills/executive-bills/mandate-2022-2027/school-uniforms/noa1.pdf

- How will DE oversee the introduction and enforcement of the Bill?
- What are the reporting requirements that DE plans to require of schools?
- Is the existing complaints procedure sufficient, and does it provide pupils and parents with a real avenue to contest a uniform policy which is not aligned with the new guidelines?

Review

How often should a school be required to review its policy?
 The DE Consultation (question 23) asked:

Do you agree with the proposal that schools should review their uniform policy every three years?

This proposal seems to have been dropped from the Bill.

The Youth Assembly stated in its response that schools should conduct reviews of uniform policy *at least* every three years.

How often should DE guidelines be reviewed?

The Bill states in Clause 1(a)(ii) that the Department of Education must "review such guidelines from time to time" and in Clause 1(b) "may reissue such guidelines (and must do so if they are revised following review. What length of time between reviews of the uniform policy is appropriate? This should be more specific.

- How will the implementation of new uniform guidelines be evaluated by DE?
- How will the success of this Bill be measured and reported?

Appendix A

'Young Women's Rights in Schools' – March 2025 Survey results relating to school uniforms

In March 2025, the Youth Assembly Rights and Equality Committee launched an online survey on 'Young Women's Rights in schools'. The survey was completed by 1137 young people aged 11-18. Respondents were 68% female and 30% male (others stated 'prefer not to say').

Within the survey, there were five questions relating to school uniforms which we would like to bring to the attention of the Committee.

Below is a summary of the quantitative responses and a range of quotes taken verbatim from young people's comments. A full breakdown of the data is available at Annex A.

One of the six principles in the DE consultation was that school uniforms should be comfortable. The answers provided to questions 1 and 2 below are interesting in this context.

1. Do you think girls feel comfortable in their uniform?

While only 18.29% of girls said they feel comfortable in their uniform, a larger proportion (45.53%) said they do *to some extent*, while nearly one-third (31.78%) said they do *not* feel comfortable — highlighting that uniform comfort is a significant issue for many girls.

Comments on this question included:

• "Being told to cover up skin - i.e. - skirt length, being a large topic of conversation while boys can wear shorts and are far more likely to get away with uniform violations - girls are expected to dress correctly while boys rarely receive more than a passing comment made when they violate uniform policy."

- "Girls are made to wear tights all year round no matter the temperature."
- "Almost all brands that make school shirts in an affordable price range are seethrough so many girls won't take their blazers off if they're too warm."
- "The shirt in my opinion is too see-through, making girls and easy target for boys as they make fun of seeing their bras. As well as this, the tights are uncomfortable as well as the skirts, which are not elasticated so when you bloat it means you are in immense pain. This also means girls cannot play football at lunch, as they are wearing skirts."
- "In my school we are not allowed to wear socks because boys were taking pictures up girls skirts."
- "On 'non-uniform' days when teachers fail to explain why certain outfits are 'inappropriate' other than misrepresentation of the school, which doesn't make sense."
- "As a teenager with ASD, the school uniform has always been an issue for me sensory wise and it's never taken into consideration."
- "There was an assembly held about school skirt lengths and one of the teachers giving the assembly said she would 'use a ruler' to measure the girls' skirts and that if they were short then the students were 'asking for it'. This is a very distinct memory of my school, and it only happened about 2 years ago yet continues to be brought up."
- "Skirts are not practical for young girls (for running, playing, doing cartwheels etc) where we could have skorts".

- "Skirts are uncomfortable. I have to hold my skirt down when going up the stairs and my skirt is not rolled up."
- "Not allowed to wear shorts when its warm because it distracts boys."
- "Boys in our school are generally not punished for wearing shorts in 20 degrees plus weather, but girls on the other hand are not allowed to wear them at all. Girls have to wear these horrible, itchy tights that never stay where tights should be, so I have to spend all day pulling them up. They are made of wool, so in the summer I am absolutely boiling. If I wear knee length socks I could get a detention."
- "Uniforms are not only sexist but more expensive when you are a girl."

2. Do you think girls feel comfortable in their PE Kit?

While 37.74% of girls said they feel comfortable in their PE kit and 35.54% said they do to some extent, over one in five (21.53%) said they do not — suggesting that PE kit comfort remains a concern for a significant number of girls.

Comments on this question included:

- "The skorts worn for PE have always been very short however we were always told once out of PE, we had to put something over the skort as it was inappropriate wearing around the hallways."
- "There should be more options in PE kits often girls' shorts/skorts are much shorter than the boys' (which are knee-length) - even when playing the same sport."

- "Girls uncomfortable in tight leggings whilst wearing period wear."
- "The PE kits are too revealing. Girls must wear tiny skorts and we aren't allowed to wear tracksuits or leggings (also freezing)."
- "With the PE gear, I have heard some boys comment on girls when they are wearing leggings. They would say inappropriate stuff about how they look."
- "Shorts are boy's sizes and shapes not made for women's bodies."
- Our PE leggings have literally NO WAISTBAND and they are so uncomfortable!!!!
 They constantly feel as they are going to fall down, and I think the majority of my friends agree! If I didn't hike them up every two seconds they would be down round my ankles!!! The leggings are horrendous!! And need FIXED!!!"
- "After matches we can only stay in P.E gear if we have leggings to change into rather than wear our shorts."

3. Do girls have the option to wear trousers in your school?

36.24% of respondents said girls have the option to wear trousers at school, with 41.76% of girls and 22.96% of boys agreeing; 34.21% said no (39.04% girls vs. 22.96% boys), while 23.31% said they don't know (18.42% girls vs. 35.65% boys).

Comments on this question included:

- "Girls are allowed to wear trousers, but it often results in people calling them lesbians or tomboys, which puts them off wearing them."
- "Girls who identify as non-binary can ask the school if they can wear trousers, their parents must meet with the school, and they are encouraged to take

counselling. As a result, the handful of girls who wear trousers have the social stigma and there is name calling. It's horrendous."

- "My religion requires me to wear modest clothing and not to dress like a boy. I
 love my religion but the only modest options for girls in school is to dress like a
 boy. I don't want to dress like a boy."
- "Girls should not be yelled at for wearing trousers. Nor should they have to ask for permission from teachers to wear trousers. As long as it is trousers that the school has issued it shouldn't matter."
- "In my school you have to ask permission from the principal to wear trousers if you're female."
- "I think that everybody should have the option to wear trousers, and if the school is giving people the choice to wear trousers, they should make that clear, instead of everyone assuming that they must wear a skirt."
- "So many people at my school get detentions because of their skirt length, this
 problem could be fixed if everyone had the option to wear trousers."

4. Should uniform be gender neutral?

Nearly half of respondents (45.47%) support gender-neutral uniforms, with more girls (49.55%) than boys (32.93%) in favor. About a quarter (25.15%) oppose the idea, and a significant portion, especially boys (41.39%)—are unsure.

Comments on this question included:

"They need to be affordable and cheap unisex options must exist."

- "Colour standardisation is important too. Why have separate summer uniforms or in different colours for a particular gender option? This presents a physical separation and difference between students."
- "Unisex uniform should be an option for those who wish for it."
- "I think there should be a unisex option but not a requirement for all pupils to wear as some people may not feel comfortable in trousers or skirts etc."
- "Make girls and boys wear the same uniform"

5. Are there non-uniform day restrictions on girls?

About one-third of respondents (31.93%) said yes, with more girls (38.00%) than boys (18.13%) reporting restrictions; an additional 24.01% said restrictions apply to some extent. Around 15% said no restrictions exist, while a large portion—especially boys (42.60%)—were unsure.

Comments on this question included:

- "Non uniform day restrictions for girls this is such a long list in comparison to the boys "no football tops" which does not even get listened to."
- "There are much more restrictions for what girls can wear on non-school uniform than boys."

- "In my little sister's school, they were going on a school trip to the cinema and were allowed to wear non-uniform, but girls weren't allowed to wear leggings, shorts or skirts. But the only thing guys weren't allowed to wear was a football kit. I think people complained so they all had to go in their uniforms."
- "On non-uniform days, the form tutor inspects everybody's clothing to make sure it's appropriate in registration".
- "Lack of proper explanation for certain uniform standards, especially on 'non-uniform' days when teachers fail to explain why certain outfits are 'inappropriate' other than misrepresentation of the school, which doesn't make sense".

Appendix B

'Young Women's Rights in Schools' – March 2025 Survey results from questions relating to school uniform

Do you think girls feel comfortable in their uniform?

	Total	Girls	Boys
Yes	20.14%	18.29%	25.98%
To some extent	37.47%	45.53%	18.43%
No	24.89%	31.78%	9.06%
I don't know	17.50%	4.41%	46.53%
Not relevant		0.00%	0.00%

Do you think girls feel comfortable in their PE Kit?

	Total	Girls	Boys
Yes	34.92%	37.74%	30.21%
To some extent	28.85%	35.54%	12.69%
No	16.01%	21.53%	4.23%
I don't know	17.59%	4.41%	46.53%
Not relevant		0.78%	6.34%

Do girls have the option to wear trousers in your school?

	Total	Girls	Boys
Yes	36.24%	41.76%	22.96%
To some extent	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
No	34.21%	39.04%	22.96%
I don't know	23.31%	18.42%	35.65%
Not relevant		0.78%	18.43%

Should uniform be gender neutral?

	Total	Girls	Boys
Yes	45.47%	49.55%	32.93%
To some extent	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
No	25.15%	26.07%	25.68%
I don't know	29.38%	24.38%	41.39%
Not relevant		0.00%	0.00%

Are there non-uniform day restrictions on girls?

	Total	Girls	Boys
Yes	31.93%	38.00%	18.13%
To some extent	24.01%	28.53%	13.90%
No	15.30%	15.18%	15.41%
I don't know	23.31%	14.92%	42.60%
Not relevant		3.37%	9.97%