

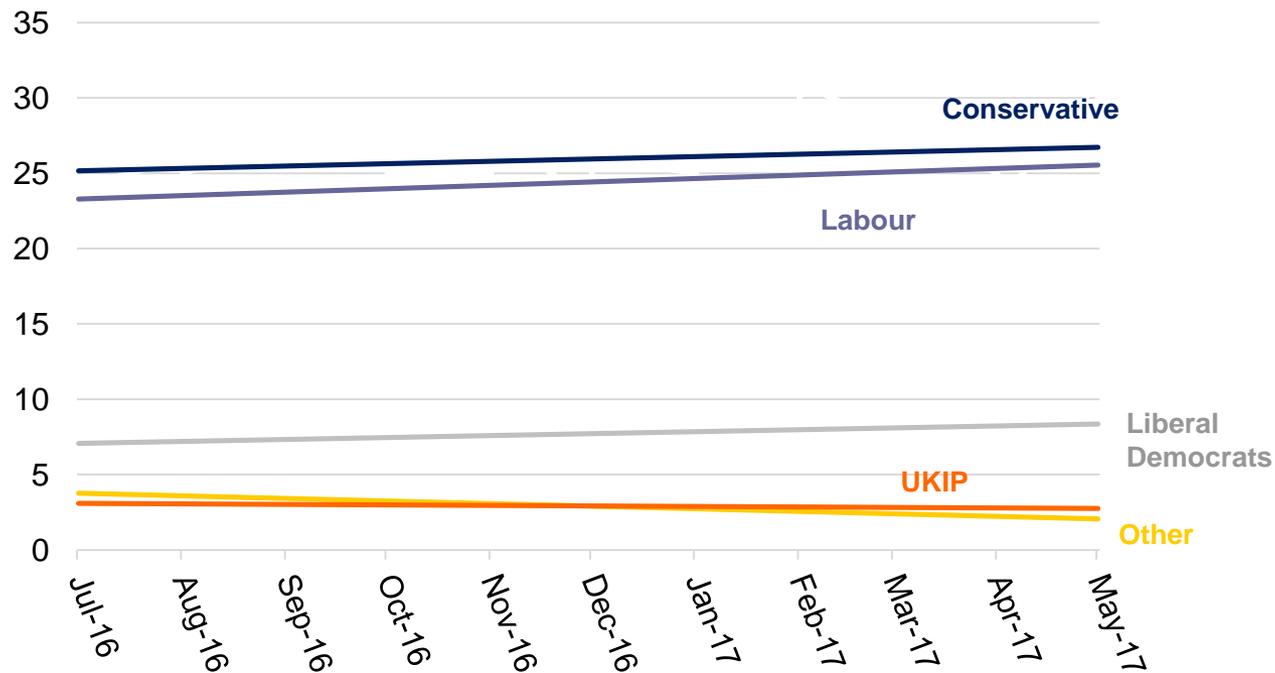
Children and Young People's Services: How should we vote?

2017 Manifesto Review



Who does the electorate have confidence in to handle education and schools?

- Whilst the majority of the electorate felt that the Conservatives would be best at handling the problem with education and schools, they are closely followed by Labour who have been closing the gap with a 3% difference seen in the latest poll.



Education is important to all the political parties



Party	Length of manifesto	Number of mentions	“Education” ratio
Liberal Democrats	100 pages	34	1:3
Conservatives	88 pages	28	1:3
Labour	126 pages	45	1:3
UKIP	64 pages	26	1:2
Green Party	26 pages	15	1:2

Education budget pledges



Increase overall schools budget in England by £4bn by 2022



Reverse Conservative's cuts to education



Protect per-pupil funding



No specific financial pledges



Fund of £80m to help childminders and smaller childcare providers to provide for children with special needs

The Institute of Fiscal Studies (2017) have reported that whilst Labour will increase spending per pupil by 6% after inflation over the course of the parliament, proposals from the Conservatives would lead to nearly a 3% real-terms fall in spending per pupil over the parliament. Proposals by the Liberal Democrats would see spend per pupil maintained in real terms.

Free childcare pledges



Thirty hours of free childcare for three- and four- year olds



Extend thirty free hours to all two-year olds



15 hours of free childcare extended to all two-years-olds, and 30 hours for two to four years



Free universal early education and childcare for all children, with formal education starting at age 7



Remove restrictions limiting free childcare to Ofsted-registered providers

However, the Family and Childcare Trust reported in 2016 that for the majority of local authorities, there is not enough care available in their area for two year olds entitled to free childcare. Further, only a third of local authorities believe there will be enough childcare in their area for families eligible for 30 hour entitlement for three- and four- year olds.

Additional pledges

Conservatives

- No school will have its budget cut as a result of the new funding formula
- End ban on new selective schools
- More nursery places
- Replacement of free school lunches for first year of primary school, with free school breakfast to every child in every year of primary school
- Focus on young people's mental health including introducing single point of contact with mental health services
- Review support for Children in Need
- Relationships and sex education in primary and secondary schools
- Safety for children online, and new right to require social media companies to delete information about young people once they turn eighteen
- Provide greater support for teachers with lessons and marking



Additional pledges

Labour

- Introduce National Education Service for England from early years to adult education
- Increase staff wages and enhanced training opportunities in the early years
- Extend maternity pay to 12 months
- Improve investment in, quality, accountability and inclusion of schools.
- Introduce free school meals for all primary school children
- Reduce class sizes
- Extend schools-based counselling to all schools to improve children's mental health
- Introduce Child Poverty Strategy to tackle child poverty
- Introduce age appropriate sex and relationship education as a compulsory part of curriculum



Additional pledges

Liberal Democrats

- Investing in high-quality early years education, tripling the Early Years Pupil Premium to £1,000
- End 1% cap on teachers' pay rises
- Extend free school meals to all children in primary education
- Opposing any new selective schools and giving local authorities proper democratic control over admissions and new schools
- Girls will get free sanitary products at school
- Introduce Personal, Social and Health Education curriculum to include mental health education, citizenship and age-appropriate sex and relationship education
- Tackle bullying in schools

Additional pledges

Green Party

- Reject the Prevent strategy and pursue community-led collaborative approaches to tackling all forms of extremism
- Abolish Ofsted, and reform the curriculum to be pupil-centred
- Ensure every child with Special Education Needs or Disability has access to mainstream education
- Stop local authorities declaring young people “intentionally homeless”
- Invest in community house-building projects to provide affordable, secure options for young people
- Provide more funding for sexual health awareness campaigns, and removing VAT from sanitary products



Additional pledges

UKIP

- Integrate mental health training into teacher-training syllabus, and develop national school-based counselling strategy for England
- End sex education in primary schools
- Open a grammar school in every town
- Reverse closing of special schools, and ensure all other schools are accessible to disabled learners
- Require local authorities to keep a register of childcare providers willing to provide emergency childcare cover at short notice

Additional pledges

UKIP *(cont.)*

- Fund of £80m to help childminders and smaller childcare providers to provide for children with special needs
- Mandatory screening of girls at risk of FGM
- Include information on cultural crimes in safeguarding training for teachers, staff and school governors
- Ending Islamist extremism by: putting special measures into schools exposing children to Islamism and requiring Ofsted to conduct snap inspections of schools where parents or pupils have raised concerns

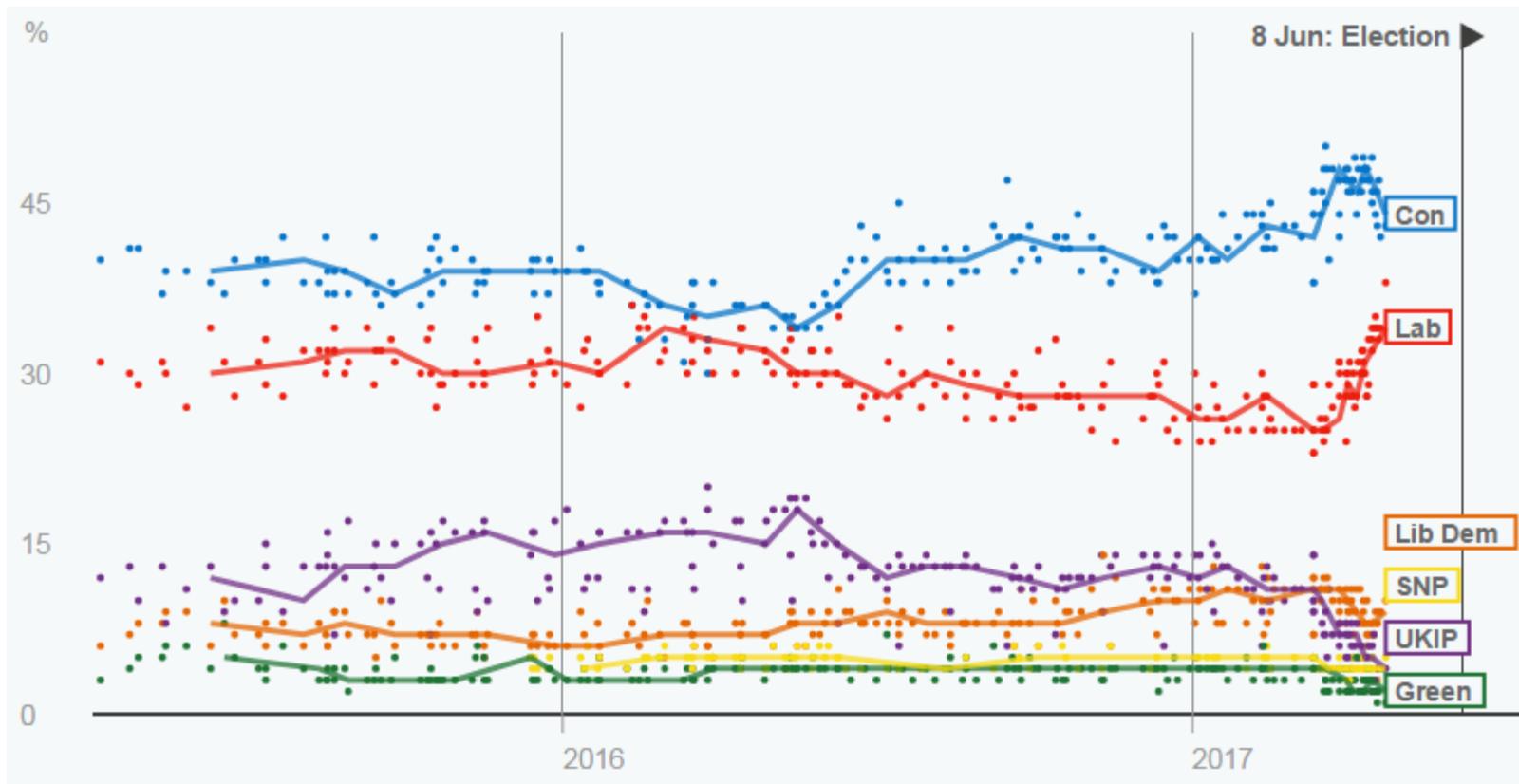
Common themes from the manifestos

Common themes from the manifestos highlight possible areas of focus for the next parliament likely to be around:

- Mental health provision for children and young people
- Changes to free school meals for primary school pupils, with variability in pledges included in the manifestos
- Training and support for teachers
- Introduction of sex and relationship education into national curriculum

Voting intention

Whilst the Conservatives retain a lead over Labour, this gap has closed significantly





CordisBright Limited

23/24 Smithfield Street, London EC1A 9LF

Telephone	020 7330 9170
Email	info@cordisbright.co.uk
Internet	www.cordisbright.co.uk