

Should AI be taught in schools?

In today's world, AI is a big part of many people's lives. Platforms like ChatGPT, Snapchat, Tick Tock and Facebook all use AI. But, have you ever thought if it should be taught in schools. In this discussion I will be exploring both sides of the debate.

To begin with, it is important to consider the reasons why some people believe AI being taught in schools should happen. One reason is AI can result in more inclusive lessons, for example, work is much more easier and lessons are more enjoyable.

Additionally, this should happen because some academics and education providers have highlighted how AI and digital literacy education for young children can help to prepare them to be informed digital citizens, use online information and resources responsibly, and learn problem-solving skills.

You also have to consider, many people believe that AI can be distracting. With so many apps, games and social media platforms available, children can spend too much time on AI and lose important education time. Another concern is that children and teenagers' overall well-being may start to decline as AI can expose harmful content.

Here is a short paragraph from someone who works in AI/Snapchat, Matthew Rooney [My Dad].

'AI should be taught in schools because it helps children understand the technology shaping their world, and can encourage critical thinking, and problem solving-skills from an early age.'

Around two-fifths (44%) of children actively engage with generative AI, with more than half (54%) using it for home work.

In conclusion, both sides of the debate have valid points. AI being taught in schools can promote school too being a fun and enjoyable place, but it also limits education time. All together it really depends on the school rules and the needs of the students as a whole. What do think? Should AI be taught in schools?

By Isabelle (6L)

Are private schools better than public?

Private schools are viewed as a better option for more beneficial education however some people disagree with this statement. In this text I will be looking at both sides of debate alongside a conclusion at the end.

The reason this debate has struck is according to the independent schools council (ISC) the British chancellor has recently confirmed that tax breaks have ended at 20%. VAT will be added to private school fees from 2025.

Private schools are often praised for their smaller class sizes which can lead to more individualized attention toward pupils. With fewer children within a class, the teacher can focus on the strength and weakness of an individual potentially leading to more improved academic outcomes.

Another advantage of private schools, are the specialized programs they often offer as the increased amount of money charged for a child to attend. Additionally, private schools emphasize specific values and religious teachings which can appeal to parents seeking an education aligned with their beliefs.

On the other hand, state schools are free and accessible for everyone and provide free education regardless of income. Unlike private schools, which charge tuition state schools are funded by tax payers ensuring education is available to all. State schools also tend to reflect on the diversity between communities, exposing them to life beyond the school gates.

Moreover state schools are held accountable to educational standards, which ensures a baseline of consistency and quality.

Ultimately, there is no definitive answer to such a complex question however in conclusion the 'better' option relies on the strengths and drawbacks of each individual. Private schools do have smaller classes but state schools are free and accessible to all. Both systems have the potential to provide an excellent education however the key lies in the strengths and drawbacks of the child.

By Elena (6L)

Is home schooling Beneficial?

The debate whether home schooling is beneficial is a large argument that has been ongoing for decades. I will be focusing on schools in the United Kingdom. 126, 100 are home schooled and over 9,000,000 in education. In the UK in the recent years, home schooling is becoming more popular. Is this a problem?

Benefits of home schooling

People argue that home schooling allows for a relaxed education that meets the specific needs, interests and strengths of the child. This individual attention can lead to better academic performance, and a deeper understanding of subjects. Home schooling also offers great flexibility. Students are not stuck by a strict school schedule, which allows for learning to occur at any time and place. This flexibility can be especially beneficial for families that travel often, children with special needs, or those involved with extra-curricular activities like sports or the arts. 1.4% of children are home schooled and 98.6% are in full time education.

Additionally, home schooling can provide a safe learning environment. Parents can shield children from: bullying, peer pressure or unsafe school conditions. For some families, home schooling allows them to follow religious or cultural activities into the curriculum.

Draw backs of home schooling

On the other hand, parents highlight the several challenges associated with home schooling. One concern is the lack of socialization. Traditional school provide a setting where children interact with peers, learn teamwork and develop skills. While home schooling can join sports teams or groups, people argue these opportunities may not replicate fully the social experiences of a Traditional school environment. Research shows that most home-schooled pupils don't attend 4-year colleges this can lead to lower paying jobs which can have an effect on the child's future.

Moreover, home schooling can be time consuming and demanding for parents, who must take on the role of a teacher. It can also be financially challenging, as one parent might have to quit employment to focus on teaching, and resources like text books, online programs, extracurricular activities can add up to the cost.

In conclusion, whether home schooling is beneficial depends on the child. While it offers a personal, flexible and safe learning environment, it also requires commitment and effort for its challenges, particularly the social impact and access to quality education. Families considering home schooling must carefully provide a safe, fair education for their child.

By Evie (6L)

Is a packed lunch more practical than a school meal?

In recent years, packed lunches have become more popular, practical and used, but today, I will be discussing whether or not a packed lunch is more practical than a school dinner by discussing arguments for and against this controversial debate before coming to a balanced, unbiased conclusion; but first, here are the facts.

To begin with, it is important to consider the reasons why some people believe packed lunches are more practical. One reason is that parents are in control and they can plan all their child's meals based on what nutrients they have or have not eaten. Younger children may also be fussy eaters, and having a school meal may result on them wasting their food and being starving when they get home.

Many people may take a different view, and they believe that spending so long in the mornings packing a lunchbox everyday may prove time consuming. In addition packed lunches prove more expensive which may be impractical for poorer families with many children. Another point to consider is balance and nutrition. If your child were getting a school dinner, they'd get a healthy lunch to get them through the day, whereas under 2% of packed lunches across the UK follow the school food standards which, if your child is not getting enough nutrition daily, may result in obesity, illness and risks of disease.

Have you considered what would make a perfect packed lunch? If you want to pack your child's lunch, it is vital to consider the right things to pack. For example, a cross section of children's packed lunches was surveyed, and the statistics showed:

85% of children were provided with a sandwich, 19% with vegetables, 54% with fruit, 17% with cheese, 44% with a milk-based dessert, 82% with restricted snacks (Crisps and confectionary) and 61% with a sweetened drink. The nutrient standard most likely to be met were protein and vitamin C. These statistics prove that a handful of children were not provided with fruit and/or veg. A perfect packed lunch looks like: 1 carbohydrate product, 2-3 fruit/ veg based product 1-2 sugar/ confectionary product, 1 dairy product and one protein-based product.

On the other hand, school meals have lots of advantages, like the fact that it is much less time-consuming than a packed lunch. Also, school dinners are required to meet the school food standards and are fresh, whilst fresh foods in packed lunches require refrigeration.

To conclude this debate, there are many advantages and disadvantages which may make you wonder if your choice is the correct one. Ultimately, I believe a packed lunch is the best choice as long as you pack the right things.

By Zara O (6C)

Which is better, films or books?

Today I will be considering whether a book is better than its film adaptation and if it is better than the book it is based on. In this discussion, we will look at both sides of the debate to help you understand the pros and cons of this age-old argument.

To begin with, books develop your imagination, are much more detailed than films, improve your English writing and are proven to help you get better jobs. Reading books are better than films due to the fact of having no time limit, a better understanding, and way more details. Books draw the reader in more than when a person watches a film. Yet, in a large survey done by Super Summary, it was found that an average of 34% of respondents prefer the books to the movies, while 27% favour the screen adaptation. The higher statistic for book lovers exists for a reason. For years and years, the world has been preaching that books are better than movies, but why? Sometimes the actor looks completely different to who they are portraying and they can also stray away from how the character is supposed to act and because of that many people believe books are better than films.

[“A book is a film that takes place in the mind that’s why we go to the movies and say oh the book is better” - Paulo Coelho Brazilian novelist.](#)

On the other hand, films are excellent for learning to use concrete details and the characters' actions to tell the story rather than spelling everything out for the reader. Their more condensed nature makes it easier to study overarching story elements like plot structure and character arcs.

Many books are better than their film adaptation but there are a few films that are greater than the book they are based on here are a few examples: Little Women, Mean Girls, The Wizard of Oz, Jurassic Park, The Hunger Games, Forest Gump and The Lord of The Rings. Those are just some of them. Here is a list of just some of the books that are better than the film adaptation: The Chronicles of Narnia, Percy Jackson And The Olympians: The Lightning Thief, the Harry Potter series, How To Kill A Mockingbird, The Twilight Saga, Charlotte’s Web, Holes, How The Grinch Stole Christmas and The Cat In The Hat.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, there are strong arguments between this debate, but to my opinion I believe that books can be better than a film because they can improve a child’s imagination, a film can influence a child’s imagination, but if they watch the film before the book they may not like the movie and decide not to read the book which could be better than what the film made it out to be. Although I would recommend a film based off a book; I prefer the book version.

By Lucie (6C)

SHOULD A 3-DAY WEEKEND BE CONSIDERED?

How would you like to spend every Monday with your family, hitting the gym or even just laying down in bed instead of going to work? In this debate, I will consider arguments for and against this intriguing issue and will come across statistics, evidence and quotes. SHOULD A 3-DAY WEEKEND BE CONSIDERED?

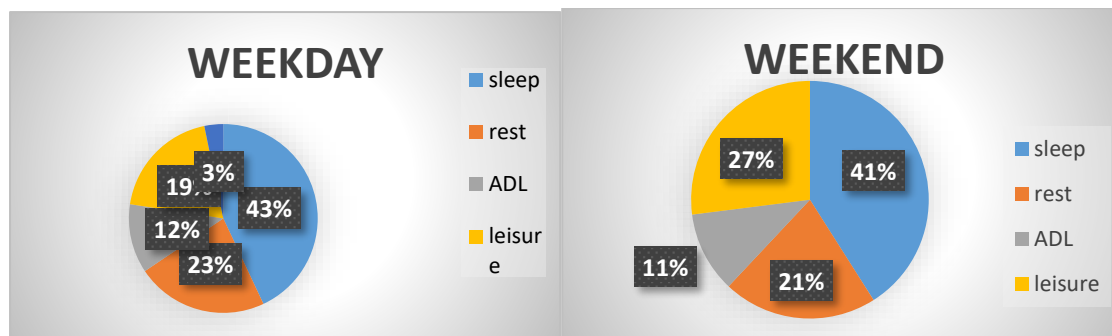
PROS

To begin with, it is important to consider why 87% of workers perspectives are to allow a 3-day weekend. Some of these facts lead to releasing stress and to boosting productivity. For example, having a 3-day weekend already allows another 24H to yourself or spending time with your family and friends. Moreover, it engages 13% more moderate to vigorous activity, and additionally it shows that citizens spend 5% less sedentary every day.

QUOTE:

“NOTHING BETTER THAN A LONG WEEKEND TO RE-ENERGIZE RECHARGE AND GET AHEAD OF THE GAME”

PIE CHART:



CONS

On the other hand many people take a different view, their worries could consist in making less money as of not working as well as religions such as Christianity which believes that god rested on the 7th day (not the first). More problems that could occur is a disruption to business operations that rely on continuous service and that a 3-day weekend disapprovingly damages younger citizens learning leading for them to lose 42.86% of their week at home.

THE PROS AND CONS

Although this seems like a problem occupations such as surgeons and nurses could have their hard earned time with their family over a longer weekend. Although, having a three day weekend means that instead of working 9h a day this will increase to 11h making people in these occupations more sleep-deprived.

CONCLUSION

Narrowing down to the options that I have discussed, I have come to the conclusion that if I were a worker I would disagree on allowing a 3-day weekends as although

that 24 hours could be crucial spending time with family working more hours in the week would mean that on that 24h I would be sleep-deprived.

By James.W