

The maths classroom today



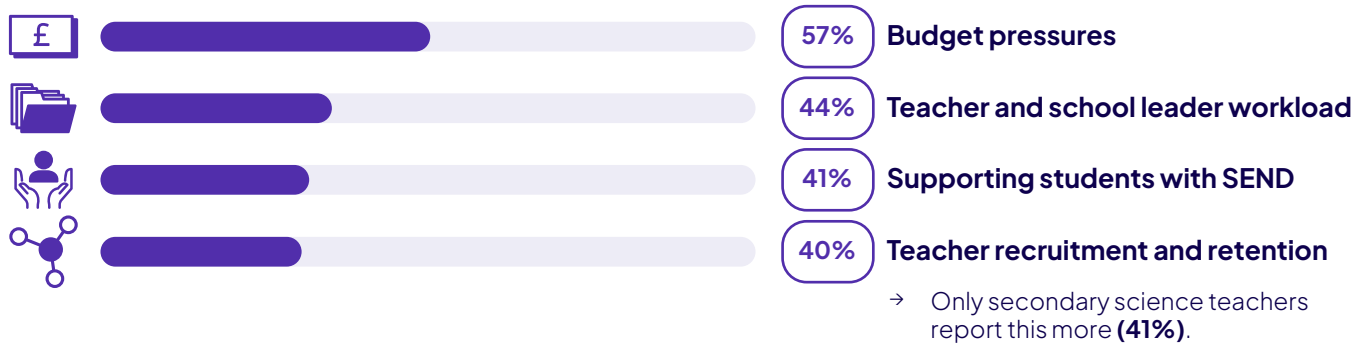
As schools across the country prepare for changes to curriculum and assessment, we explore what’s standing out to secondary maths teachers in the classroom today.

In the *Pearson School & College Report 2026*, more than 1,000 secondary maths teachers in England shared their thoughts...

Classroom challenges

While budget pressures and supporting students with SEND are the top challenges facing schools nationally, secondary maths teachers are also concerned about staffing.

The top challenges for their schools to manage in the next 12 months, according to maths teachers:



The battle for engagement

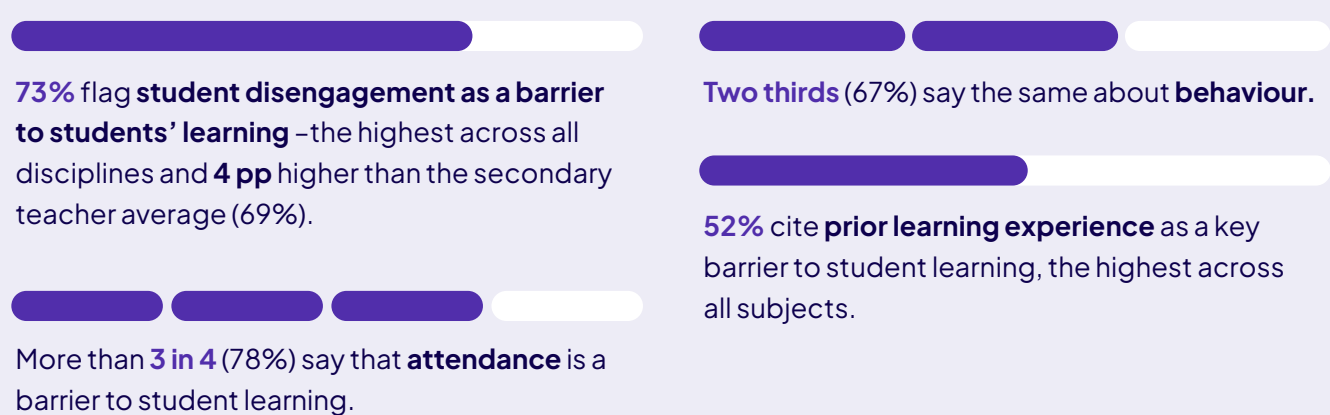
Declining attendance and focus are impacting daily classroom life for secondary maths teachers.

In the last year,



have become **increasingly concerned** about **pupil disengagement**.

Looking ahead, secondary maths teachers also shared the barriers to their students’ learning in the next six months:



Embracing opportunities

Secondary maths teachers report that their schools have implemented a range of strategies to address these challenges and support student learning over the last year. These include:



Spotlight on skills

Secondary maths educators feel confident in fostering specific skills in students.



However, when compared to other secondary subject teachers, they have the lowest confidence levels in developing certain skills.



Only **20%** feel equipped to develop students’ **imagination**, and **15%** say the same about **originality**.

Want to know more?

Explore secondary math teachers’ views on the classroom tomorrow and find out more about how we’re helping schools and colleges [navigate curriculum and assessment reform with confidence](#).

Discover what 50,000+ educators, students and sector representatives think about education today and its future in the [Pearson School & College Report](#).



About the research

Surveys of primary and secondary classroom teachers, middle leaders, school leaders and headteachers working in schools in England were conducted by Teacher Tapp between 9 January 2026 and 28 January 2026. Depending on the question, there were between 1,538 and 9,611 respondents. Results were weighted to reflect national teacher and school demographics.