Girls’ confidence

Each year, a UK survey asks girls and young women aged 7-21 about their attitudes to a range of issues. The 2016 results* suggest girls’ confidence is sky high in primary school, but it nose-dives as they progress through secondary school and into tertiary study or the workforce.

Succeeding in your chosen career

- Of the girls aged 7-10 who took part in the 2016 survey, 86% thought that boys and girls have the same chance of succeeding in their chosen careers.
- The percentage drops as girls get older, with 54% of those aged 11-16 agreeing that boys and girls have the same chance of succeeding.
- Of the survey participants aged 17-21, only 35% thought they would be as successful as their male counterparts in their chosen careers.

Feeling confident in yourself

- Of those aged 7-10, 63% felt confident in themselves ‘most of the time’...
- ... compared to 39% of 11- to 16-year-olds...
- ... and only 31% of young women aged 17-21.

Feeling able to do anything

- Of those aged 7-10, 74% felt they could ‘often’ do anything if they tried...
- ... compared to 49% of 11- to 16-year-olds.

*Girlguiding’s Girls’ Attitudes Survey 2016 (1,627 participants).