

The research, released as Edge launches its Academies, identifies parents' vision for schools to have kitchens for teaching (63 per cent), computers in every classroom (61 per cent), a swimming pool (45 per cent), a theatre (25 per cent) and a recording studio – on the wish list for 19 per cent. The majority (79 per cent) believe every new school should have specialist resource for vocational subjects with 62 per cent saying they would like to see business units on site where children can gain first-hand experience of enterprise

	Parents who live in England and whose child attends a state school in England
Would you like to see any of the following included in the design of every new secondary school? Tick all that apply.	739
No reply	-
Computers in every classroom	447 61%
Specialist facilities for teaching practical and vocational subjects	467 63%
Swimming pool	331 45%
Recording studio	140 19%
Kitchens that can be used for teaching as well as preparing school meals	467 63%
Out of hours child care	289 39%
Theatre	188 25%
Business units (sections within schools that offer enterprise) so young people can get first-hand experience of enterprise	456 62%
Other (please specify)	9 1%
None	28 4%

When asked what they would like included in Government initiatives, two thirds (60 per cent) want to see better links with employers and the community, 59 per cent more practical courses and 52 per cent more work experience.

	Parents who live in England and whose child attends a state school in England
Would you like to see any of the following changes introduced into the education system? Tick all that apply.	739
No reply	-
More sporting facilities	335 45%
More opportunities to learn about business	387 52%
Better reporting of my child's abilities and talents	366 50%
Better links between schools, employers and the community	444 60%
More work experience	387 52%
More vocational courses	373 51%
Make exams harder	200 27%
More practical courses	437 59%
More options at Key Stage 3 (age 11-14)	243 33%
More options at Key Stage 4 (age 14-16)	282 38%
Every young person should study at least one vocational subject at school	342 46%
Other (please state)	25 3%
I would not like to see any changes	19 3%

The study reveals more than half of parents (57 per cent) say they support the programme to rebuild or renew virtually every secondary school in England.

Building Schools for the Future is the government's programme for rebuilding or renewing virtually every secondary school in England. Do you agree or disagree with the below statements? Do you strongly agree, slightly agree, slightly disagree or strongly disagree?

	Parents who live in England and whose child attends a state school in England
I support the programme to rebuild or renew virtually every secondary school in England	739
Mean	2.78
Standard Error	0.03
No reply	4 1%
Strongly agree	131 17%
Slightly agree	293 40%
Slightly disagree	171 23%
Strongly disagree	52 7%
Don't know	88 12%

Currently 41 per cent of parents feel their child's school favours academic study

	Parents who live in England and whose child attends a state school in England
Do you feel that your child's school favours:	739
No reply	- -
Academic qualifications	300 41%
Practical and vocational qualifications	92 12%
They favour both equally	220 30%
Don't know	127 17%

Two thirds of parents (68 per cent) would like to see their child's school favour academic and vocational learning equally

	Parents who live in England and whose child attends a state school in England
What type of qualifications would you ideally like your school to favour?	739
No reply	- -
Academic qualifications	109 15%
Practical and vocational qualifications	100 14%
Both types equally	500 68%
Don't know	30 4%

In addition, 61 per cent of parents feel there is too much pressure for young people to go to university.

	Parents who live in England and whose child attends a state school in England
Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?	
There is too much pressure on young people to go to university	739
Mean	2.8
Standard Error	0.03
No reply	- -
Strongly agree	159 21%
Slightly agree	294 40%
Slightly disagree	180 24%
Strongly disagree	58 8%
Don't know	48 7%