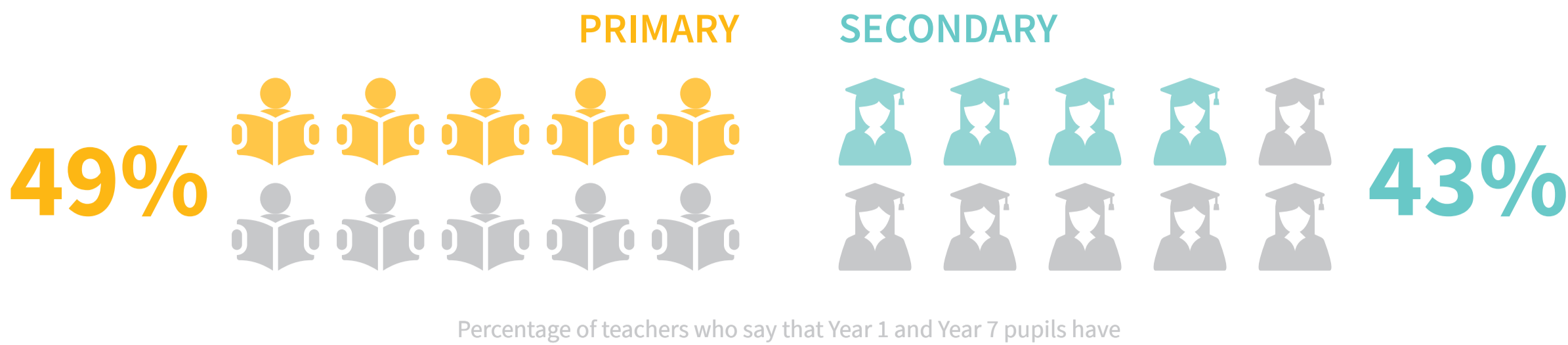


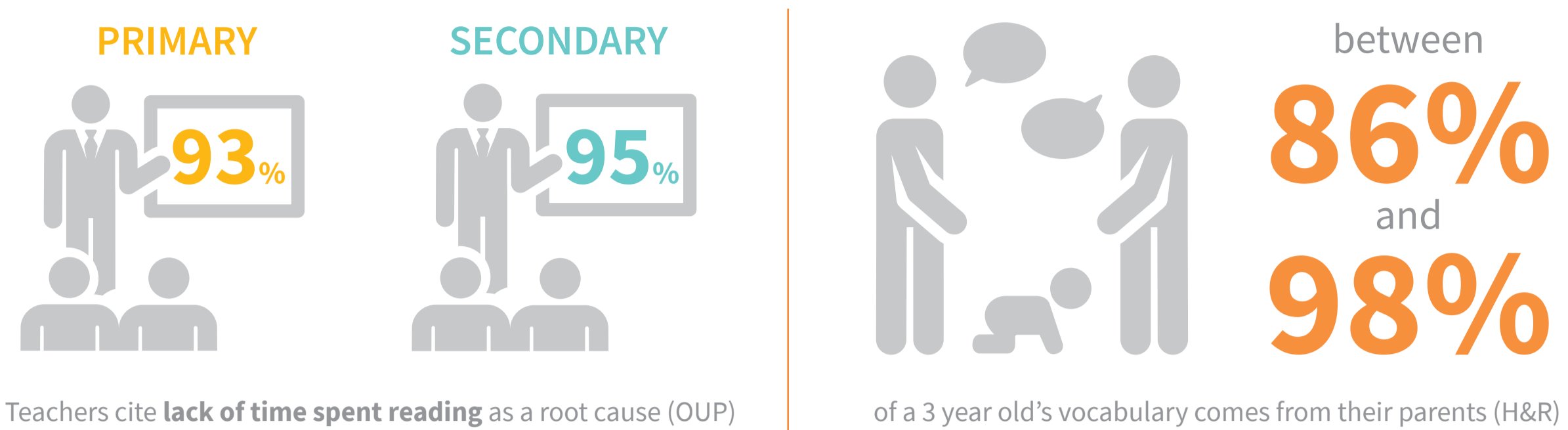
# MIND THE WORD GAP

The "Word Gap" is the **difference** between the extent of a child's vocabulary when entering education and the expected vocabulary for their age. Research shows that it is not limited to those entering primary school, but continues into secondary education and beyond.

The word gap affects 49% of Year 1 and 43% of Year 7 pupils and it's getting bigger



The word gap is caused by a lack of reading and words learnt at home

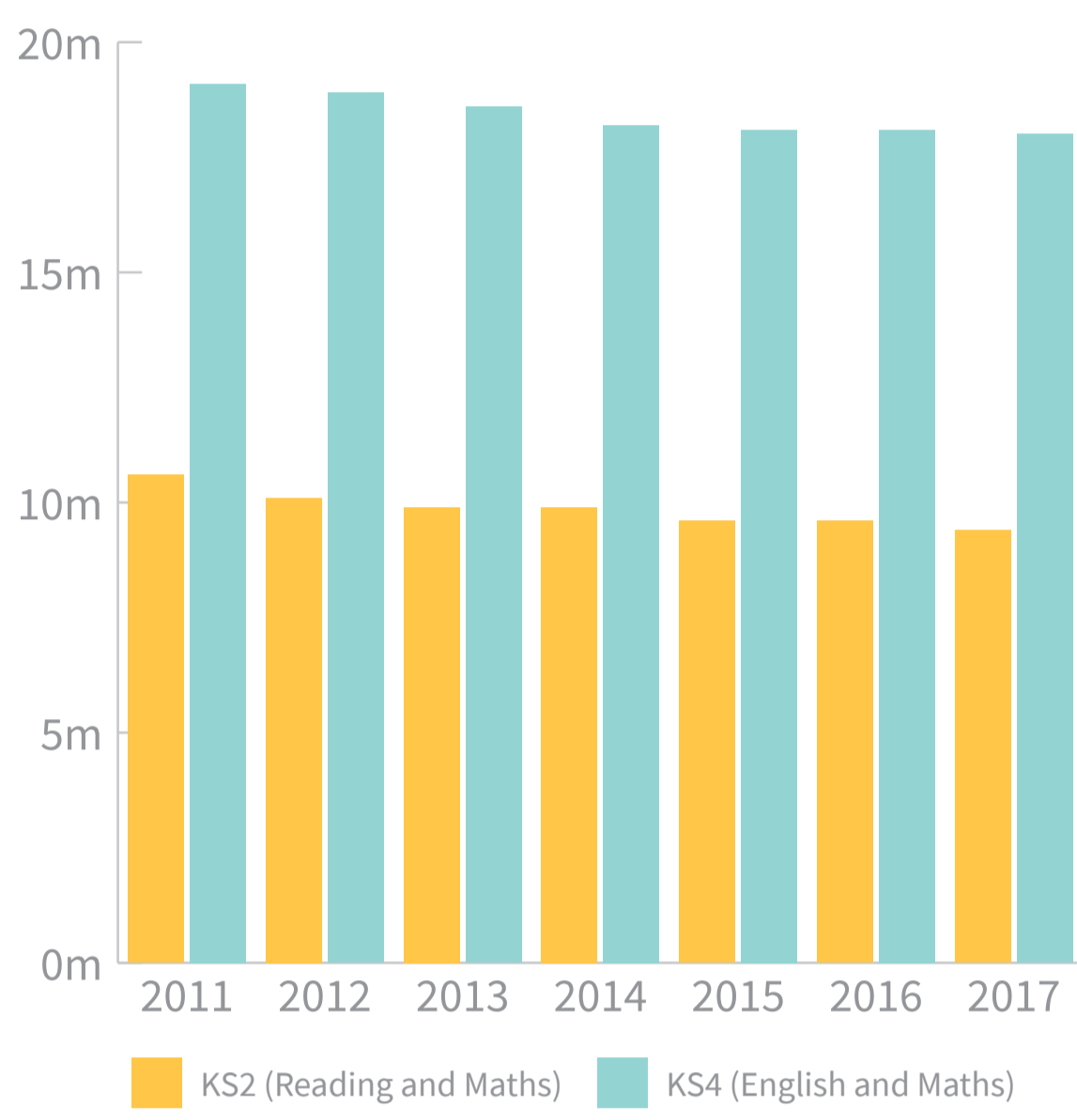


But the biggest cause is likely to be income

By the age of just 3, children from **low-income families** are exposed to

# 30 MILLION FEWER WORDS

than their peers (H&R)



The **DISADVANTAGE GAP** estimates the difference in attainment in months between low-income pupils and their peers (EPI)

In **2016** it was set to close by **2103** → **2155**

In **2017** it had increased to

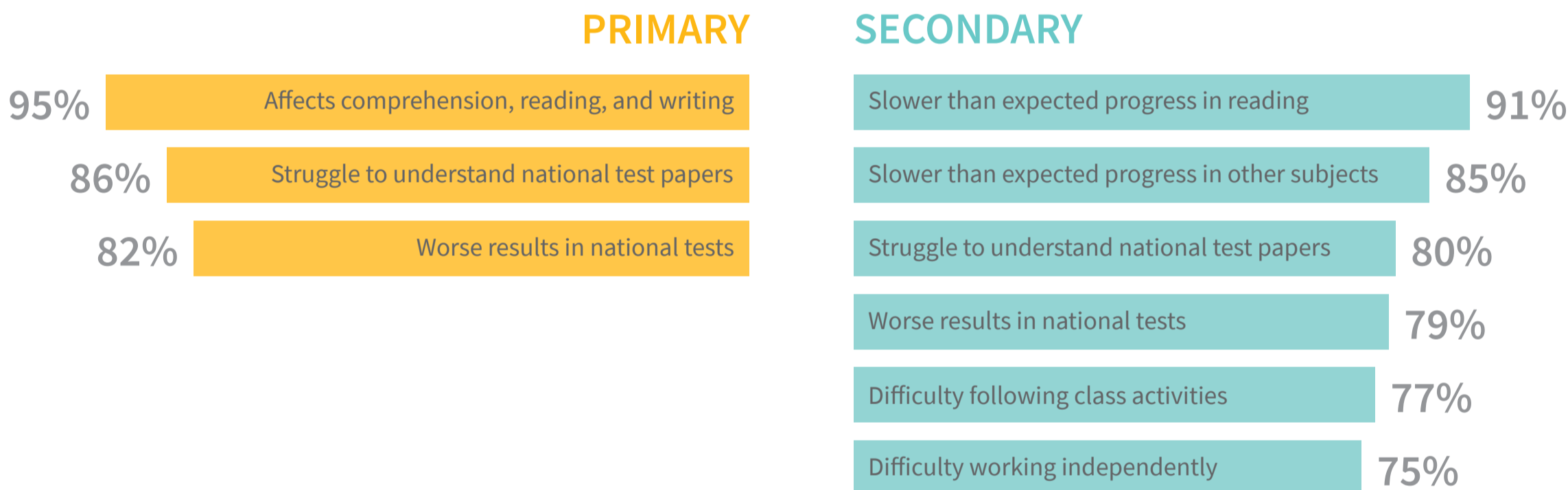
Based on current trends, it could take more than **100 YEARS** for the disadvantage gap in English and Maths to close

## “Vocabulary use at age 3 is predictive of language skill at age 9–10”

Hart & Risley (2003)

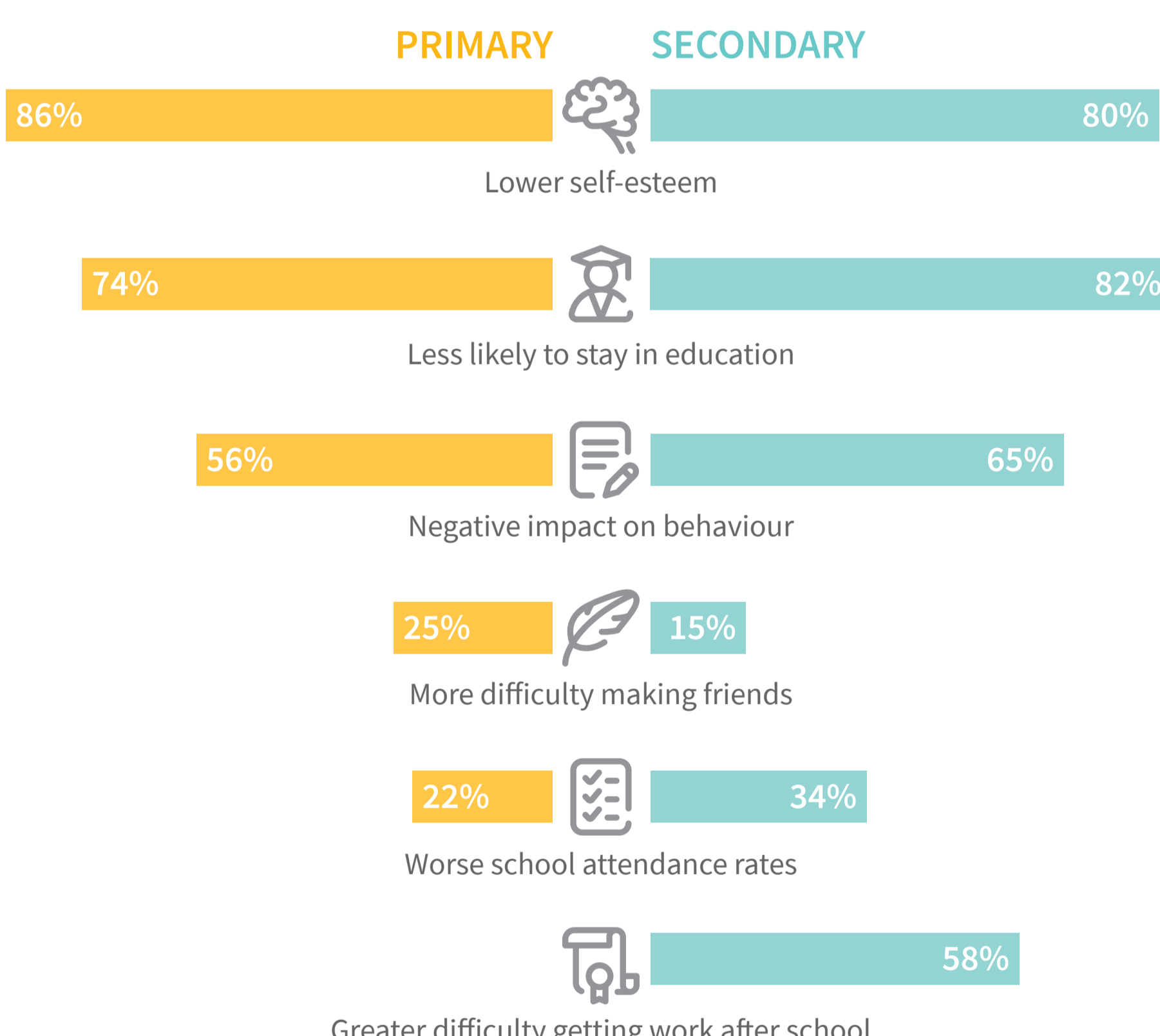
The word gap has a significant impact on academic achievement

How teachers believe the word gap impacts on academic achievement (OUP)

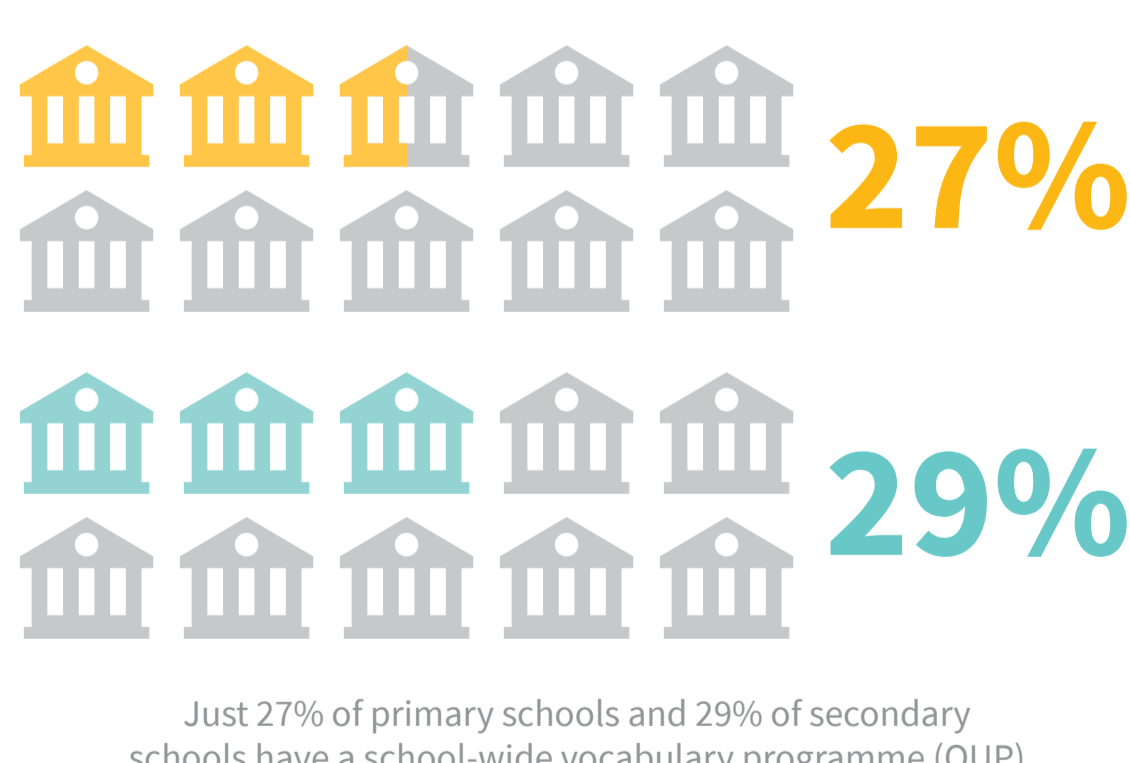
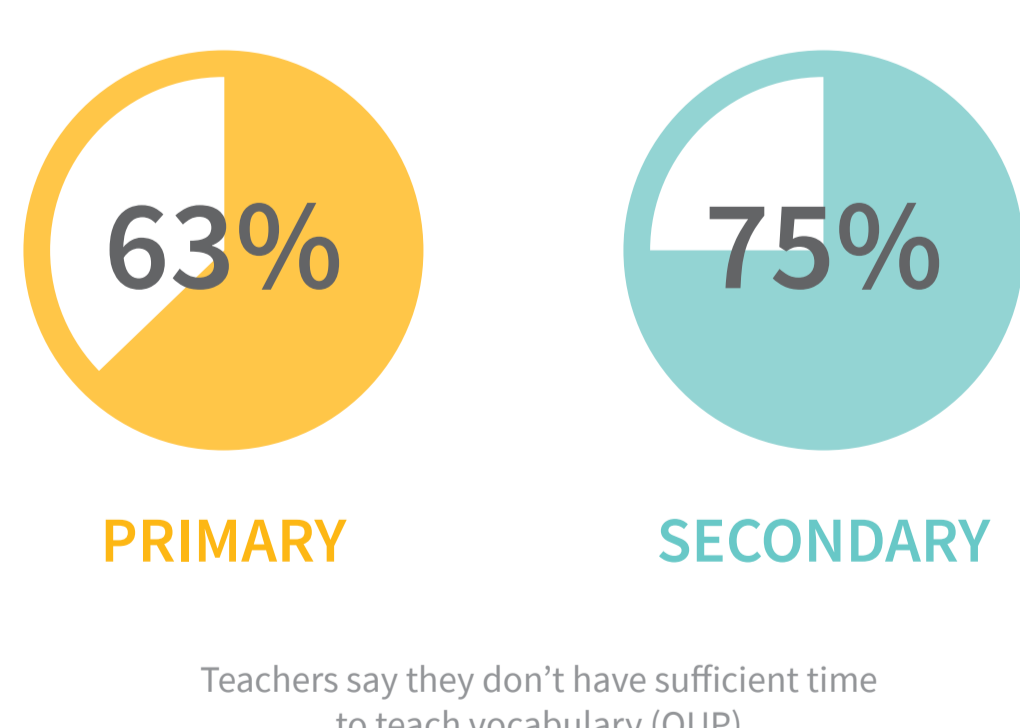


The word gap also impacts on life chances and mental health

How teachers believe the word gap impacts on pupils' wider life chances (OUP)

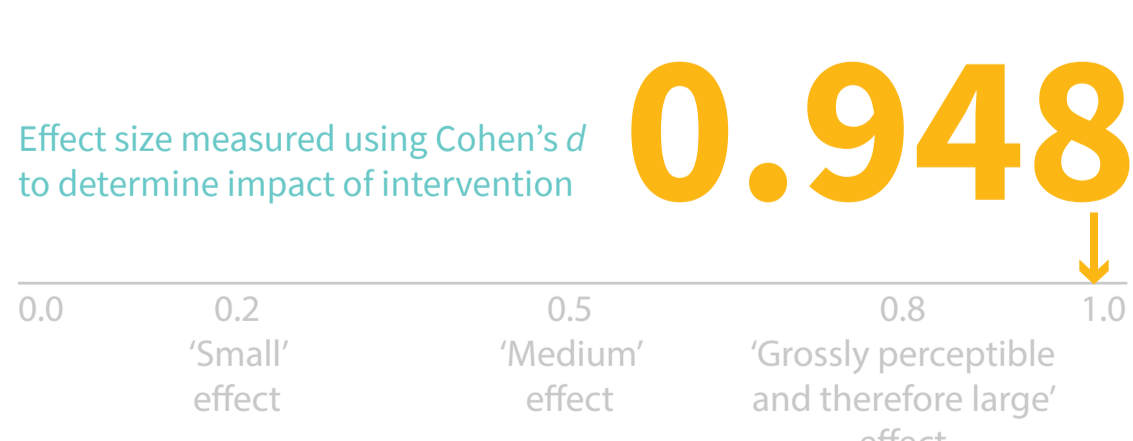


Barriers to closing the gap



Could technology help?

In an analysis of over 13,000 pre- and post-test result pairs, Bedrock Learning's vocabulary software was shown to have a **large and significant effect** on students' vocabularies



Bedrock Learning has a **large and significant effect** on a participating student's vocabulary

The average post-test score achieved by a **DISADVANTAGED PUPIL** was **10% HIGHER**

than the average baseline figure for a non-disadvantaged pupil



Visit <https://bedrocklearning.org> to book a demo

Sources:

Bedrock Learning in-house analysis of 13,456 pre- and post-test results  
 Education Policy Institute (EPI): *Education in England Annual Report 2018*  
 Hart, Betty, and Todd R. Risley (H&R): "The early catastrophe: The 30 million word gap by age 3." *American Educator* 27.1 (2003): 4-9  
 Oxford University Press (OUP): *Oxford Language Report* (<http://oxford.ly/wordgap>)

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