



# #BeeWell Brief: Life Readiness

---

Based on #BeeWell 2022  
data



## Background

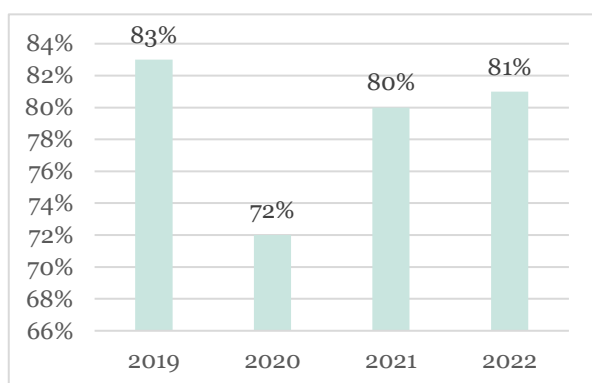
The second annual #BeeWell survey was delivered to more than 150 schools and approximately 35,000 young people in Years 9 and 10 in Autumn 2022. It includes some items from the Greater Manchester Life Readiness Survey (LRS), which was administered by the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) between 2018 and 2020 to young people in Year 10. The LRS focused on young people's optimism for the future, skills, careers education and post-Year 11 plans.

Schools that participated in the 2022 #BeeWell survey received a bespoke Life Readiness dashboard that gives an overview of their pupils' responses to the Future section of the survey.

The sample size was much smaller in the original LRS, and resulting trends should be treated with caution. However, the year-on-year analysis of Year 10 data below presents a unique opportunity to understand the impact of the pandemic on young people's readiness for life over time.

## Life Readiness

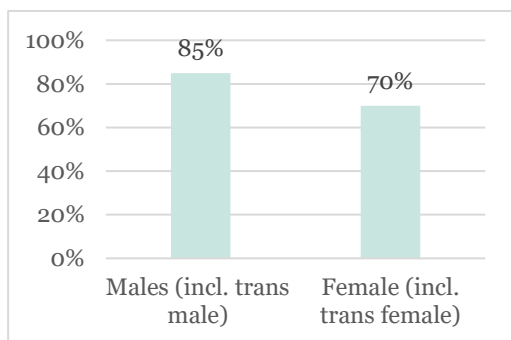
- In 2022, 81% of Year 10 pupils agree/strongly agree that they have hope and feel optimistic for their future, compared to 83% in 2019, 72% in 2020, and 80% in 2021.



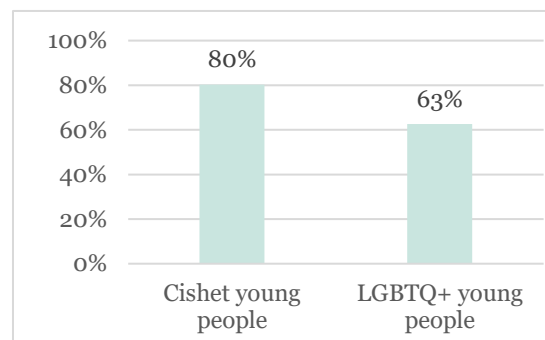
**Figure 1: The percentage of Year 10 pupils that felt they have hope and feel optimistic for the future, 2019-2022.**

- There are persistent inequalities in the Futures section of the data reported by LGBTQ+ young people. 85% of cisgender young people (cisgender heterosexual) agree/strongly agree that they have hope and feel optimistic for the future, but this drops to 66% of LGBTQ+ young people.

- 76% of Year 10 pupils think they will have the skills and knowledge they need to be prepared for life, the same as in 2021, and up from 72% in 2019 and 67% in 2020.
- 75% of Year 10 pupils feel in control of their future education, training and job prospects, the same as in 2021, but representing an increase from 69% in 2019 and 61% in 2020. 63% of LGBTQ+ young people report feeling in control.
- 60% of all young people surveyed agree/strongly agree that they will have a better life than their parents' generation. However, this figure varies by 25 percentage points across Greater Manchester neighbourhoods.
- 70% of girls agree/strongly agree that they are confident in their skills and abilities, compared to 85% of boys. 80% of cishet young people agree/strongly agree, compared to 63% of LGBTQ+ young people.



**Figure 2: The percentage of male and female Year 10 pupils that agree/strongly agree they are confident in their skills and abilities.**



**Figure 3: The percentage of cishet and LGBTQ+ young people in Year 10 that agree/strongly agree they are confident in their skills and abilities.**

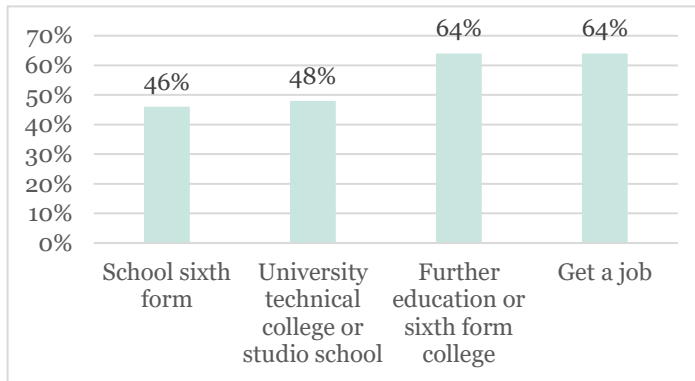
- 83% of young people agree/strongly agree that they will have the same chance as everyone else of getting a job if they do well with their education. This is broadly consistent across Free School Meal eligibility and age. However, it falls to 78% of young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), and 73% of LGBTQ+ young people.

## Careers Education

- 38% of Year 10 pupils reported receiving a careers lesson, 51% of Year 10 pupils received a careers talk, and 14% reported meeting a business.
- 14% of Year 10 pupils reported completing work experience.
- 60% of all pupils found their careers education helpful.

## Post Year 11 Options

- The most popular possible post Year 11 destinations for Year 10 pupils were: school sixth form (46%), University Technical College or Studio School (48%), further education or sixth form college (64%), and get a job (64%).



**Figure 3: The most popular post Year 11 destinations for Year 10 pupils in Greater Manchester.**

- 45% of Year 10 pupils were considering an apprenticeship or traineeship. This option was somewhat more likely among boys (48%) than girls (41%).
- More than 1 in 3 young people in Year 10 (38%) were considering starting a business after their GCSEs.

## Next Steps

- Schools in the GMCA Careers Hub network will be offered 1:1 sessions with the GMCA Careers Hub team in the second half of summer term to explore their results and plan next steps for their careers education provision.
- Life Readiness findings have been added to the [#BeeWell neighbourhood dashboard](#) so that they can be used by #BeeWell partners as they look to act on young people's experiences and demonstrate the impact of their voices.
- The GMCA will use the data to inform where they target resource through broader youth employment and opportunities work, as well as to work with a range of partners across the system to consider the issues. This would include the women and girls equalities panel.