

Mai 2026



Arolwg Llais yr Athrawon

Crefydd, Gwerthoedd a Moeseg yn y Cwricwlwm i Gymru

May 2026



The Teachers' Voice Survey

Religion, Values and Ethics in the Curriculum for Wales



Introduction



Setting the context



Research question

- How are teachers in Wales, who are involved in RVE, engaging with substantial curriculum changes in the early stages of the Curriculum for Wales (2022) roll-out?



Methodology



Research team

Revd Dr Tania ap Sion, Reader of Religions, Humanities and Education (Bishop Grosseteste University and The Giles' Centre, Wrexham)

Libby Jones (Wrexham County Borough Council and The St Giles' Centre, Wrexham)

Rachel Samuel (Neath Port Talbot Education Support)

Alice Parry (Llanishen High School, Cardiff)

Paula Webber (Cardiff Metropolitan University)



Sample



- Survey was open to all practitioners in Wales involved in the teaching of RVE in 3 to 16 maintained school / setting contexts.
- Nursery (including funded non-maintained settings)
- Primary
- Secondary
- All-age School
- Special
- Pupil Referral Units.



Survey



- Exploratory inductive survey
- Largely qualitative questions
- Closed questions help provide descriptive statistics to contextualise the teachers' own words
- Includes sections relevant to curriculum reform and teacher agency
- Survey pilot was conducted before distribution
- Survey open January-July 2025



Analysis



Ethics



Research ethics approval granted

- Lincoln Bishop University (previously Bishop Grosseteste University)
- Cardiff Metropolitan University



Limitations



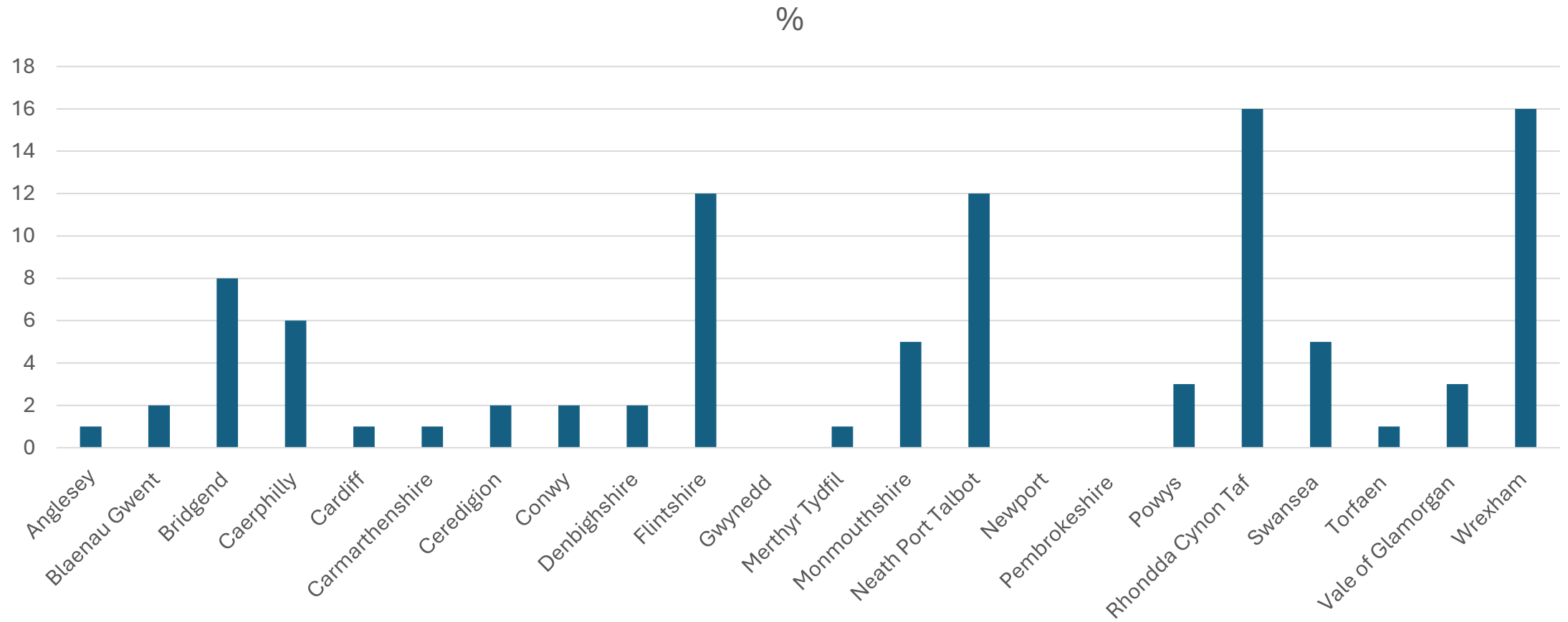
Survey Results



Who participated?



Local Authority



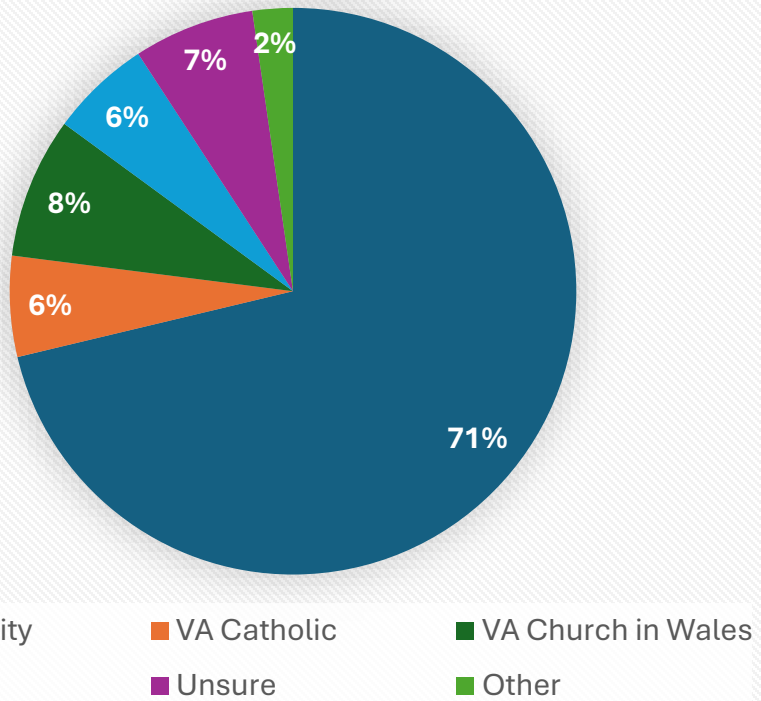
Type of school / setting

N = 87 (some fall into more than one category)

Category	n
Primary	52
Secondary	22
Additional Learning Needs / Special	9
All-age school	5
Pupil Referral Unit	2
Nursery	2
Other	3



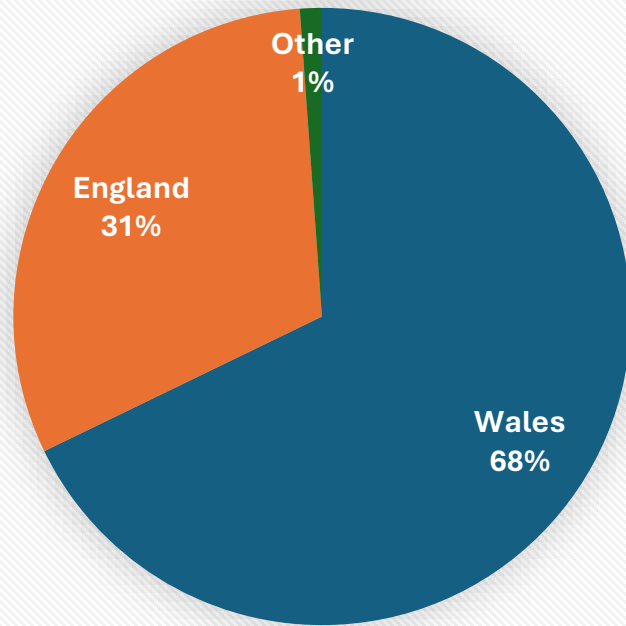
Character of school / setting (N=87)



Language category of school / setting N=87	%
Welsh medium	3
English medium	93
Bilingual	2
Other	1

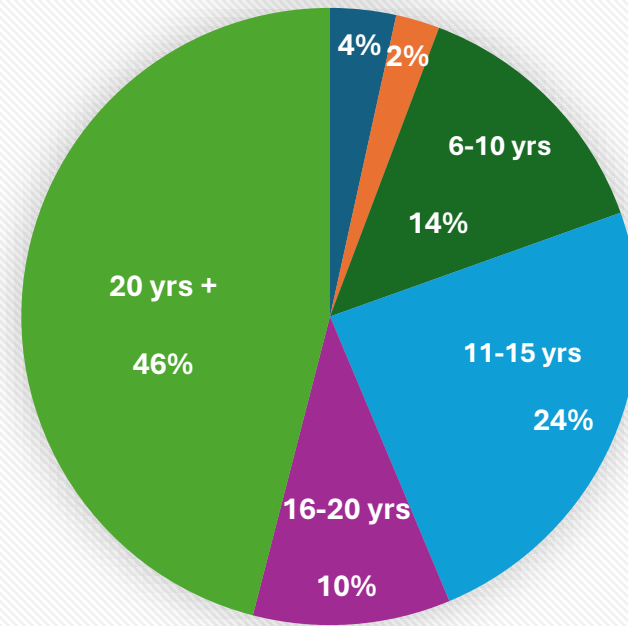


Where did you train to be a teaching practitioner? (N=87)



■ Wales ■ England ■ Other

How many years have you been teaching (N=87)



■ 1-2 yrs ■ 3-5 yrs ■ 6-10 yrs ■ 11-15 yrs ■ 16-20 yrs ■ 20+ yrs



Open-ended starter questions



Introductory open text questions

What do you like about the Curriculum for Wales?

What aspects of the Curriculum for Wales give you confidence as a teacher? (Please elaborate briefly)

Is there anything you do not like about the Curriculum for Wales? (If so, what?)

What aspects of the Curriculum for Wales challenge you as a teacher? (Please elaborate briefly)



Themes

- Professional autonomy
- Learner-centred
- Pedagogy
- Progression / learner development
- Guidance / professional learning
- Content
- Relevance
- Local area / cynefin
- Balance
- Religion, Values and Ethics specific
- Collaboration
- Legislation
- Wellbeing / implementation



MOST FREQUENT THEMES ACROSS QUESTIONS 1-4	Professional autonomy %	Pedagogy %	Learner centred %	Content %	Relevance %	Progression / learner development %	Guidance / professional learning %
What do you like about the Curriculum for Wales? (N=86)	70	50	41	35	22	21	1
What aspects of the Curriculum for Wales give you confidence as a teacher? (N=82)	52	39	37	26	21	20	11
Is there anything you do not like about the Curriculum for Wales? (If so, what?) (N=80)	29	30	6	35	0	41	49
What aspects of	21	30	11	26	4	40	30

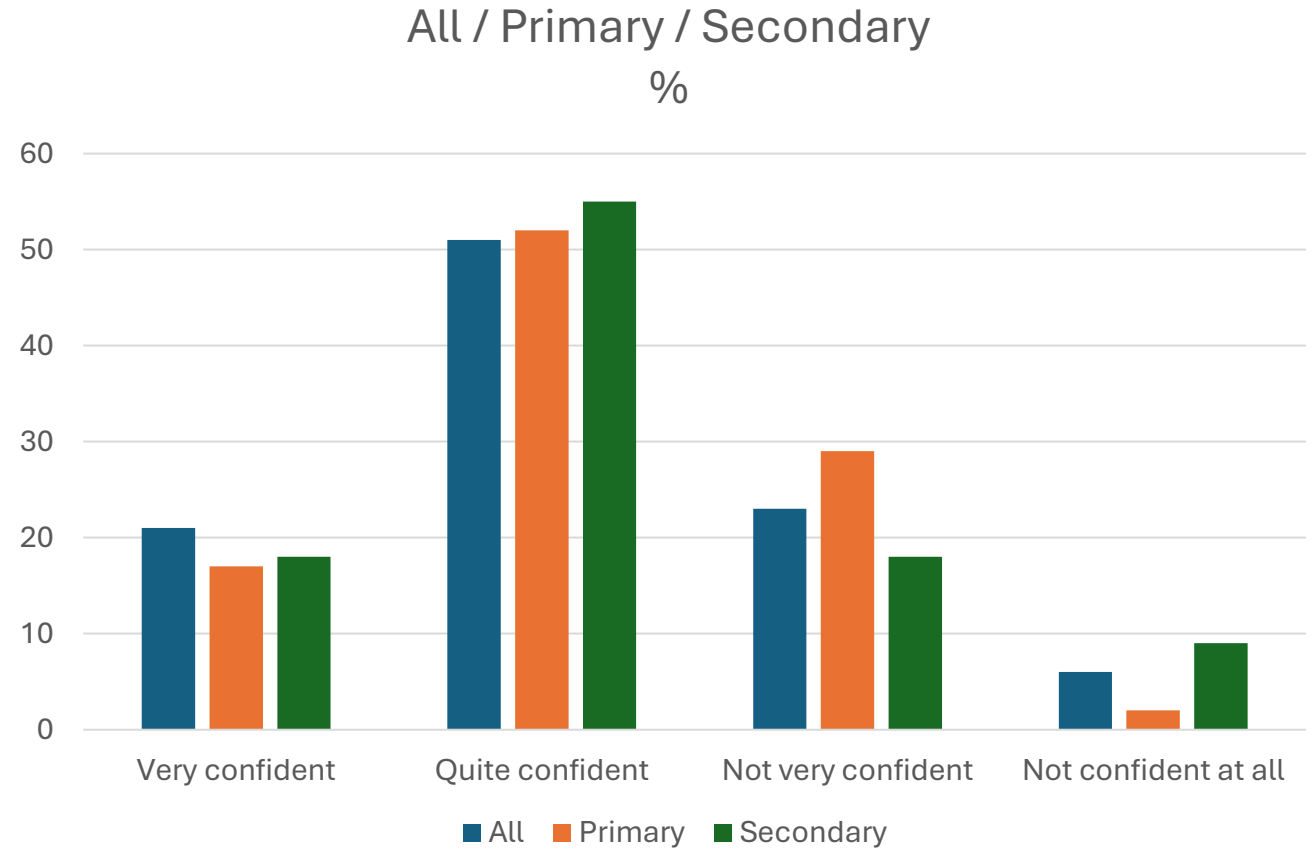


Confidence in RVE changes



How confident are you about planning and teaching RVE in an integrated curriculum?

	N=87	%
Very confident	18	20.7
Quite confident	44	50.6
Not very confident	20	23.0
Not confident at all	5	5.7
Total	87	100.0



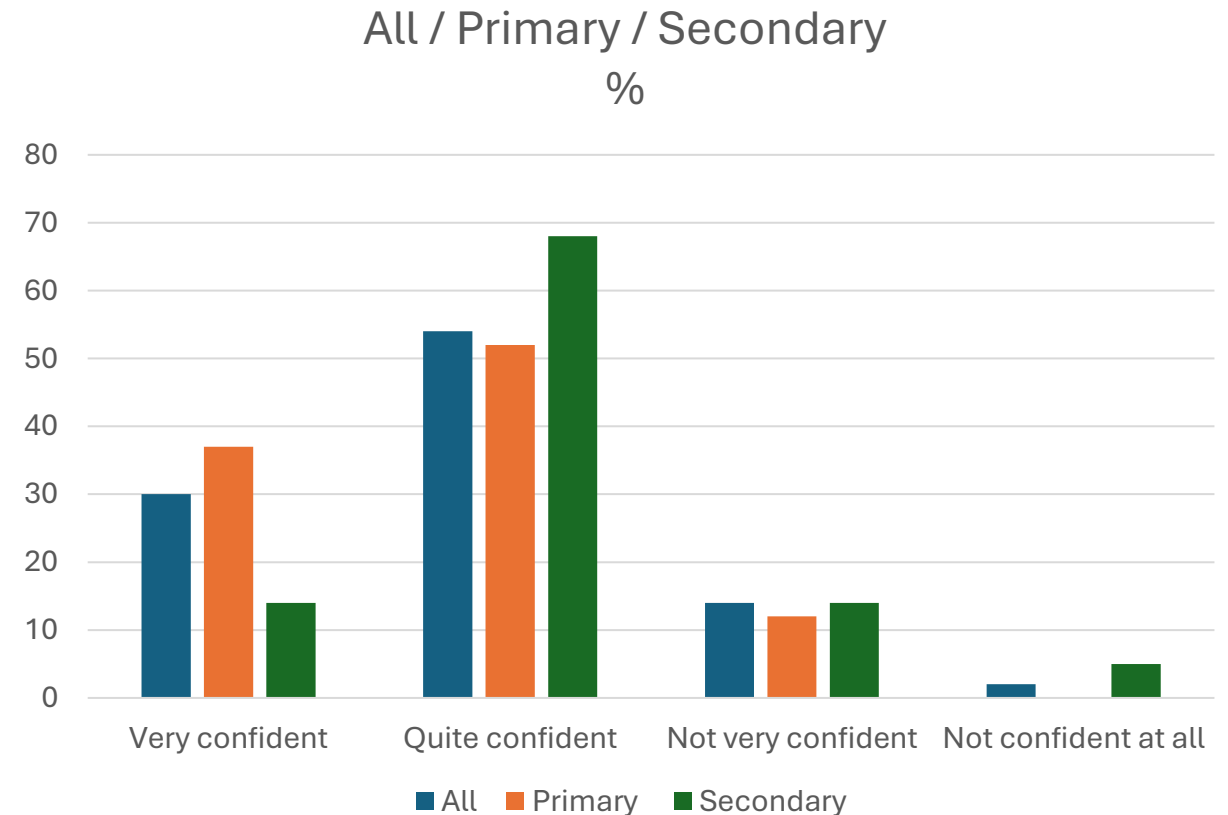
How confident are you about planning and teaching RVE in an integrated curriculum?

- Elaborate N=43



How confident are you in your school's approach to curriculum design?

	N=87	%
Very confident	26	29.9
Quite confident	47	54.0
Not very confident	12	13.8
Not confident at all	2	2.3
Total	87	100.0



How confident are you in your school's approach to curriculum design?

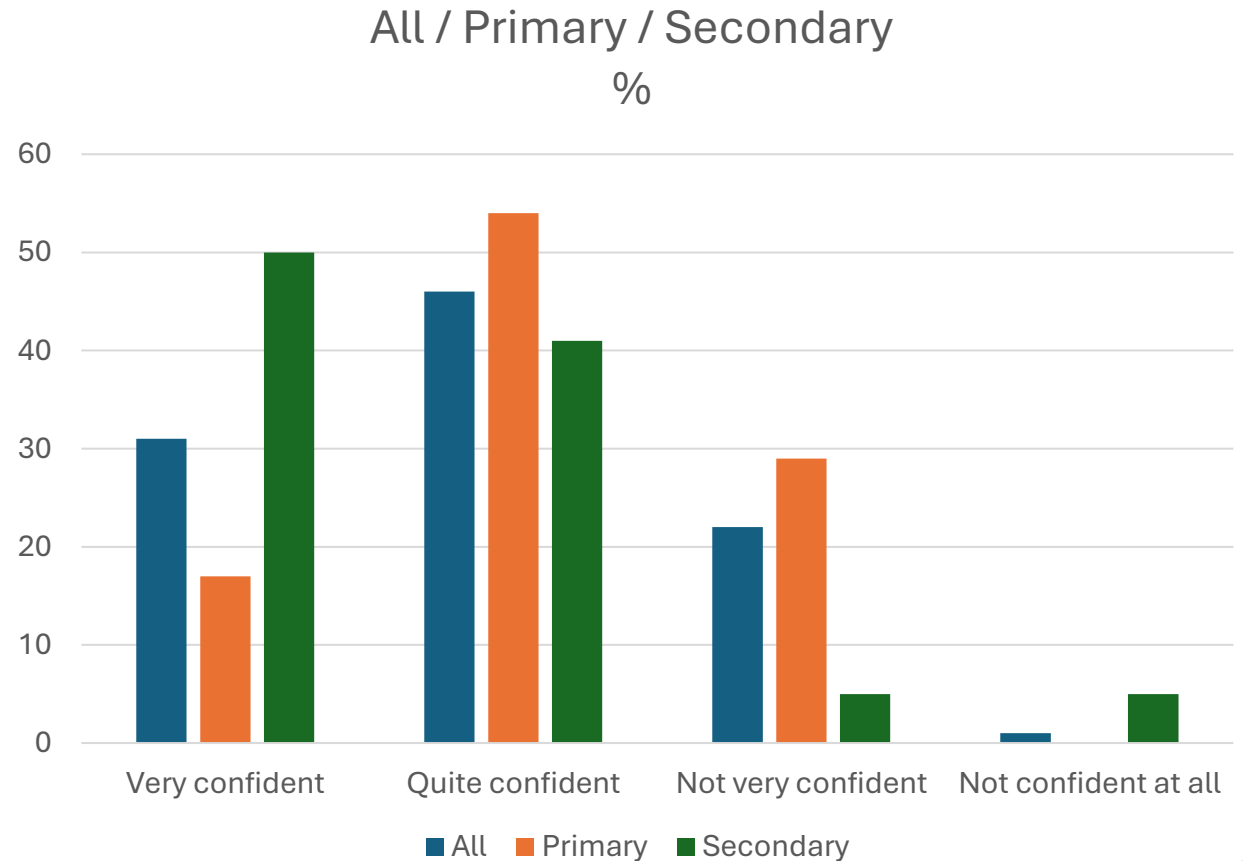
- Elaborate N=34



How confident are you about teaching religious and non-religious convictions in RVE?

- N=87

	N=87	%
Very confident	27	31.0
Quite confident	40	46.0
Not very confident	19	21.8
Not confident at all	1	1.1
Total	87	100.0



How confident are you about teaching religious and non-religious convictions in RVE?

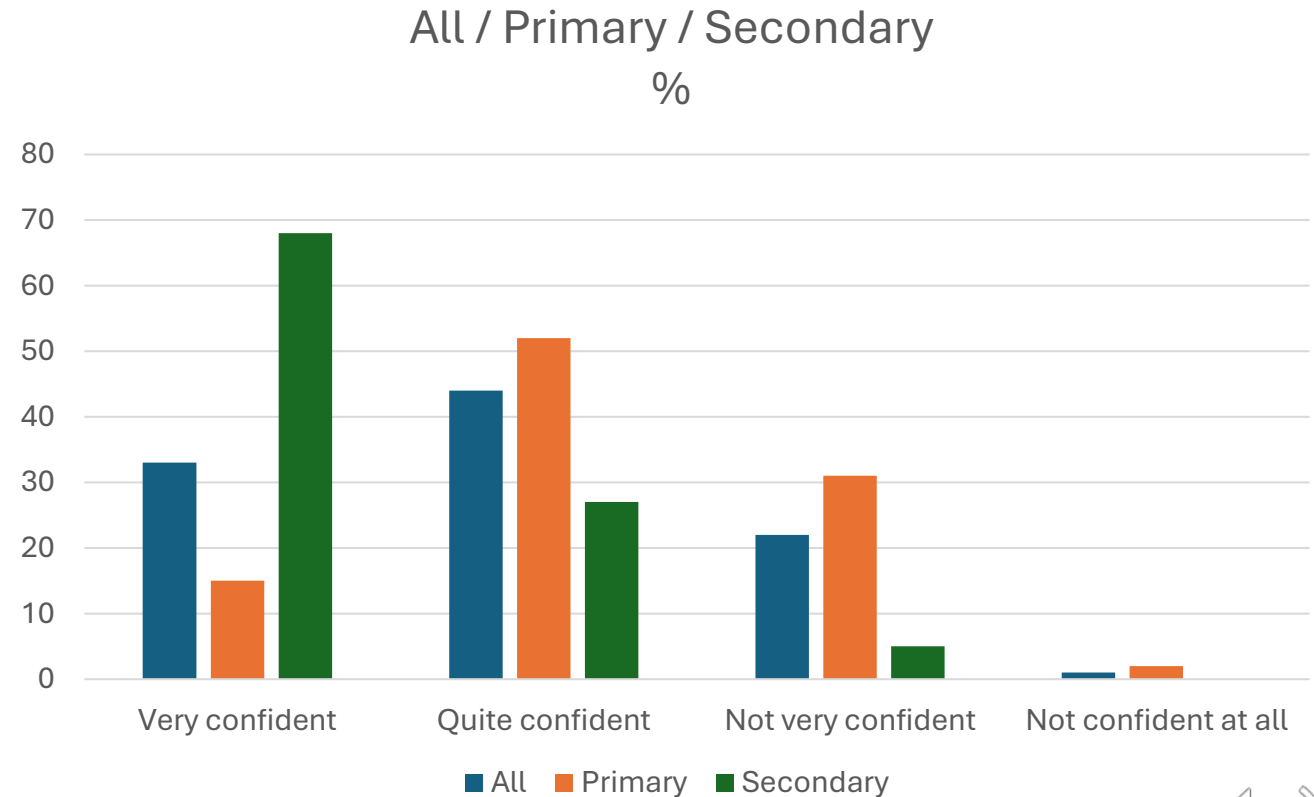
- Elaborate N=34



How confident are you about teaching RVE in an objective, critical and pluralistic manner?

- N=87

	N=87	%
Very confident	29	33.3
Quite confident	38	43.7
Not very confident	19	21.8
Not confident at all	1	1.1
Total	87	100.0



How confident are you about teaching RVE in an objective, critical and pluralistic manner?

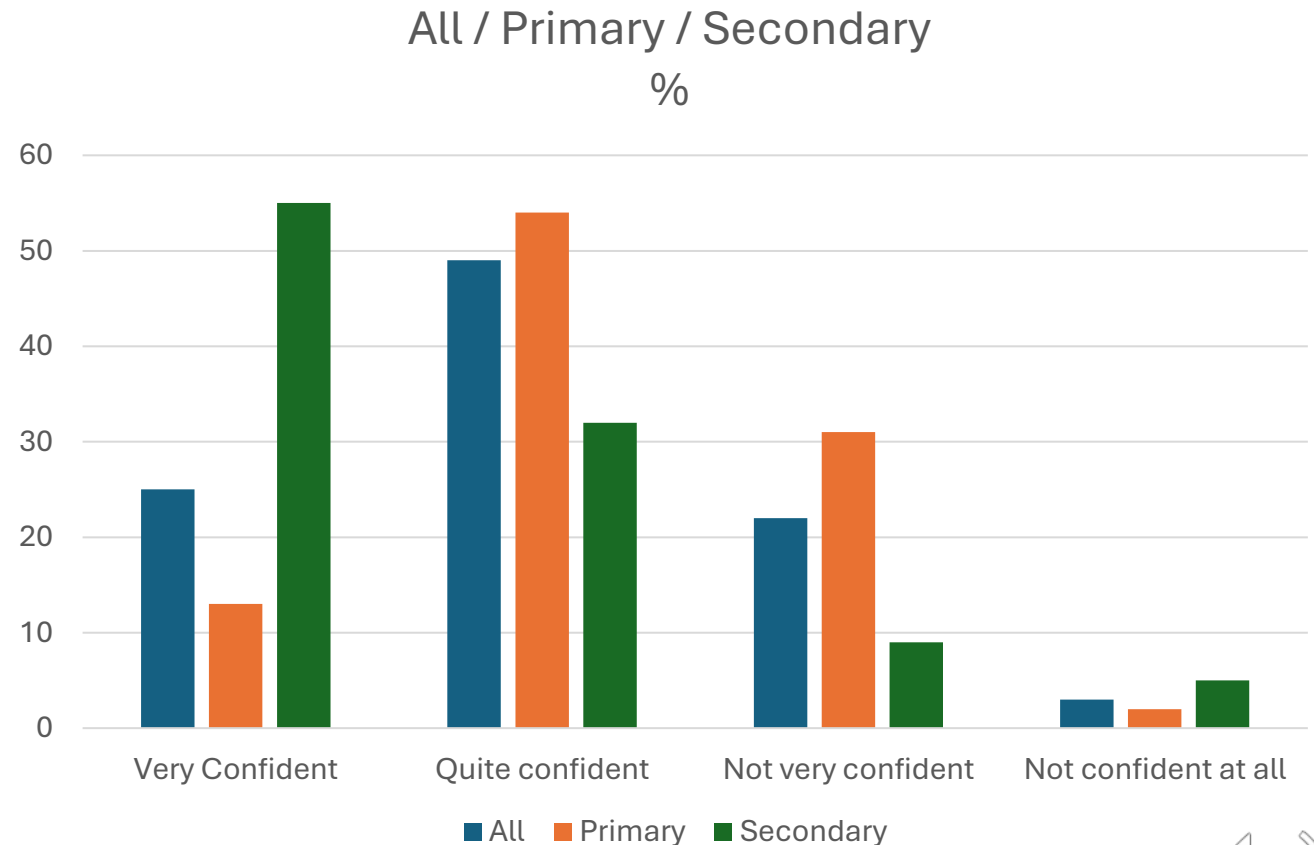
- Elaborate N=23



How confident are you in your knowledge about the legal requirements for RVE?

- N=87

	N=87	%
Very confident	22	25.29
Quite confident	43	49.43
Not very confident	19	21.84
Not confident at all	3	3.45
Total	87	100.01



How confident are you in your knowledge about the legal requirements for RVE?

- Elaborate N=21



Personal strengths and qualities



What strengths or qualities can you bring as a teacher to RVE within the Curriculum for Wales? (N=74)

Subject knowledge and experience

Ambition / motivation

Personal and professional values / attributes

Classroom management and teaching techniques

Personal faith / background / identity

Learner-centred

Understanding of the Curriculum for Wales vision and values

(What gets in the way.)



Place of RVE in the Curriculum for Wales

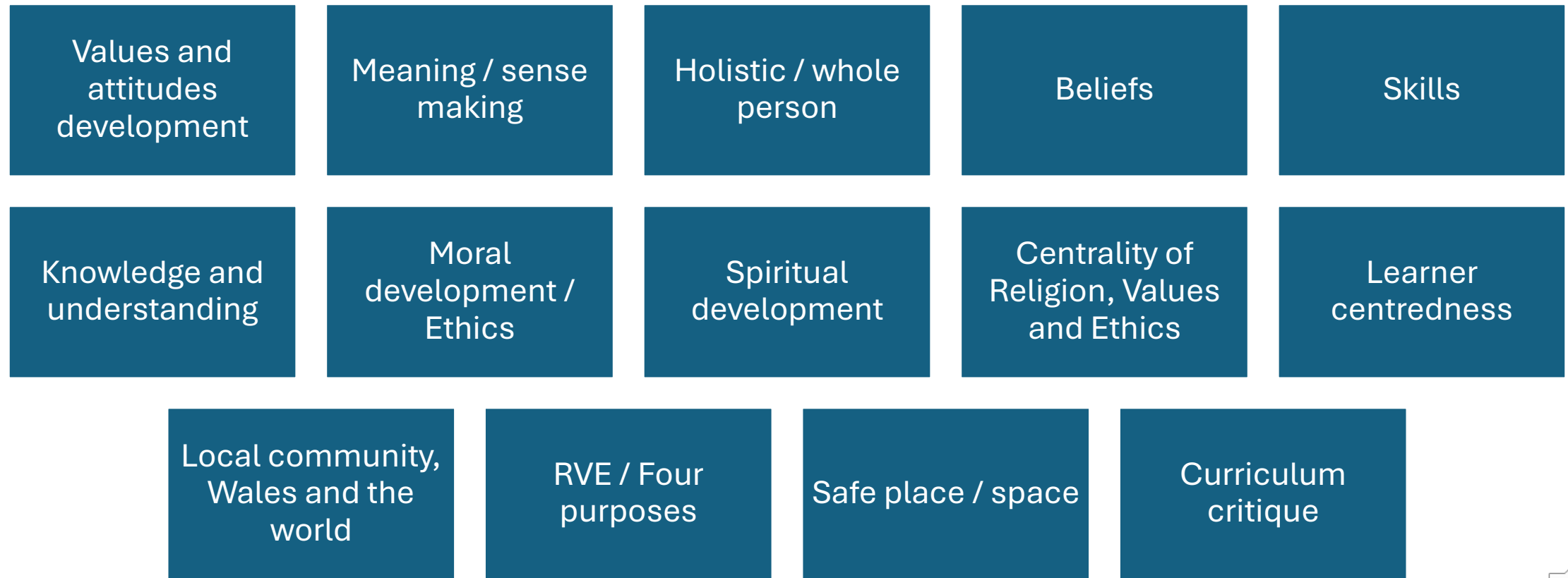


In your opinion, is it important to have RVE in the Curriculum for Wales? (N=87)

- Yes / No
- Yes - 100%



Please briefly explain your answer (N=66)



Approaches to Curriculum design



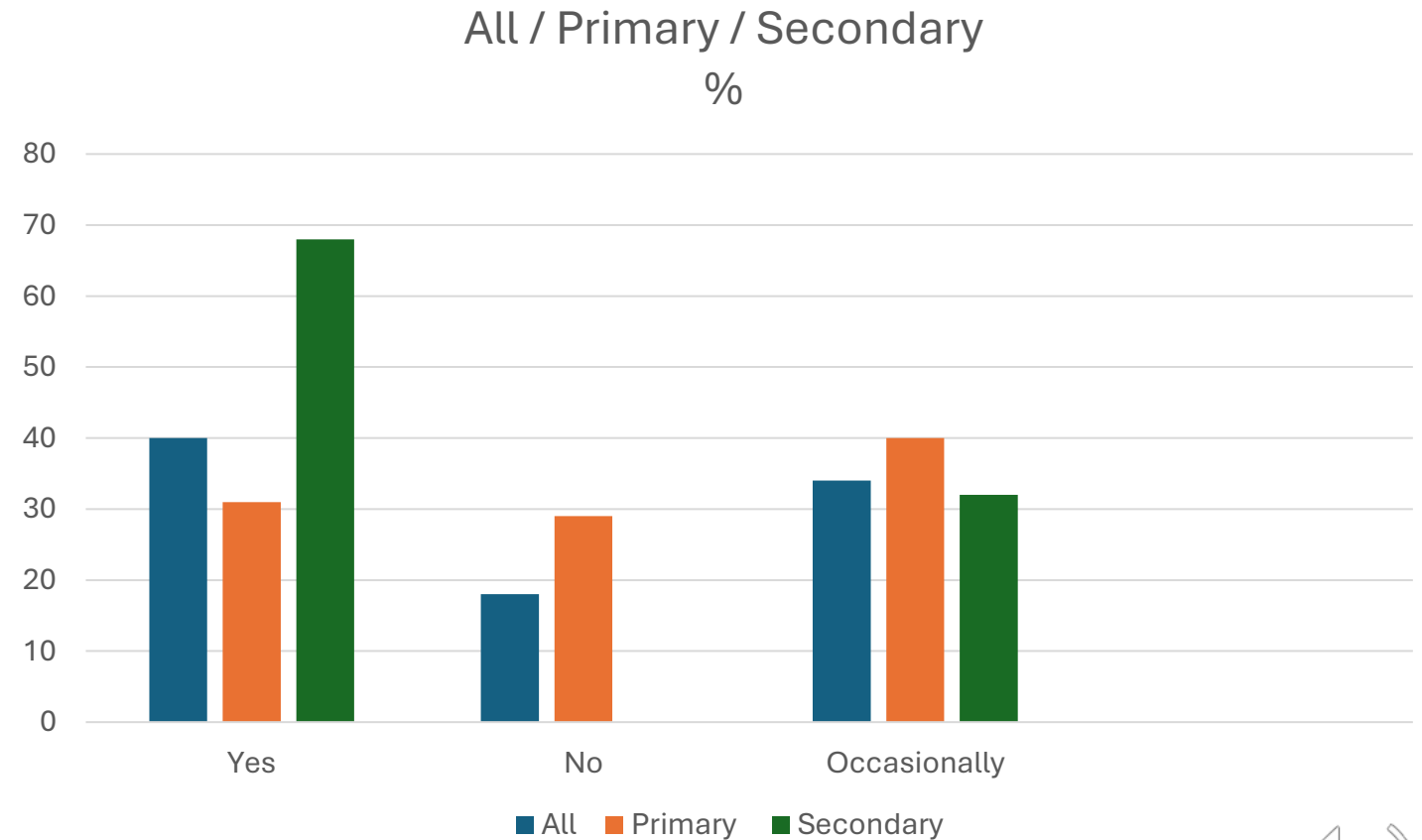
Enquiry-based learning



Have you incorporated enquiry-based learning into your RVE teaching?

- N=87

	N=87	%
Yes	35	40.2
No	18	20.7
Occasionally	34	39.1
Total	87	100.0

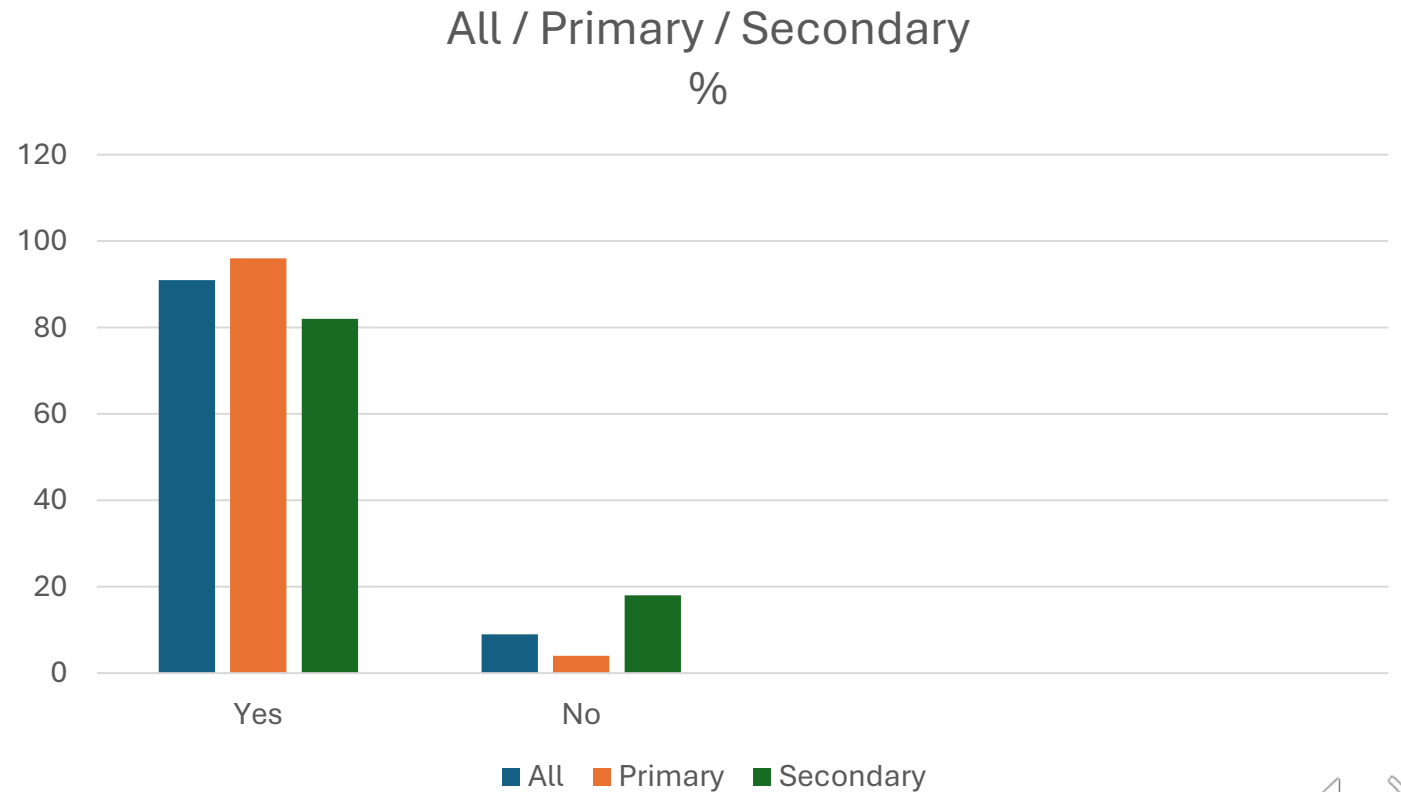


Opportunity to experiment



Are you given the opportunity to experiment in your school or setting? (e.g. pedagogy, curriculum design / content / approach, physical learning environment.) N=87

	N=87	%
Yes	79	90.8
No	8	9.2
Total	87	100.0



Collaborative relationships

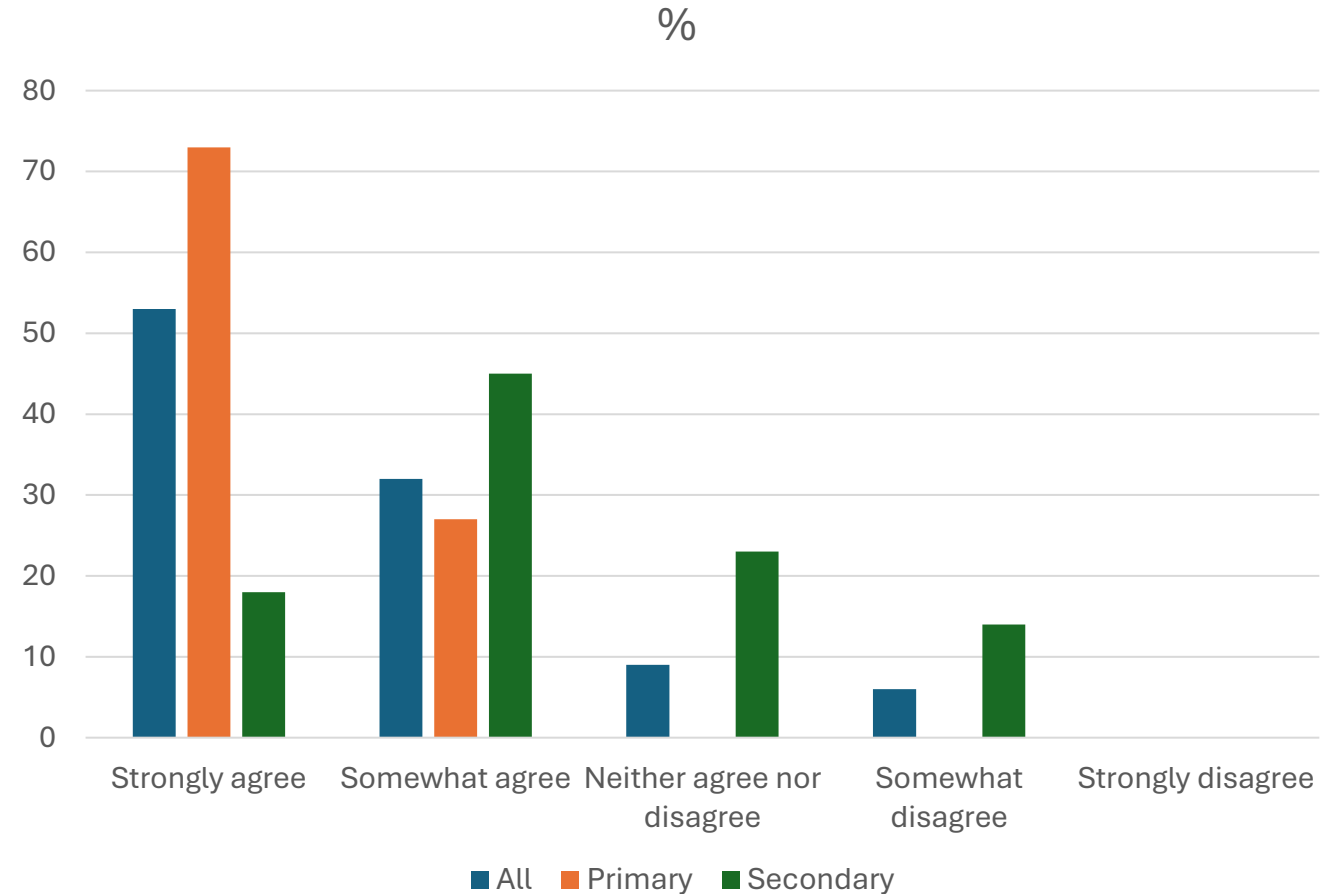


Please read the following statements and select your level of agreement with them. (N=87)



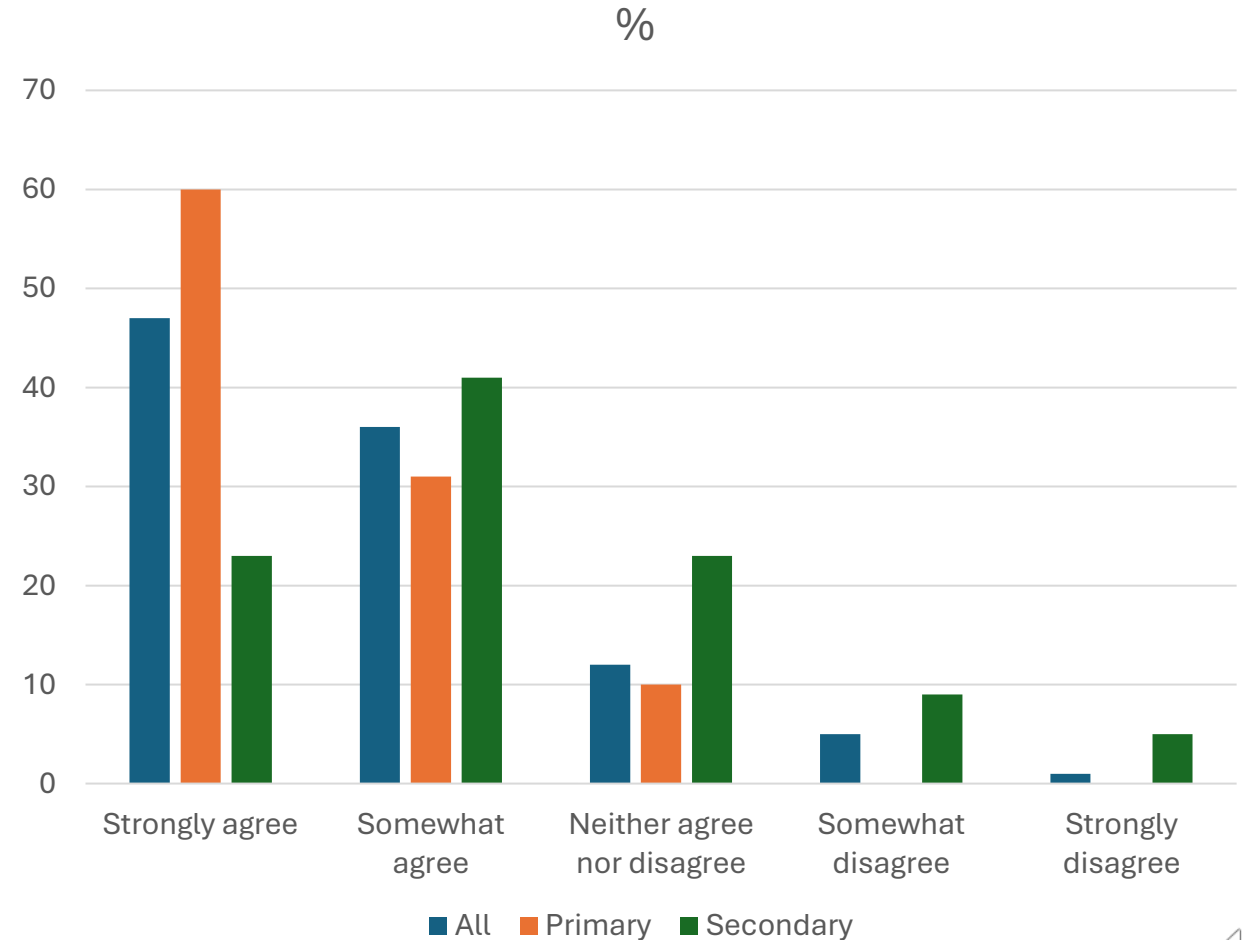
My school / setting has a shared vision for the Curriculum for Wales.

	N=87	%
Strongly agree	46	52.9
Somewhat agree	28	32.2
Neither agree nor disagree	8	9.2
Somewhat disagree	5	5.7
Strongly disagree	0	0.0
Total	87	100.0



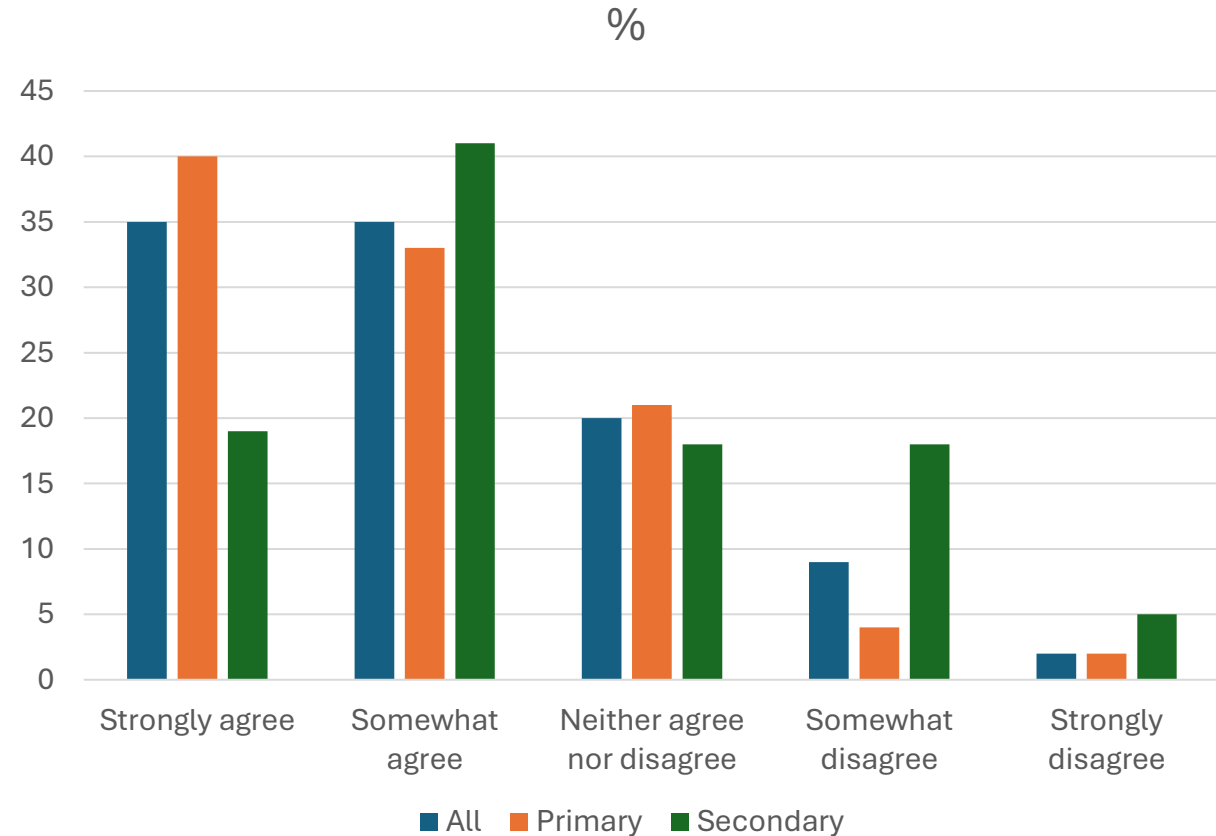
I am able to influence decisions about curriculum design in my school / setting.

	N=87	%
Strongly agree	41	47.1
Somewhat agree	31	35.6
Neither agree nor disagree	10	11.5
Somewhat disagree	4	4.6
Strongly disagree	1	1.1
Total	87	100.0



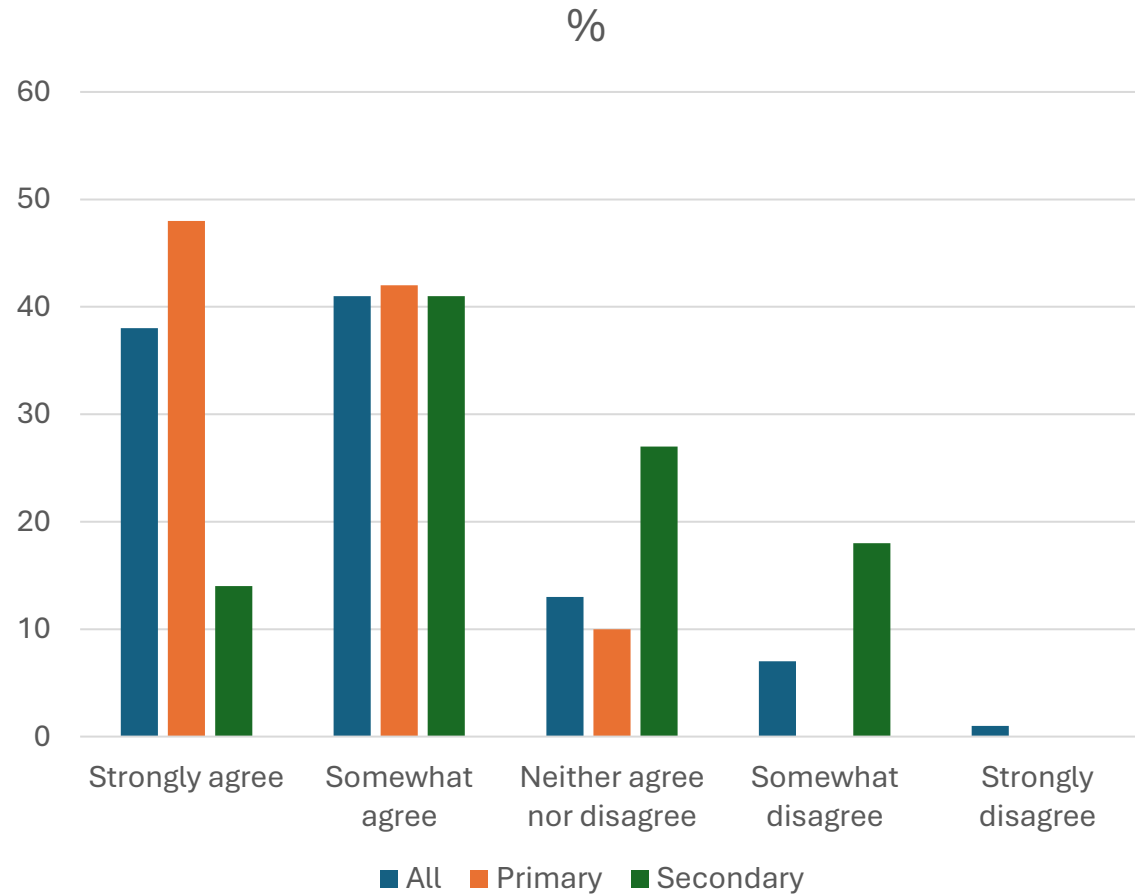
RVE is valued in my school / setting.

	N=87	%
Strongly agree	30	34.5
Somewhat agree	30	34.5
Neither agree nor disagree	17	19.5
Somewhat disagree	8	9.2
Strongly disagree	2	2.3
Total	87	100.0



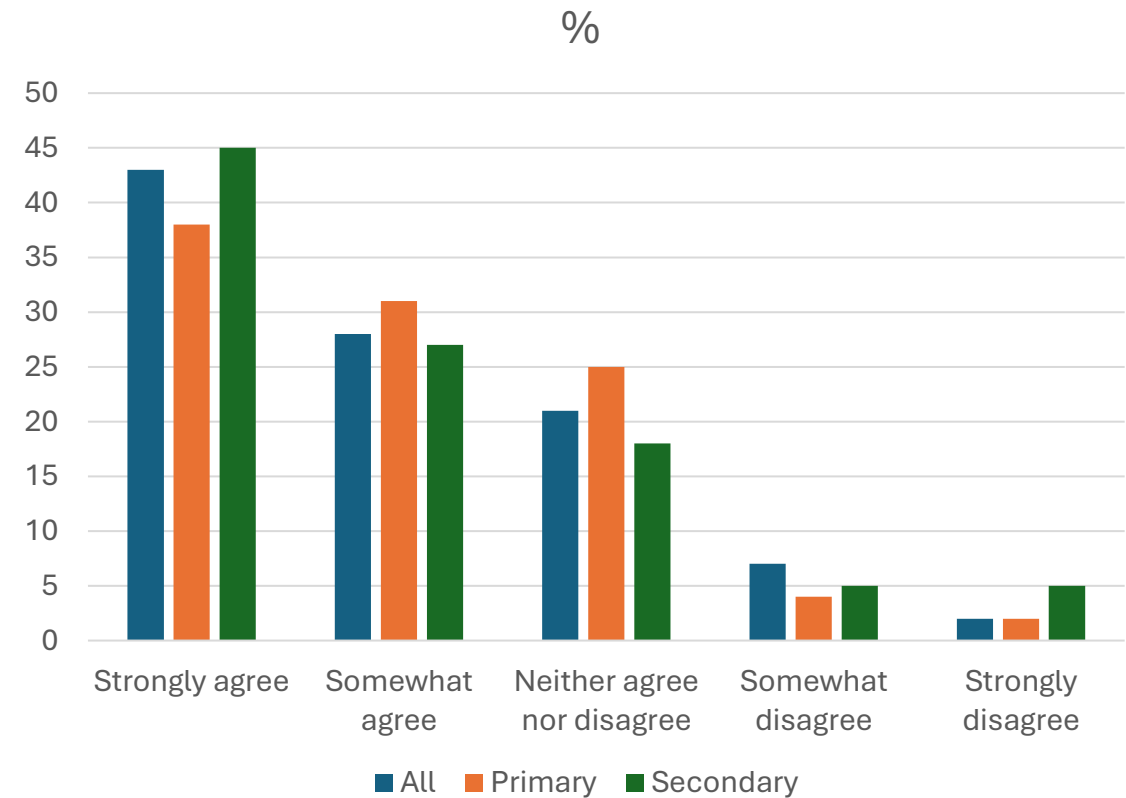
I am given the opportunity to collaborate regularly with colleagues.

	N=87	%
Strongly agree	33	37.9
Somewhat agree	36	41.4
Neither agree nor disagree	11	12.6
Somewhat disagree	6	6.9
Strongly disagree	1	1.1
Total	87	100.0



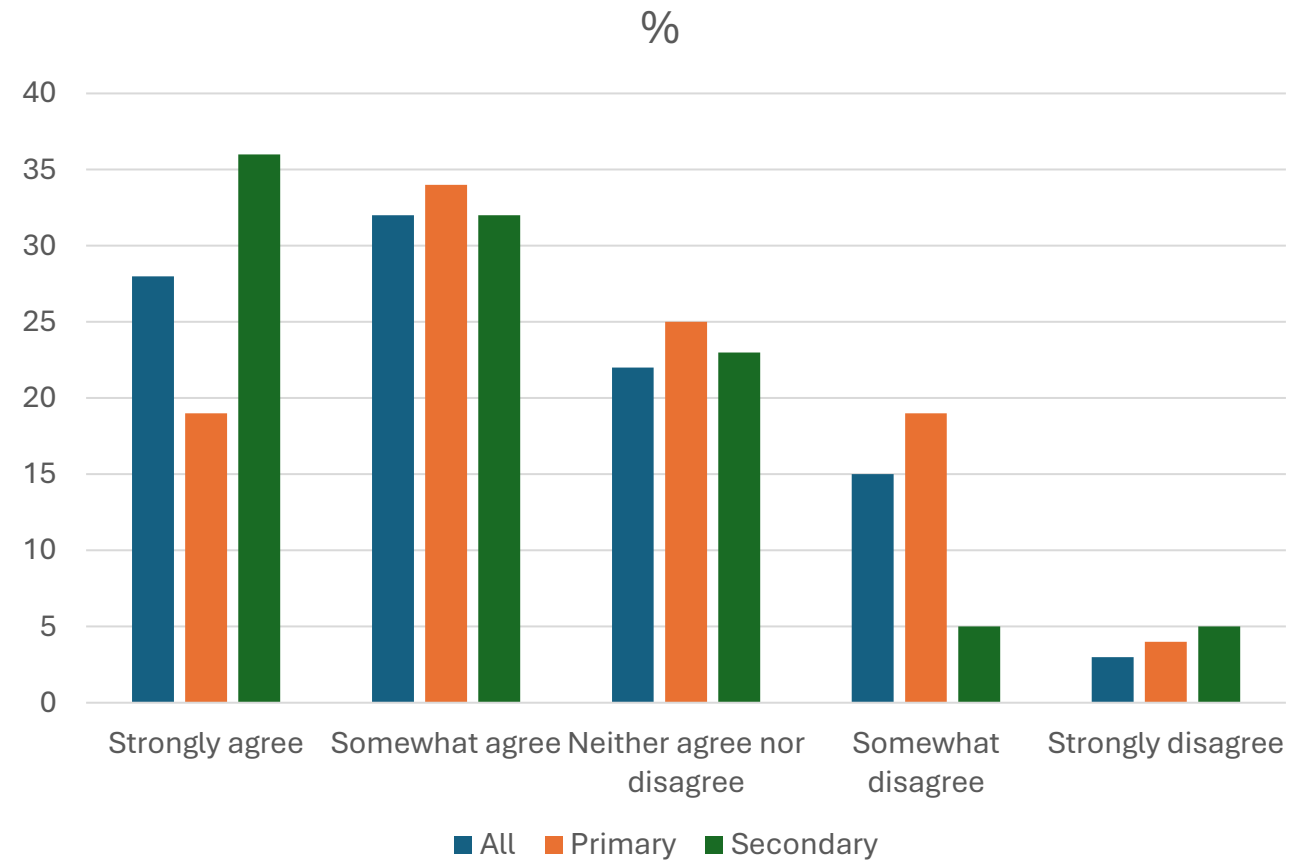
I would benefit from more opportunity to collaborate with colleagues.

	N=87	%
Strongly agree	37	42.5
Somewhat agree	24	27.6
Neither agree nor disagree	18	20.7
Somewhat disagree	6	6.9
Strongly disagree	2	2.3
Total	87	100.0



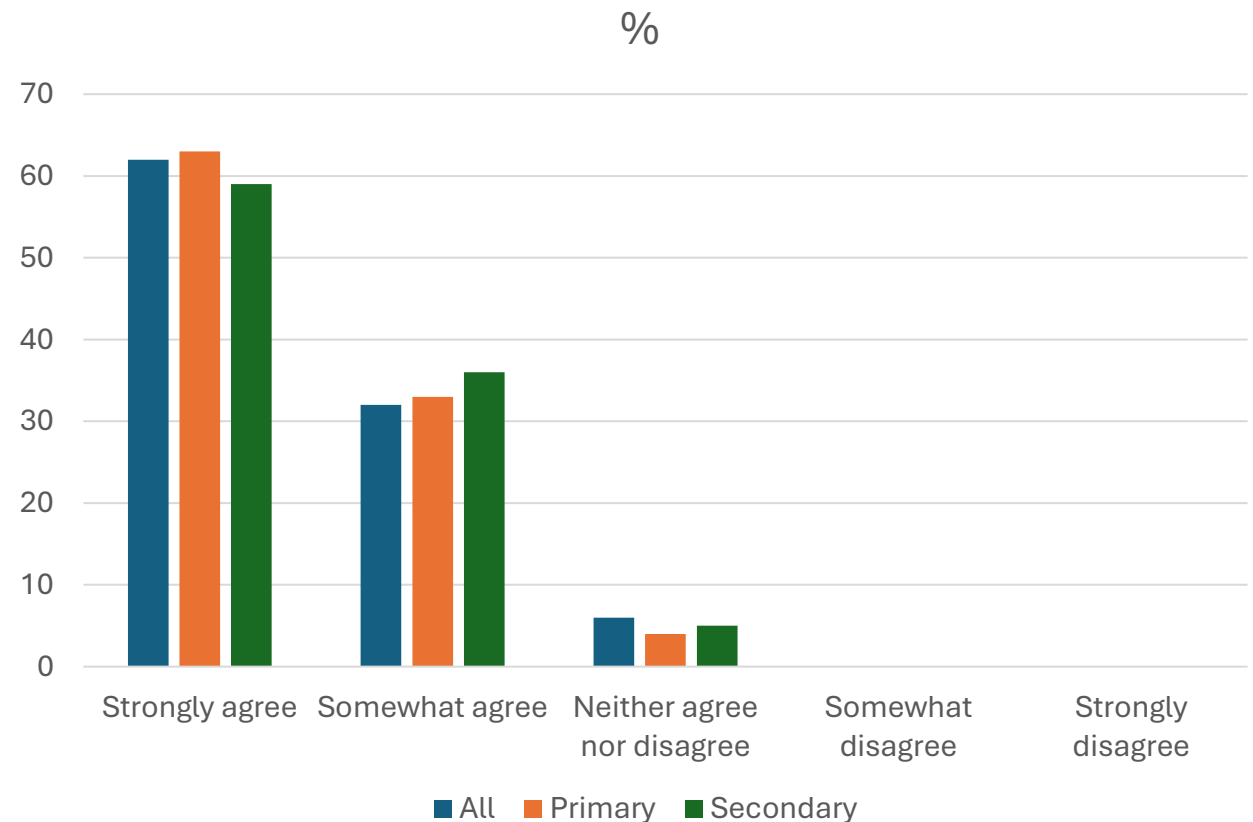
I usually work on my own when planning RVE.

	N=87	%
Strongly agree	24	27.6
Somewhat agree	28	32.2
Neither agree nor disagree	19	21.8
Somewhat disagree	13	14.9
Strongly disagree	3	3.4
Total	87	100.0



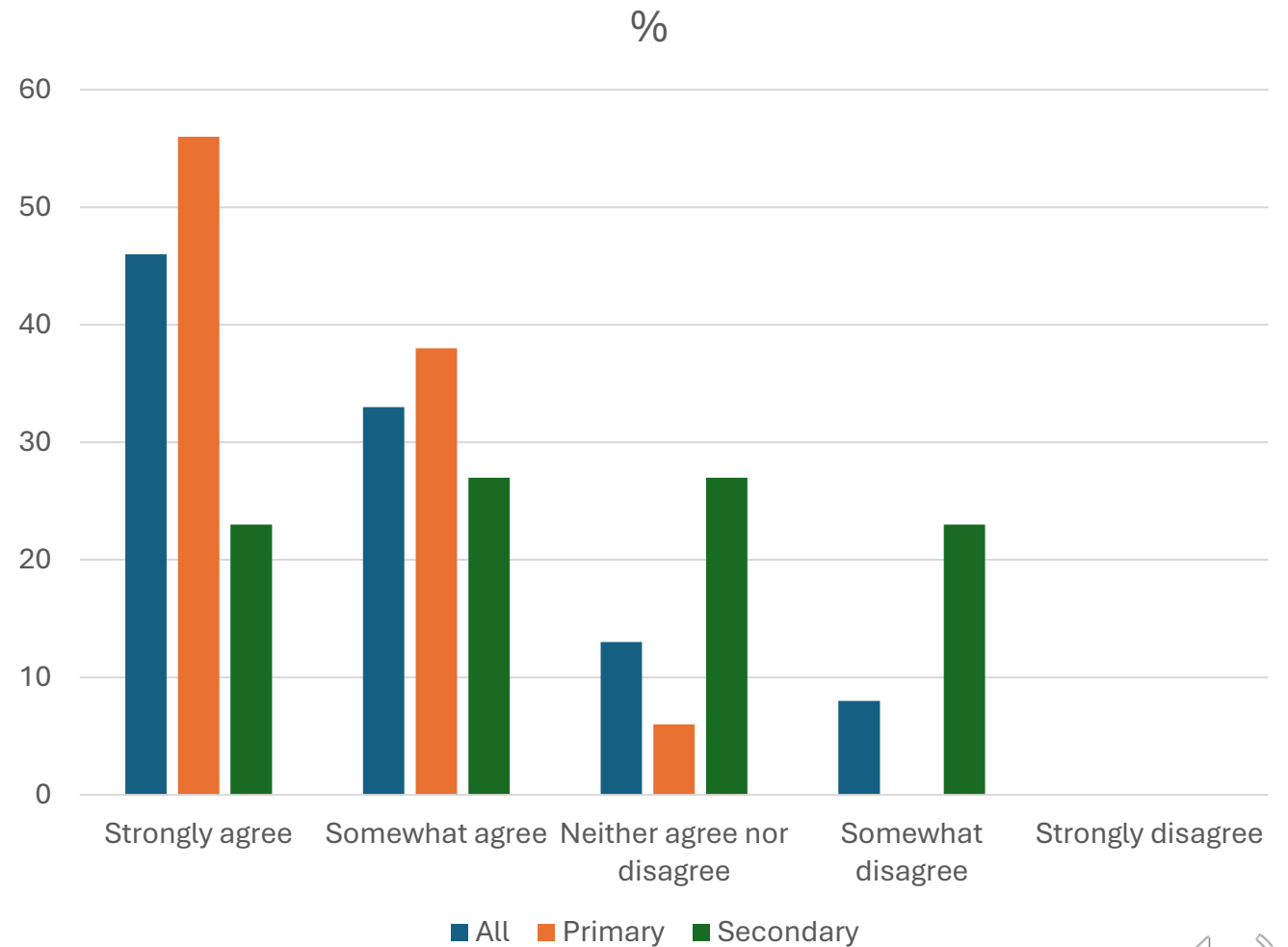
Collaboration with colleagues is important for my professional development.

	N=87	%
Strongly agree	54	62.1
Somewhat agree	28	32.2
Neither agree nor disagree	5	5.7
Somewhat disagree	0	0.0
Strongly disagree	0	0.0
Total	87	100.0



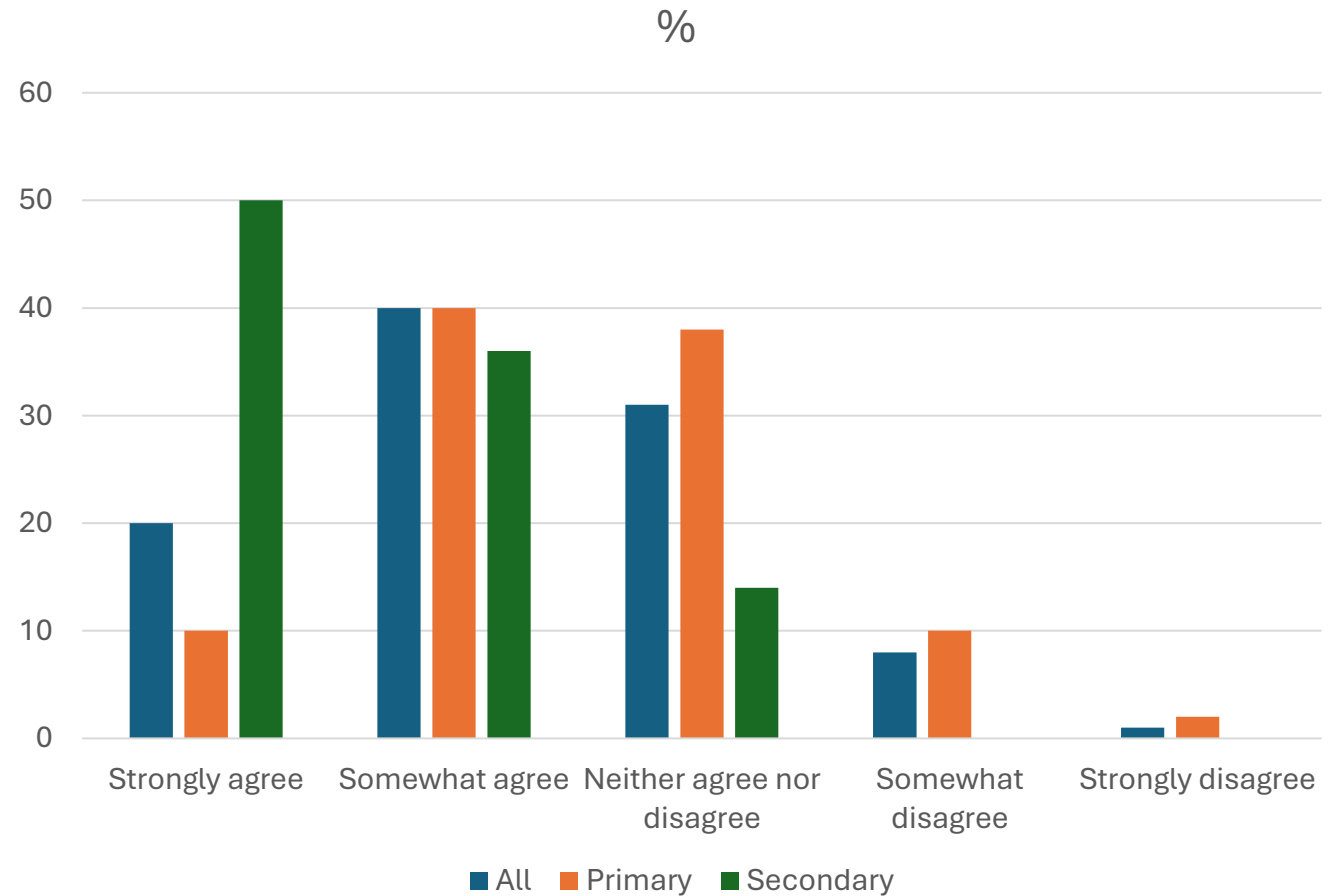
My school / setting has a collaborative culture.

	N=87	%
Strongly agree	40	46.0
Somewhat agree	29	33.3
Neither agree nor disagree	11	12.6
Somewhat disagree	7	8.0
Strongly disagree	0	0.0
Total	87	100.0



My school / setting has a performance-driven culture.

	N=87	%
Strongly agree	17	19.5
Somewhat agree	35	40.2
Neither agree nor disagree	27	31.0
Somewhat disagree	7	8.0
Strongly disagree	1	1.1
Total	87	100.0



What are the barriers (if any) for collaborative working? (e.g. your school / setting, locally, nationally or further afield.) (N=56)

Primary

Resources: time, money (20)

Scheduling (3)

Size of school (3)

Attitudes to collaboration (3)

Lack of opportunities (2)

Geography (2)

Overload (1)

Staff changes (1)

None (1)



What are the barriers (if any) for collaborative working? (e.g. your school / setting, locally, nationally or further afield.) (N=56)

Secondary

Resources: time, money (9)

SLT (2)

Only specialist / teacher (1)

School focus (1)

Supported when I ask (1)

No sharing of new developments (1)



What are the barriers (if any) for collaborative working? (e.g. your school / setting, locally, nationally or further afield.) (N=56)

Special

Resources: time, money (5)

Lack of expertise (1)

Lack of RVE resources (1)



- **All age**
 - Resources: time and money (2)
- **PRU**
 - Distinctiveness of setting (2)
- **Nursery**
 - Resources: time and money (1)
 - Distinctiveness of setting (1)
- **Other**
 - None (2)
 - Resources: time and money (1)



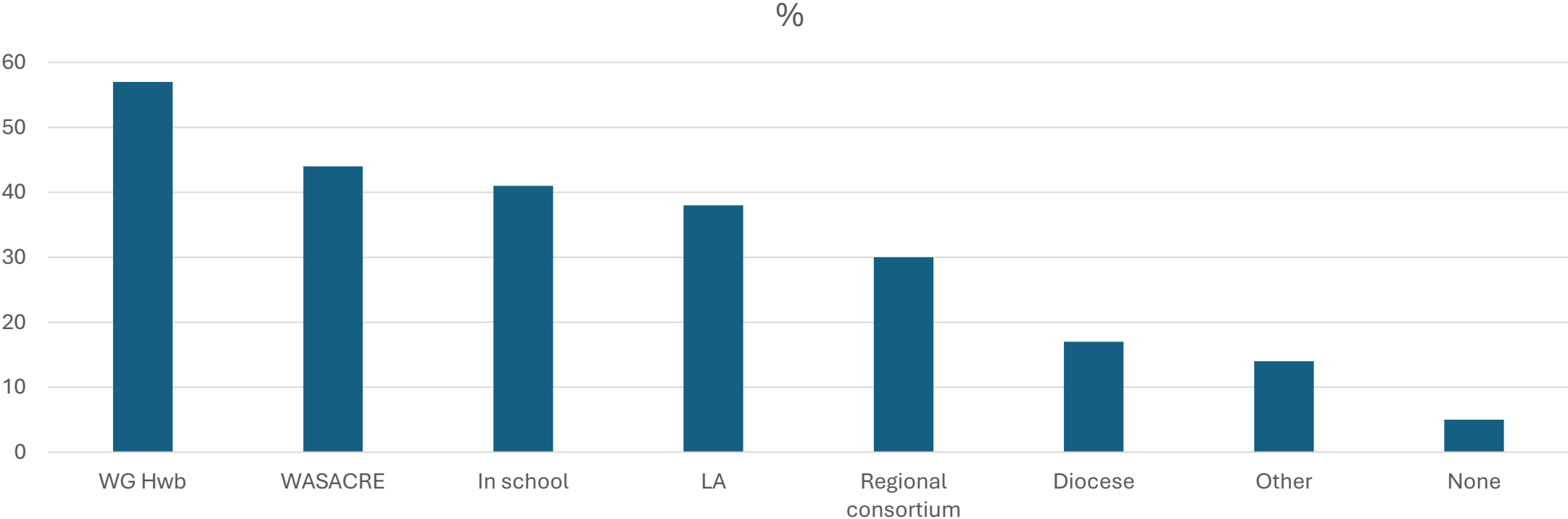
Goals and aspirations



Professional learning and support



Which professional learning and support opportunities relevant to RVE in the Curriculum for Wales have you used? (Tick all that apply.) (N=87)



What professional learning would you like to receive to support your continuing development of RVE? (N=53)

Sharing practice / collaboration with others

Progression and assessment

Curriculum design / planning

Targeted individual support

ALN

Qualifications related

Non-religious philosophical convictions

External partners / local community connections

Also: legal responsibilities; gaining support of parents



Questions?



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