

Your Say 2013

January 2014



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Introduction

This report sets out the findings of the Your Say survey conducted in Southend –on-Sea during October and November 2013. All schools within the Southend Borough Council area were invited to support their pupils to participate. The survey was publicised in the local press and via the Southend-on-Sea Youth Council Twitter and Facebook feeds.

The Your Say survey was introduced in 2010, and has since run yearly during the autumn term. The survey was developed to further enhance the Success for All Group's understanding of children and young people's attitudes, behaviours and beliefs in Southend on Sea. The questions cover a range of subjects, from whether children are happy and feel safe through to questions about bullying; children in year 10 and above are also asked a series of age appropriate questions around drugs, alcohol sex and relationships.

Participants were asked to identify if they are a looked after child, have a learning difficulty or disability or have young caring responsibilities, in addition to their gender and age. These profile tags enable us to review the results of all of the questions by group and identify and highlight the different needs and experiences, positive or negative, of each group.

Profile Information

Schools participating in the survey were:

School	Number of Respondents	Percentage of respondents
Bournemouth Park Primary School	1	0.11%
Darlinghurst Primary and Nursery School	1	0.11%
Fairways Primary School	2	0.22%
Friars Primary School	169	18.47%
Hamstel Infant and Nursery School	2	0.22%
Milton Hall Primary School	2	0.22%
Prince Avenue primary School and Nursery	1	0.11%
Richmond Avenue Primary School	1	0.11%
Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School and Nursery	140	15.30%
St Helen's Catholic Primary School	1	0.11%
Temple Sutton Primary School	51	5.57%
The Westborough School	1	0.11%
Thorpedene Primary School	2	0.22%
West Leigh Infant School	1	0.11%
West Leigh Junior School	503	54.97%
Cecil Jones College	2	0.22%
Chase High School	1	0.11%
Futures College	2	0.22%
Priory School	2	0.22%
Shoeburyness High School	30	3.28%
TOTAL	915	100.01%

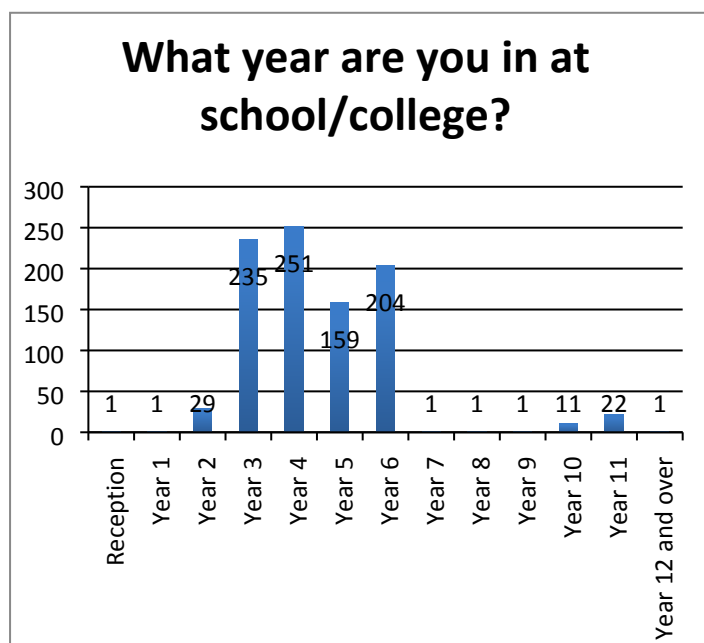
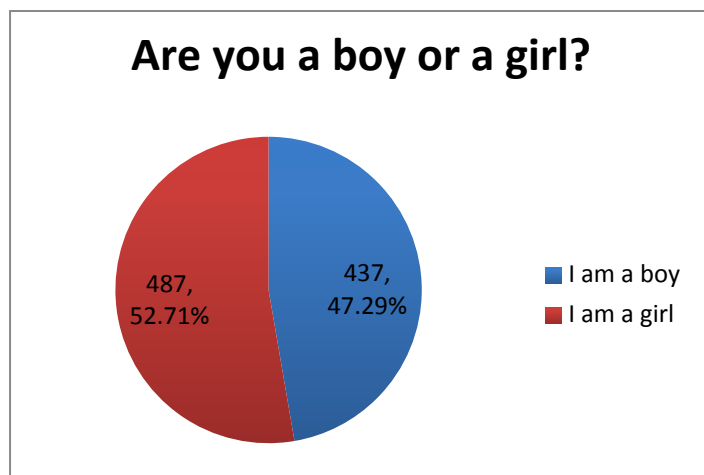
In 2012, 930 students responded to the survey, all of whom were of primary school age.

Profile question overview

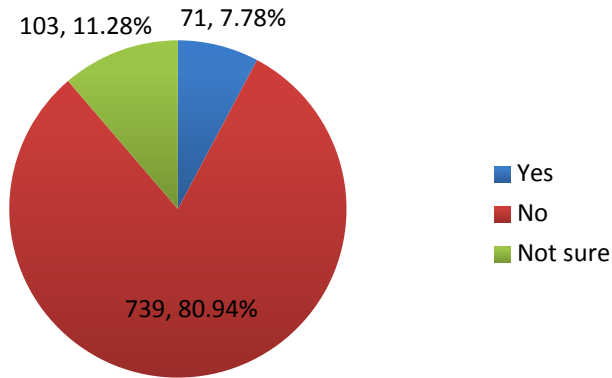
Participants were asked to identify if they are a looked after child, have a learning difficulty or disability or have young caring responsibilities, in addition to their gender and age. These profile tags enable us to review the results of all of the questions by group and identify and highlight the different needs and experiences, positive or negative, of each group.

The gender breakdown of the Your Say survey respondents is largely similar to the known gender balance for Southend pupils as obtained through school attainment data and analysis; the female cohort being marginally higher than the male cohort. This gives a level of confidence in the representative nature of the Your Say survey sample.

Whilst the survey is open to any year group this year's survey was predominantly Junior school pupils.

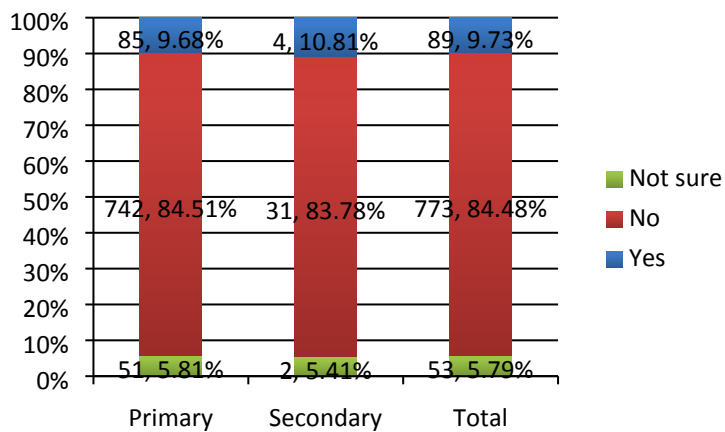


Do you have a learning difficulty or disability?

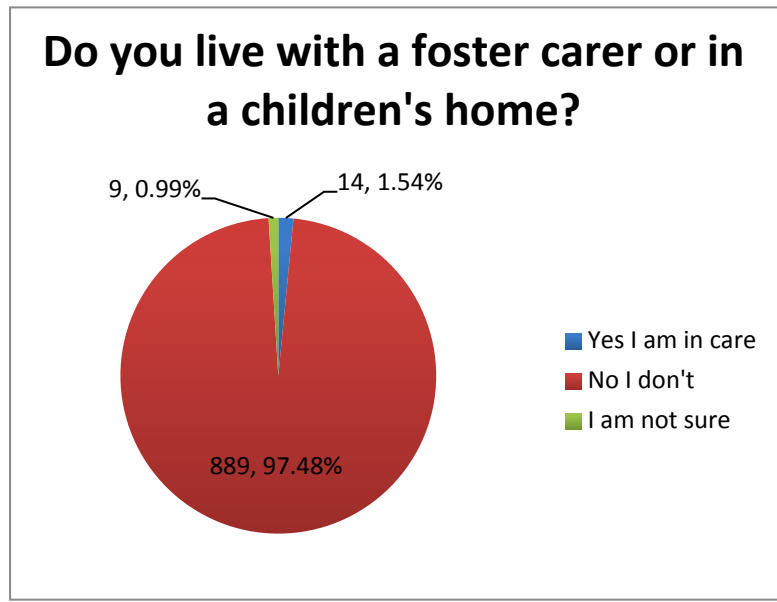


Of the 7.78% (71) of children who identified as having a learning difficulty or disability, 25% (18) indicated they were also a carer for a family member with an illness or disability.

Do you have to help care for any of your family members because they have an illness or disability?

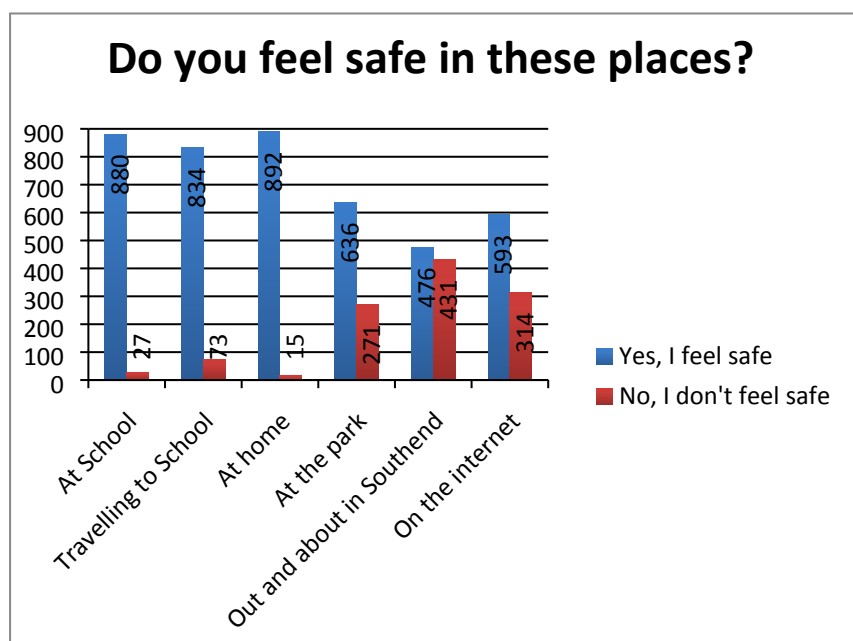


The number of school aged (reception to year 11) LAC as a percentage of children attending school (based on school roll numbers) in Southend is 0.7%. The majority of our respondents were Junior school aged children and currently 0.4% of children in year 3 to year 6 are looked after children. The survey has captured a higher proportion of looked after children's views than would be expected.



Community

Pupils were asked to say whether they felt safe or not in a number of different locations. The chart below shows that on the whole pupils feel safe at school, home and when travelling to school. However, they feel less safe when at the park, on the internet and when out and about in Southend. In 2012 30.82% of pupils said that they were allowed to play outside in the street or park without an adult, however 83.89% in general felt that Southend is a good place to live and grow up.



Children who indicated they have a learning difficulty or disability feel less safe than other children in 4 out of six areas. Pupils with a learning difficulty or disability feel particularly less safe than their peers in the park, with an 11.2 percentage point difference. However, this group felt safer out and about in Southend(8.7% points difference) and on the internet (4.8% points difference).

Do you feel safe in these places?		Do you have a learning difficulty or disability?					
		Yes		No		Not sure	
At school	Yes	67	94.37%	720	97.83%	94	93.07%
	No	4	5.63%	16	2.17%	7	6.93%
Travelling to school	Yes	62	87.32%	684	92.93%	89	88.12%
	No	9	12.68%	52	7.07%	12	11.88%
At home	Yes	69	97.18%	728	98.91%	96	95.05%
	No	2	2.82%	8	1.09%	5	4.95%
At the park	Yes	43	60.56%	528	71.74%	66	65.35%
	No	28	39.44%	208	28.26%	35	34.65%
Out and about in Southend	Yes	44	61.97%	392	53.26%	41	40.59%
	No	27	38.03%	344	46.74%	60	59.41%
On the internet	Yes	50	70.42%	483	65.63%	61	60.4%
	No	21	29.58%	253	34.38%	40	39.6%

Children who indicated that they are a young carer felt less safe than other children in all six areas. The biggest difference between this group and other children is when travelling to school (8.9% points difference) and at the park (8.8% points difference).

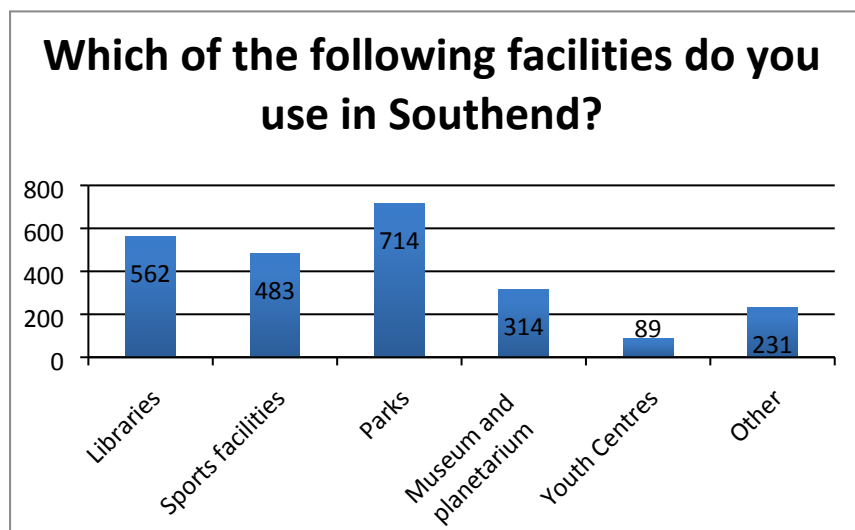
		Do you have to help care for any of your family members because they have a disability or illness?			
Do you feel safe in these places?		Yes		No	
At school	Yes	81	91.01%	749	97.78%
	No	8	8.99%	17	2.22%
Travelling to school	Yes	75	84.27%	714	93.21%
	No	14	15.73%	52	6.79%
At home	Yes	86	96.63%	755	98.56%
	No	3	3.37%	11	1.44%
At the park	Yes	57	64.04%	558	72.85%
	No	32	35.96%	208	27.15%
Out and about in Southend	Yes	44	49.44%	413	53.92%
	No	45	50.56%	353	46.08%
On the internet	Yes	57	64.04%	512	66.84%
	No	32	35.96%	254	33.16%

Children who indicated they are looked after feel more safe than other children in four of the six areas. However the largest difference between looked after children and others is that they feel less safe when travelling to school by 23.2 percentage points. Looked after children felt much safer on the internet in comparison to other children (19.38% points difference).

		Do you live with a foster carer or in a children's home?					
Do you feel safe in these places?		Yes		No		Not sure	
At school	Yes	13	100%	860	97.07%	8	88.89%
	No	-		26	2.93%	1	11.11%
Travelling to school	Yes	9	69.23%	819	92.44%	7	77.78%
	No	4	30.77%	67	7.56%	2	22.22%
At home	Yes	13	100%	872	98.42%	8	88.89%
	No	-		14	1.58%	1	11.11%
At the park	Yes	8	61.54%	624	70.43%	5	55.56%
	No	5	38.46%	262	29.57%	4	44.4%
Out and about in Southend	Yes	7	53.85%	467	52.71%	3	33.33%
	No	6	46.15%	419	47.29%	6	66.67%
On the internet	Yes	11	84.62%	578	65.24%	5	55.56%
	No	2	15.38%	308	34.76%	4	44.44%

What facilities do you use in Southend?

This was a multiple choice question, the aim was to gauge what facilities young people use in the town. Parks, libraries and sports facilities were the most popular of the six options given. However, 231 young people said that they used other facilities and listed a range of activities and places that they tend to go to which are not necessarily ‘facilities’.



Of the 231 who responded ‘Other’, 120 identified other facilities. The following responses were given:

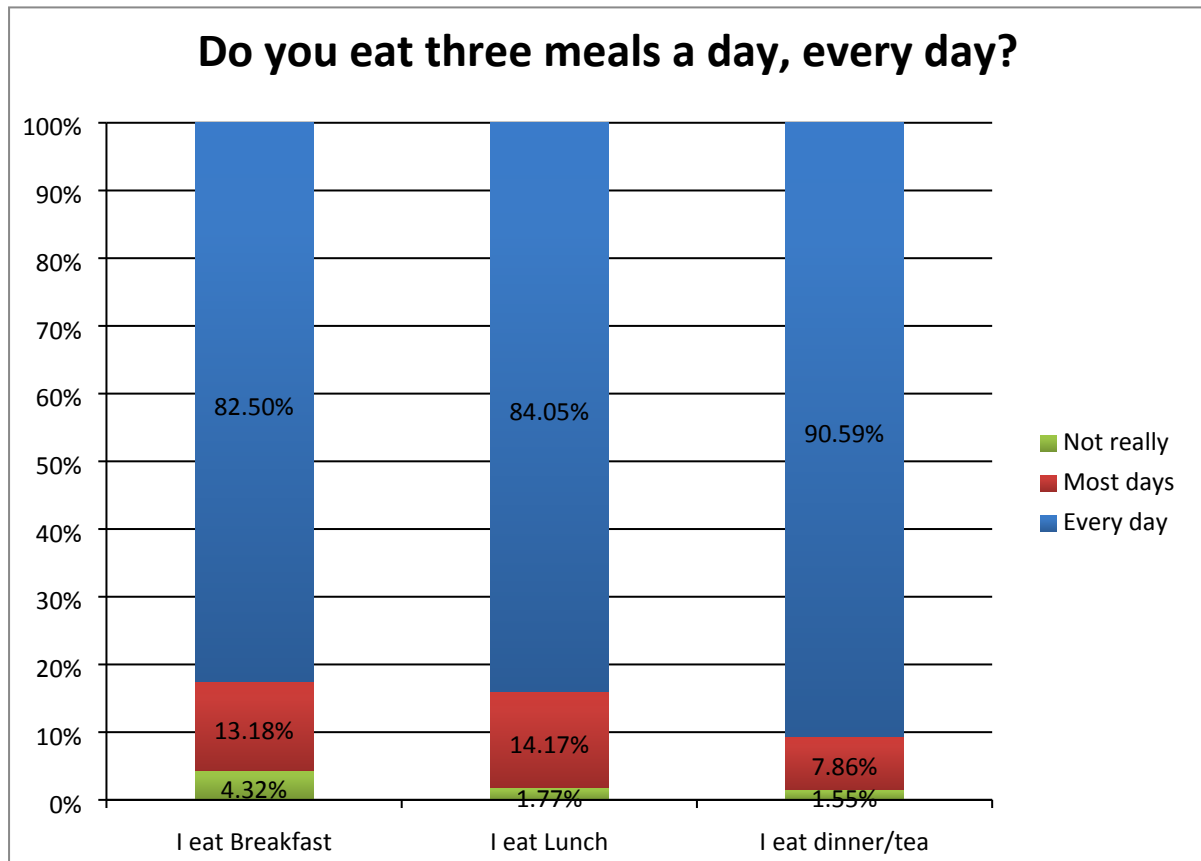
Adventure Island, Beach, Arcades and Pier	22	Other clubs (Scouts, Girls Brigade etc)	13
Cinema	8	Eating Out	6
Shops and shopping centres	32	Town centre	7
Dance Studios and drama Clubs	7	Misc	21
Football and Football clubs	4		

The table below shows the preferred facilities used by specific groups of children. Whilst the results are broadly similar, the looked after children’s group make marginally higher use of parks, libraries and sports facilities than other groups.

	Children with a learning difficulty or disability	Children who are young carers	Children who are looked after
Facilities	Parks 53, 28.34%	Parks 67, 28.63%	Parks 7, 29.17%
	Libraries 42, 22.46%	Libraries 53, 22.65%	Libraries 7, 29.17%
	Sports facilities 34, 18.18%	Sports facilities 45, 19.23%	Sports facilities 5, 20.83%

Being Healthy

Pupils were asked to indicate how much they agreed or disagreed with statements about their eating habits. The results for the 2013 cohort of Your Say respondents are lower than the 2012 cohort. A lower proportion of pupils in 2013 eat breakfast, lunch and dinner every day, the shift has resulted in higher proportions in 'most days' than in 2012.



The following table shows the breakdown of eating habits for children that identified as having a learning difficulty or disability:

		Yes I do have an LDD		No I do not have an LDD		I am not sure	
I eat breakfast	Every day	55	77.46%	611	83.47%	80	79.21%
	Most days	12	16.9%	93	12.7%	14	13.86%
	Not really	4	5.63%	28	3.83%	7	6.93%
I eat lunch	Every day	56	78.87%	618	84.43%	86	85.15%
	Most days	12	16.9%	104	14.21%	12	11.88%
	Not really	3	4.23%	10	1.37%	3	2.97%
I eat dinner/tea	Every day	63	88.73%	665	90.85%	91	90.1%
	Most days	4	5.63%	59	8.06%	8	7.92%
	Not really	4	5.63%	8	1.09%	2	1.98%

6% less children with an LDD eat breakfast everyday when compared with other children. 5.6% less said they eat lunch every day, and 2.3% less said they eat dinner every day.

The following table shows the breakdown of eating habits for children that identified as being a young carer:

		Yes I am a young carer	No I am not a young carer	I am not sure
I eat breakfast	Every day	69 77.53%	636 83.46%	41 77.36%
	Most days	13 14.61%	97 12.73%	9 16.98%
	Not really	7 7.87%	29 3.81%	3 5.66%
I eat lunch	Every day	65 73.03%	650 85.3%	45 84.91%
	Most days	18 20.22%	104 13.65%	6 11.32%
	Not really	6 6.74%	8 1.05%	2 3.77%
I eat dinner/tea	Every day	77 86.52%	692 90.81%	50 94.34%
	Most days	10 11.24%	59 7.74%	2 3.77%
	Not really	2 2.25%	11 1.44%	1 1.89%

5.9% less children who identified as young carers said they eat breakfast everyday when compared with other children. 12.3% less said they eat lunch every day, and 4.3% less said they eat dinner every day.

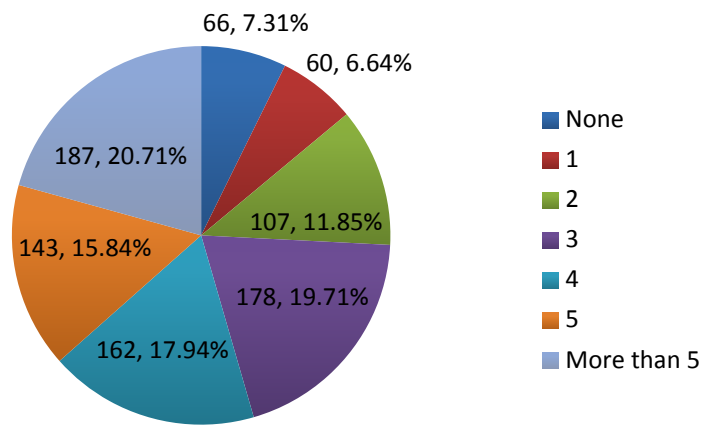
The following table shows the breakdown of eating habits for children that identified as being looked after:

		Yes I am in care	No I am not in care	I am not sure
I eat breakfast	Every day	7 53.85%	733 83.11%	6 66.67%
	Most days	3 23.08%	114 12.93%	2 22.22%
	Not really	3 23.08%	35 3.97%	1 11.11%
I eat lunch	Every day	9 69.23%	744 84.35%	7 77.78%
	Most days	3 23.08%	125 14.17%	-
	Not really	1 7.69%	13 1.47%	2 22.22%
I eat dinner/tea	Every day	10 76.92%	802 90.93%	7 77.78%
	Most days	2 15.38%	68 7.71%	1 11.11%
	Not really	1 7.69%	12 1.36%	1 11.11%

29.3% less children who identified as looked after said they eat breakfast every day when compared with other children. 15.12% less said they eat lunch every day and 14% less said they eat dinner every day.

Pupils in the three cohort groups are less likely than other pupils not in a profile group to eat one of their three main meals every day.

How many portions of fruit and vegetables did you eat yesterday?

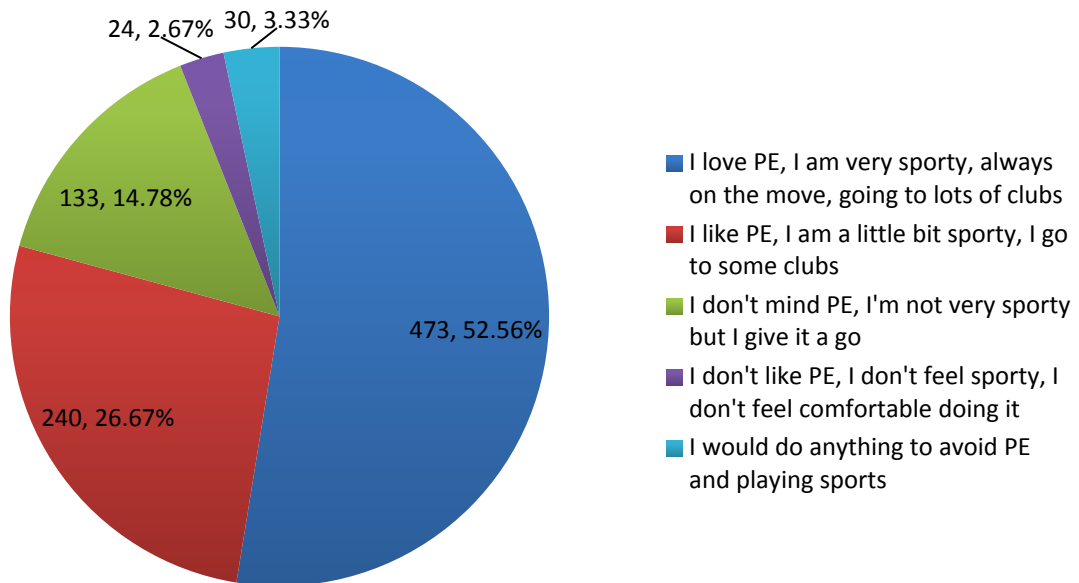


36.55% (330) of respondents indicated that they eat 5 or more pieces of fruit or vegetables every day. 74.2% (670) of respondents indicated that they eat 3 or more pieces of fruit or vegetables every day.

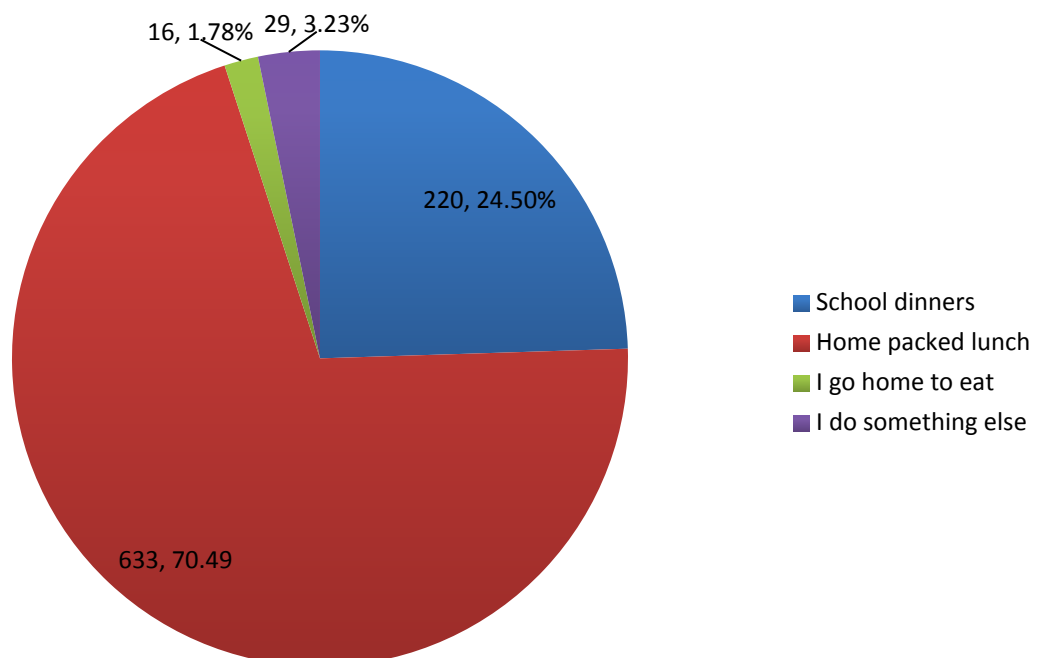
Responses from children who identified as having a learning difficulty or disability indicated that 32.39% (23) of this group eat 5 or more pieces of fruit or vegetables every day, whilst 66.19% (47) eat 3 or more pieces of fruit or vegetables every day.

Responses from children who identified as young carers indicated that 40.45% (36) of this group eat 5 or more pieces of fruit or vegetables every day, whilst 66.29% (73) eat 3 or more pieces of fruit or vegetables every day.

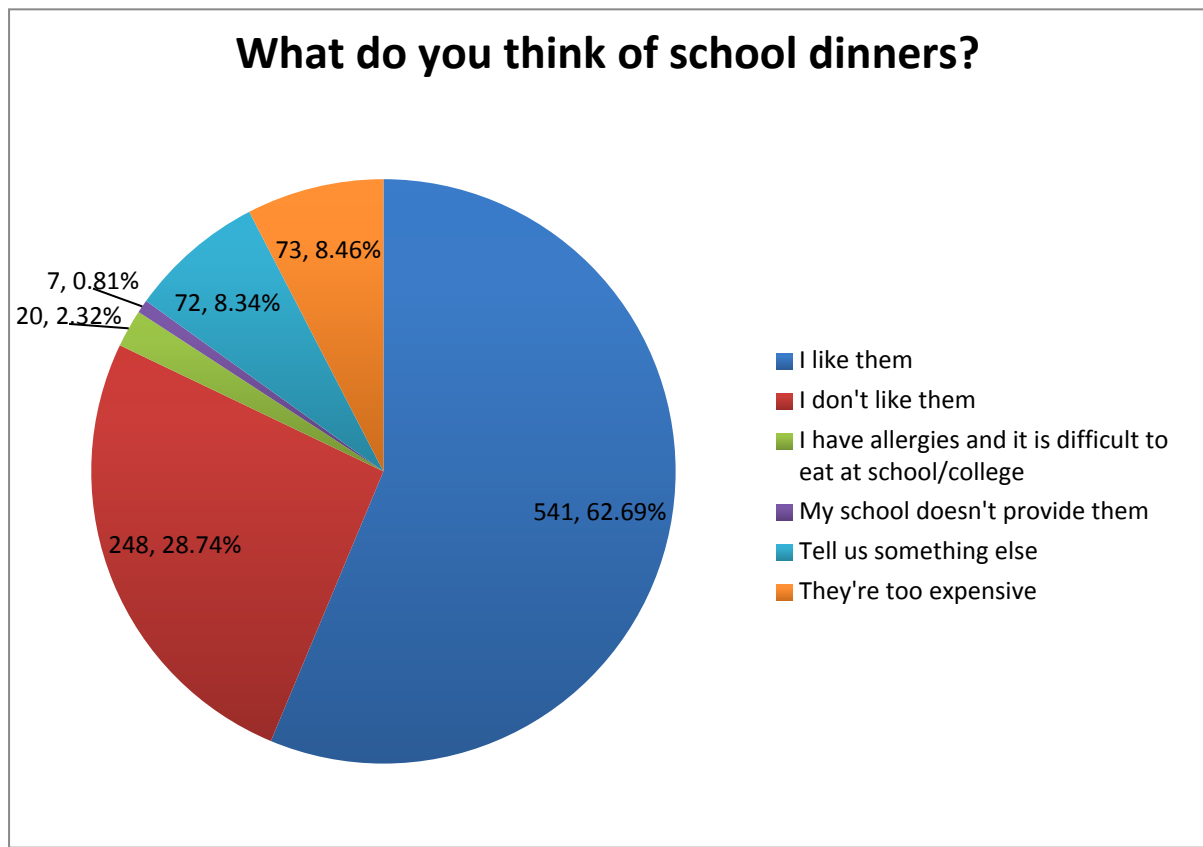
Which of these best describes how you feel about PE and sport?



What do you normally do for lunch on a school day?



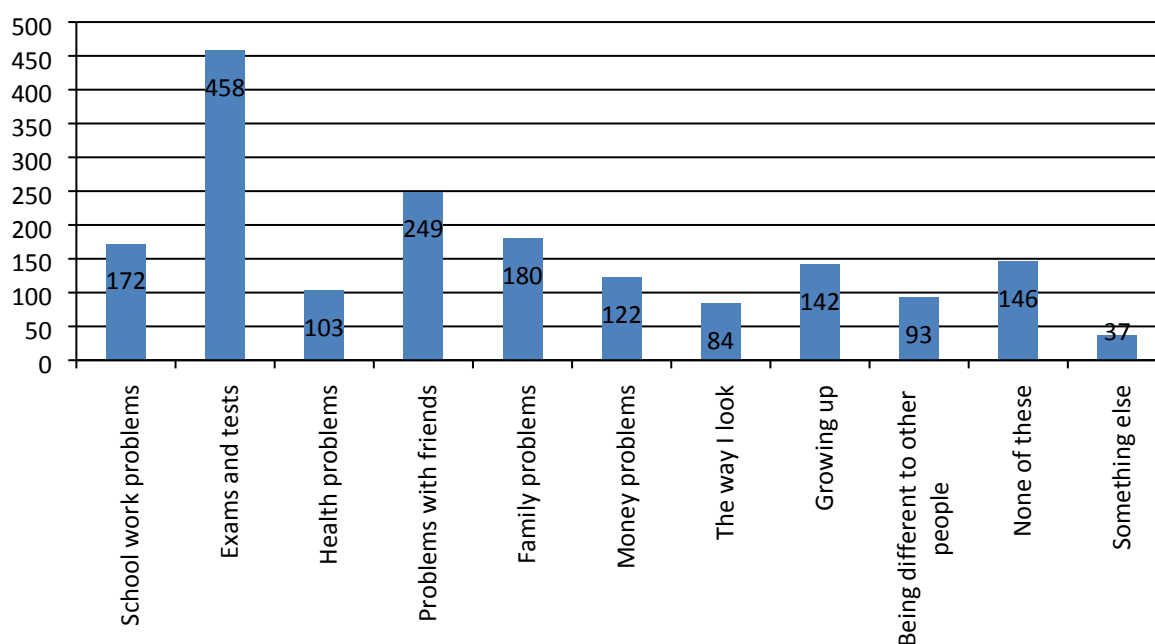
Respondents that picked options 'School dinners', 'Home packed lunch' or 'I do something else' were asked what they thought of school dinners, the results of which are displayed in the chart below:



Of the 72 respondents who chose the 'Tell us something else' option, 28 left comments. The common themes of the comments are shown in the table below:

I like them on some days but not on others	8
They are fattening or unhealthy	4
I don't have them	3
I love them	5
I don't like them	3
They're ok	8
I am vegetarian/would like more Vegetarian options	2
I don't mind them	5

Which of these things worries you the most? Choose your top three.



Of the respondents who chose something else, 18 left comments;

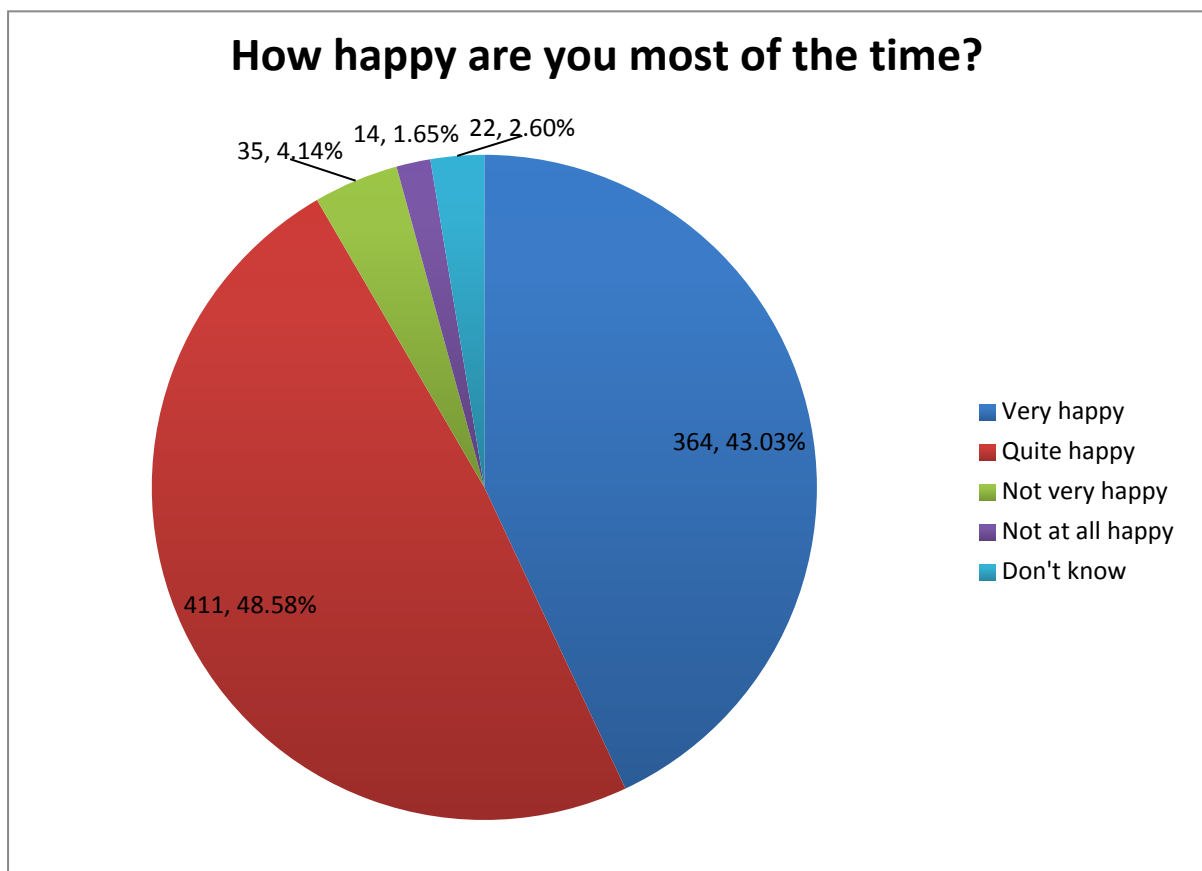
being called horrible names
dont have many poblems
geting a striked teacher
getting stolen
getting the best highest, possible grades I can produce
I could get bullied for wearing glasses
i get really embarrassed in most social situations i.e ordering food
i worry about getting told off
injections

life
not fitting in propely
pinic attacks
problems at home
shcool work
the end of the world
who i sit with or work with
YOUR MUMER

The table below shows the top 3 worries identified by specific groups of children.

	Children with a learning difficulty or disability	Children who are young carers	Children who are looked after
Worries	Exams and Tests 30, 20%	Exams and Tests 39, 20.63%	School work problems 5, 22.7%
	School work problems 21, 14%	Problems with friends 23, 12.17%	Exams and Tests 3, 13.64%
	Problems with friends 21, 14%	School work problems 22, 11.64%	Problems with friends 3, 13.64%
		Family problems 22, 11.64%	Family problems 3, 13.64%

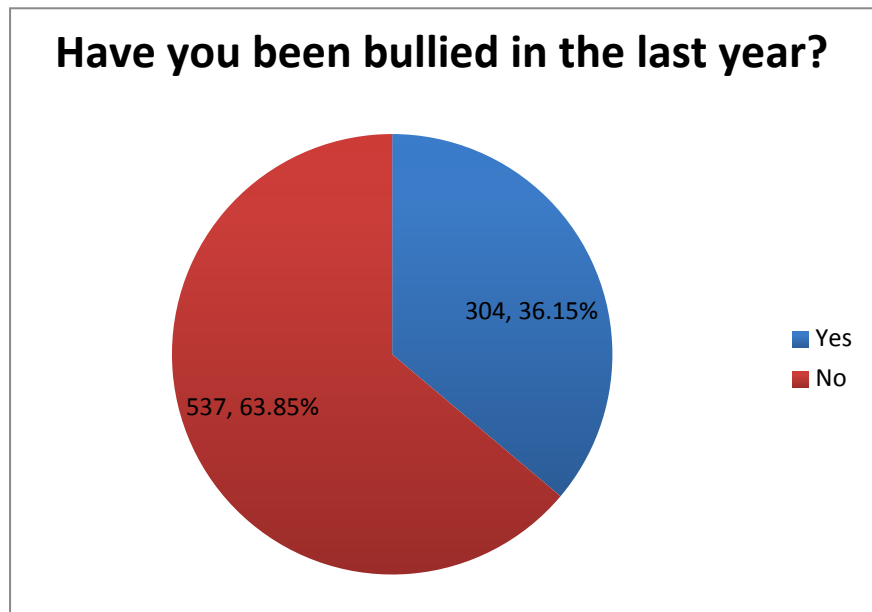
These figures show that the top ¾ worries of children in these specific groups match those of the whole cohort. Young carers and looked after children chose family problems as an additional worry, which reflects their situations.



Bullying

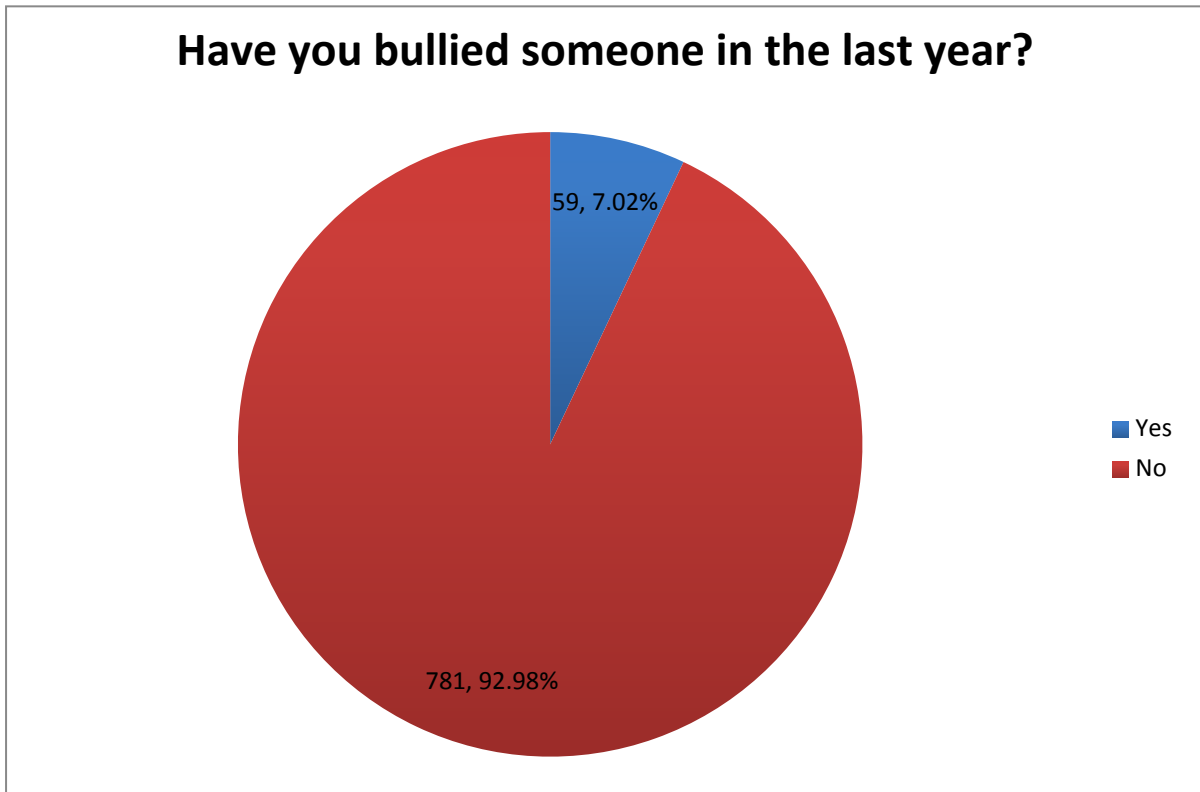
The question on bullying was accompanied by an explanation about what bullying is and emphasised that bullying is not a one off occurrence. The responses to the bullying question indicate that children in the three specific profile groups feel that they are bullied more than other children.

There is a 21.5 percentage point difference between young carers and other children, and a 10 percentage point difference between young carers and the two other profile groups.



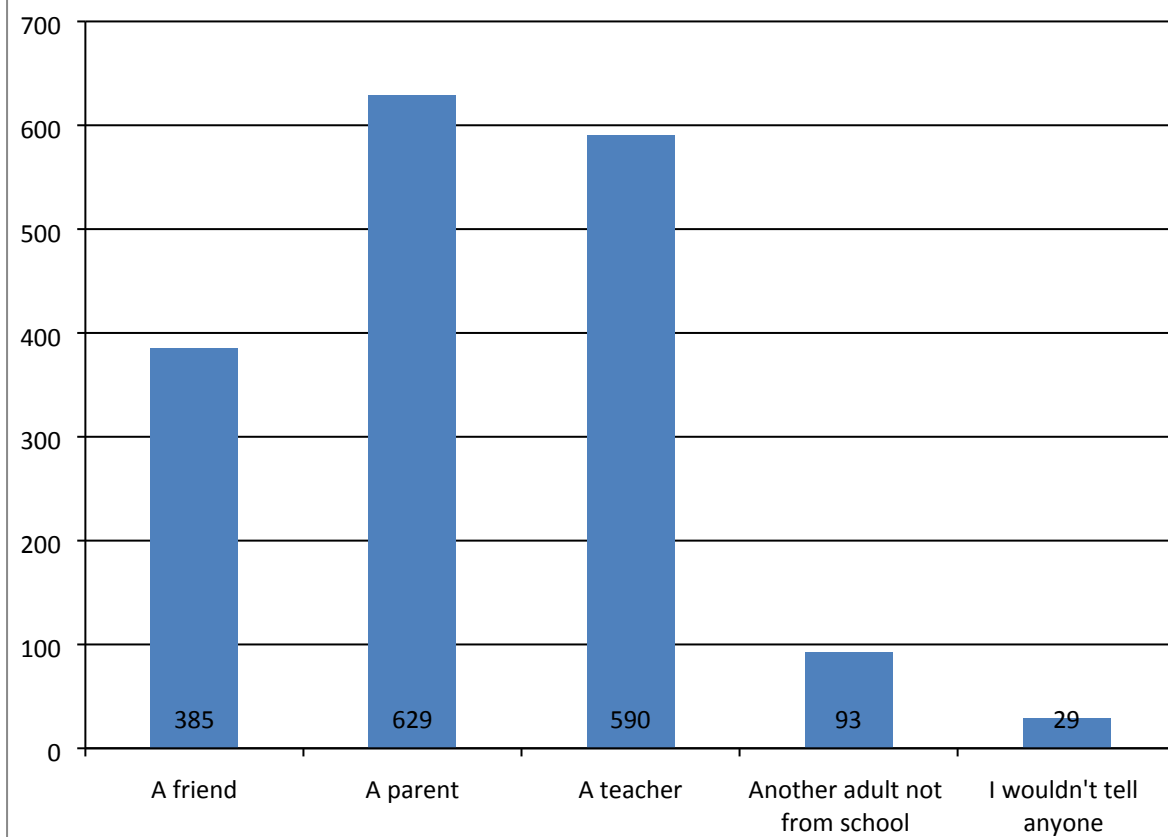
	Children with a learning difficulty or disability	Children who are young carers	Children who are looked after	Other children
I have been bullied	46.97% (31)	57.65% (49)	46.15% (6)	36.15%

We also asked children to tell us if they believe that they had bullied another person in the last year. Overall 7.2% of the respondents admitted to some form of bullying of another person. However, the proportion of people in the profile groups was much higher.



	Children with a learning difficulty or disability	Children who are young carers	Children who are looked after	Other children
I have bullied	15.38% (10)	15.29% (13)	15.38% (2)	7.02% (59)

Who would you tell if you were being bullied or upset?



Those respondents who responded 'I wouldn't tell anyone' were asked why they wouldn't tell anyone; 23 comments were recorded, which can be seen in the table below:

Because no one needs to know my personal life
because if the bully heard that i told someone they might bully me even worse
because its no big deal
because scared
because they might bully you more
because they might tell someone
Because when you're actually in school you see that the people that get parents and teachers involved in bullying are the ones that get bullied more.
becuse i dont get build
do not talk about eotions
dont want to get even more builled from them if they knew
i deserved it
i am scared
I dont want the situation to get worse
i will not tell because i dont want any one to be in trubble
i would lokk after myself
if my bullie found out i will be scared
its embarrassing

It's no one's business
one of my very close friends mums or dad
parent or teacher
scared
so they wont get upset
they will stab me

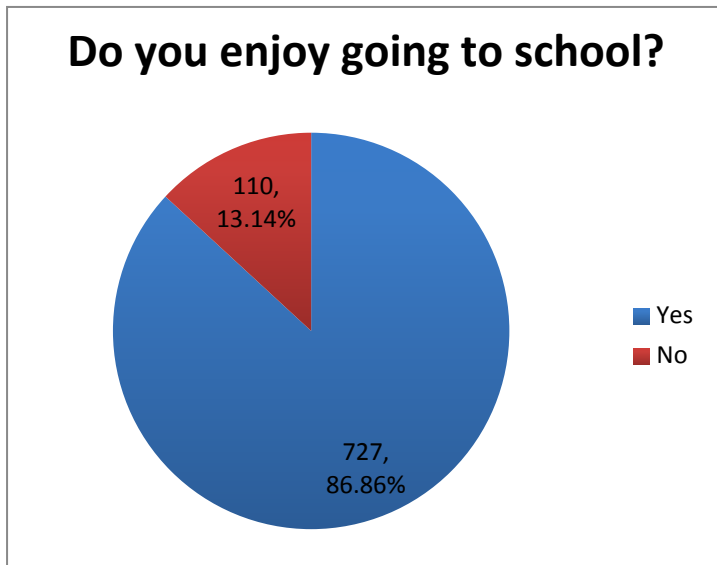
Being part of a profile group didn't make a significant difference on who a child would tell except for looked after children who were more likely to tell a friend ahead of a teacher or parent.

Children with a learning difficulty or disability indicated that they would tell a teacher (35.94%, 46) or a parent (33.59%, 43) as their top two answers to this question.

35.06% (61) children who identified as a young carer indicated they would tell a teacher, and 33.33% (58) said they would tell a parent

33% (7) of looked after children said they would tell a friend, whilst 23.8% (5) said they would tell a parent or teacher.

School/College



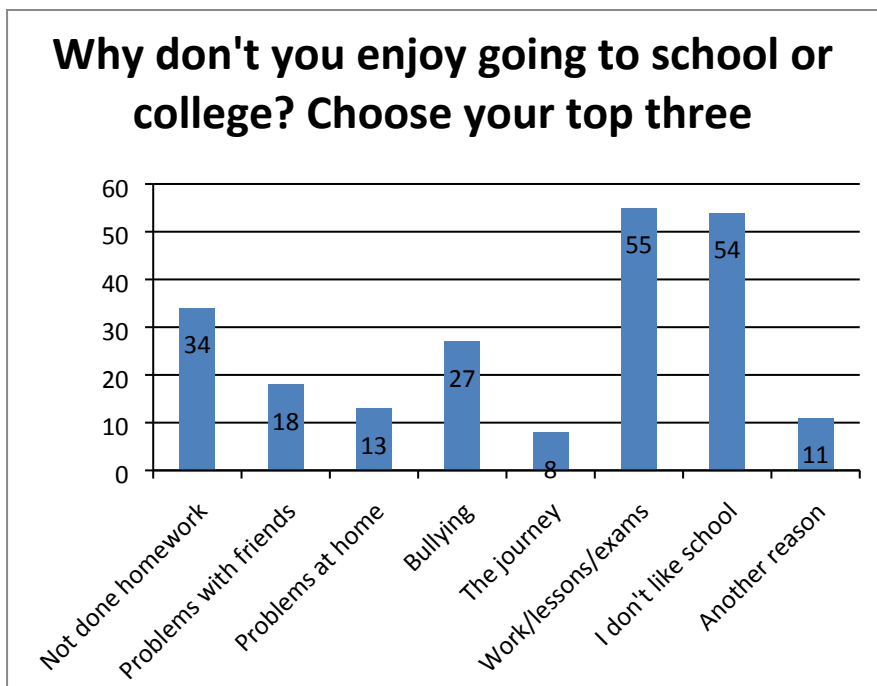
All respondents regardless of what profile group they fell into enjoy school at a similar percentage point level.

85.94% (55) of children who indicated they have a learning difficulty or disability said they enjoy going to school.

86.75% (72) of children who identified as young carers said they enjoy going to school.

84.6% (11) of children who are looked after said they enjoy going to school.

We asked those pupils who said that they did not enjoy going to school to tell us why.



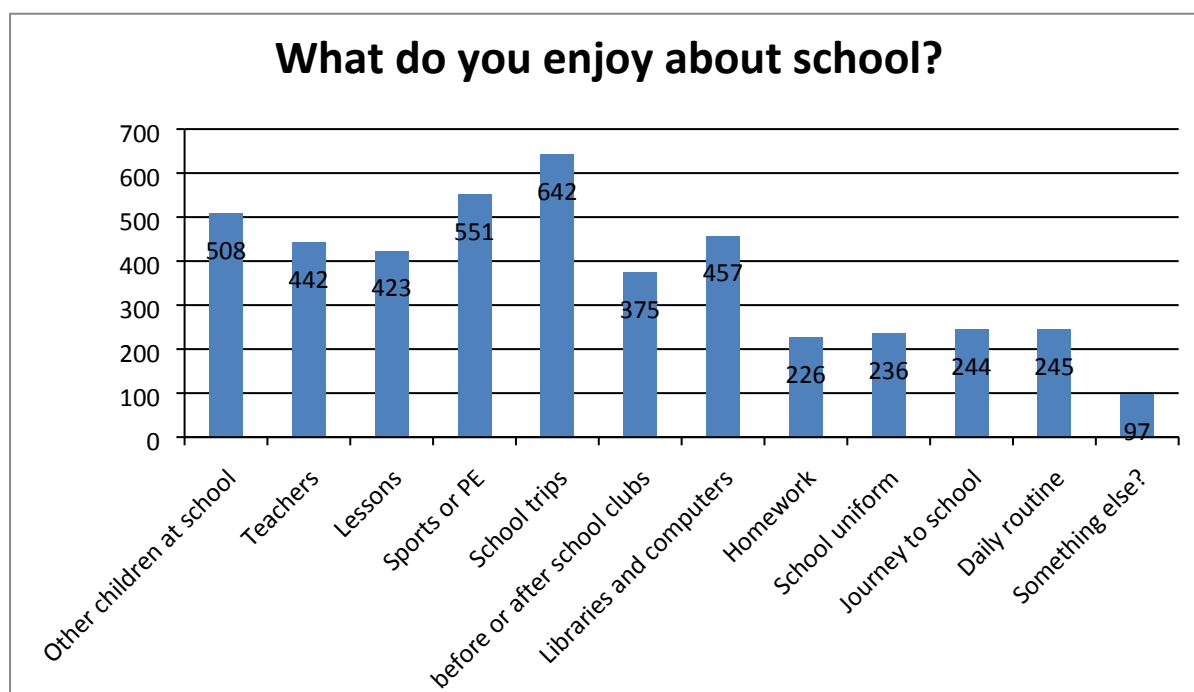
Respondents who chose 'Another Reason' were asked why they don't enjoy going to school; 8 comments were recorded:

anxiety
becaust its boring
Boring
Getting up early.
The education system

People in my class are bining mj
teachers
it can get really stressful and homework prevents me from having a social life

The table below shows the top three reasons identified by specific groups of children for why they don't enjoy going to school. (Percentages relate to the number of children that said they do not enjoy school).

	Children with a learning difficulty or disability	Children who are young carers	Children who are looked after
Why don't you enjoy going to school?	Work/lessons/exams 5, 25%	Not done homework 5, 22.73%	Not done homework 1, 50%
	Not done homework 4, 20%	Work/lessons/exams 4, 18.18%	Bullying 1, 50%
	I don't like school 4, 20%	I don't like school 4, 18.18%	N/A



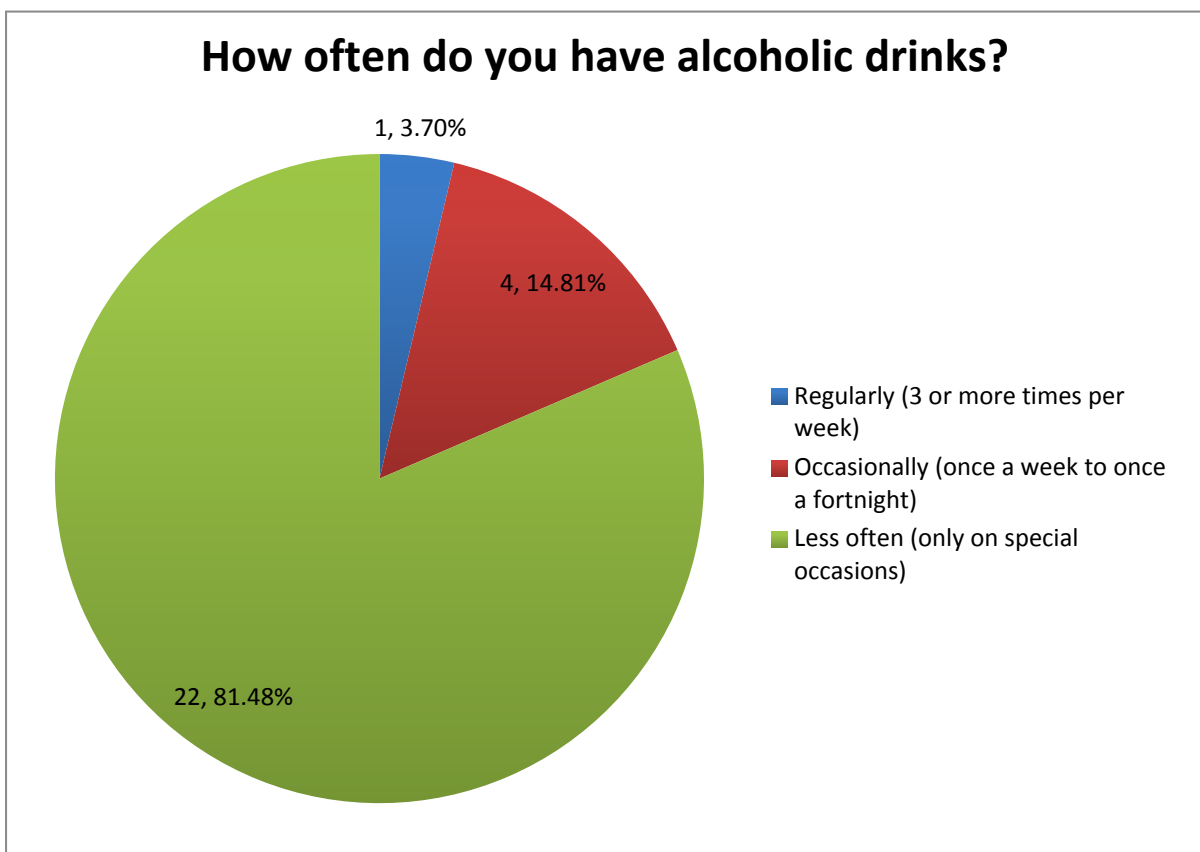
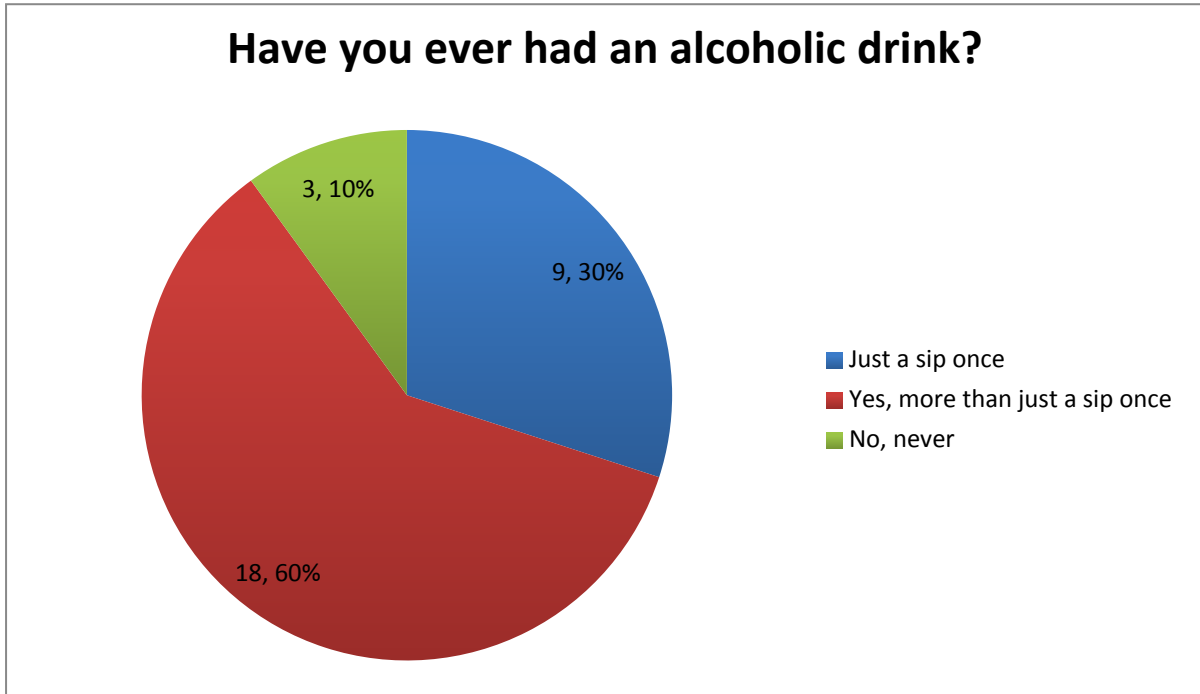
Respondents who selected 'Something else' were to specify what else they liked about school; 67 respondents left comments, which are summarised in the table below:

Lessons/Learning	7
Clubs	7
Playtime/Lunchtime/Breaktime	22
School Facilities	2
Friends	11
Specific Lessons	11
Misc	3

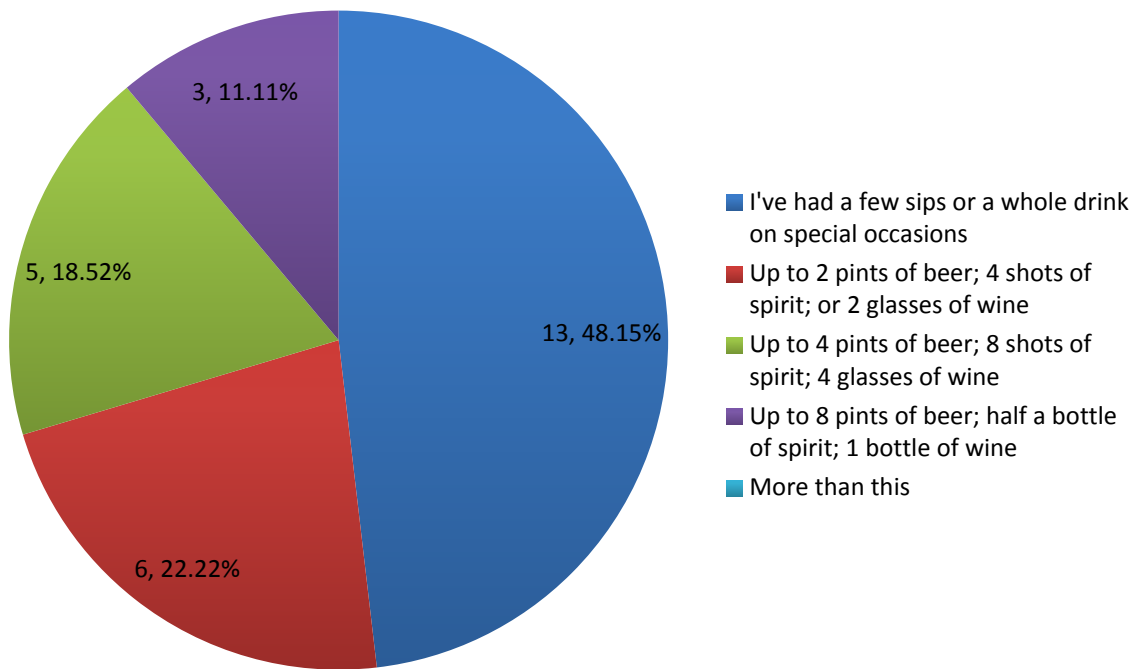
	Children with a learning difficulty or disability	Children who are young carers	Children who are looked after
What do you enjoy about school?	School trips 4, 15.07%	School trips 67, 14.41%	Other children at school 7, 15.91%
	Teachers 39, 13.36%	Sports or PE 57, 12.26%	Teachers 6, 13.64%
	Other children at school 34, 11.64%	Teachers 48, 10.32%	Sports or PE 6, 13.64%

Life choices

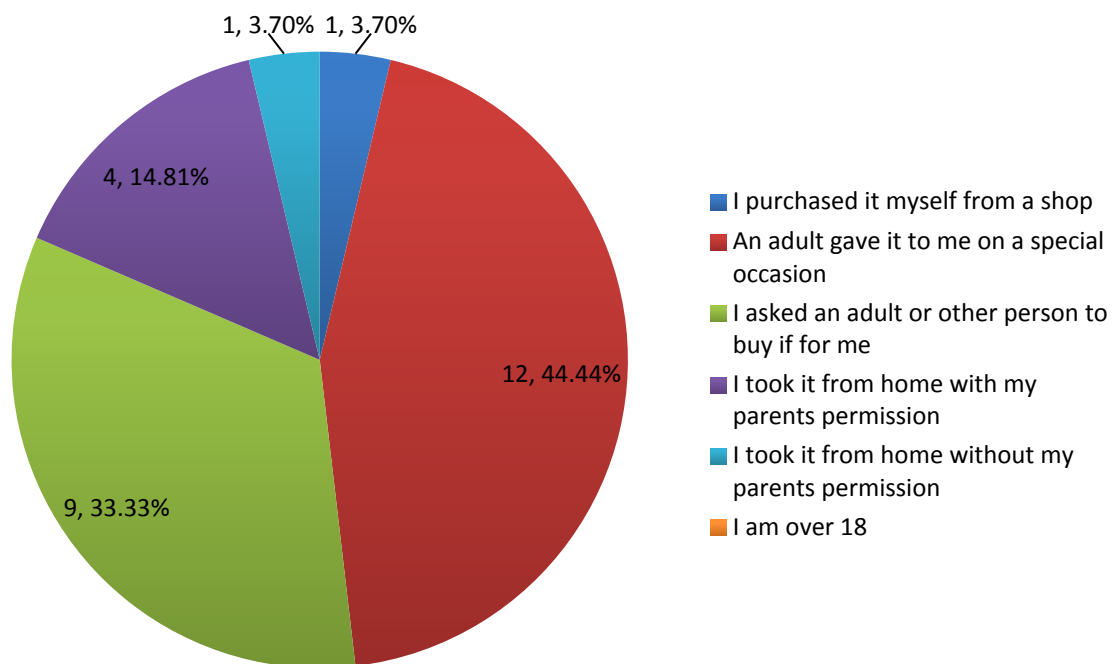
The following questions were only answered by young people in year 10 and above. Due to the low number of secondary school age respondents, these results have not been analysed by profile groups.



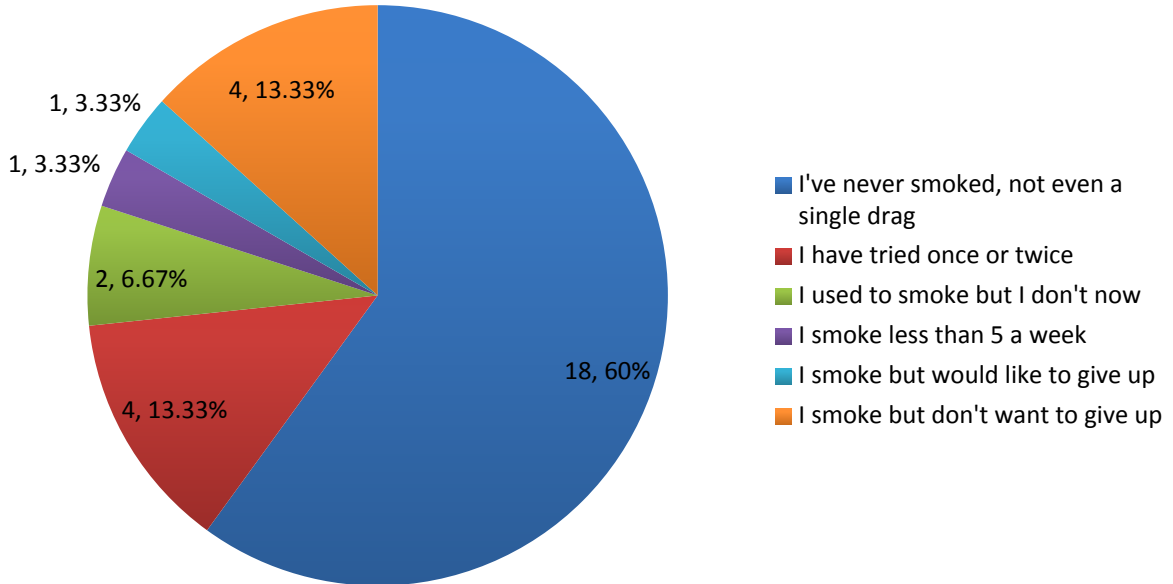
How much do you drink on these occasions?



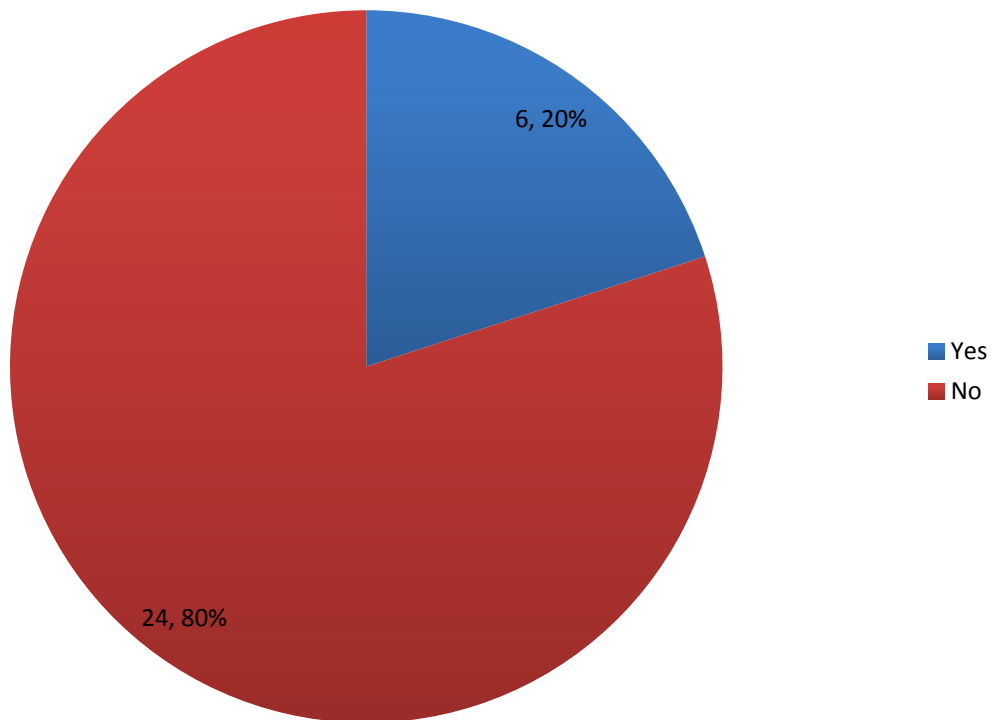
If you are aged under 18, where would you mostly get the alcohol from?



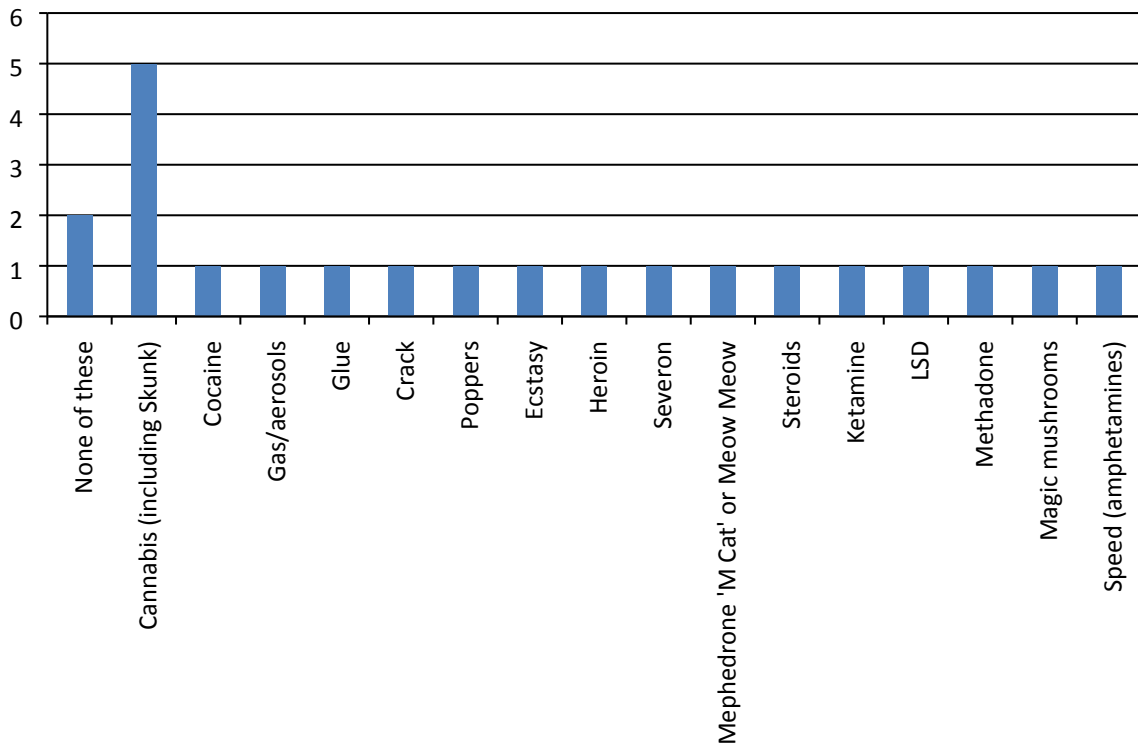
Which of these statements about smoking best describes you?



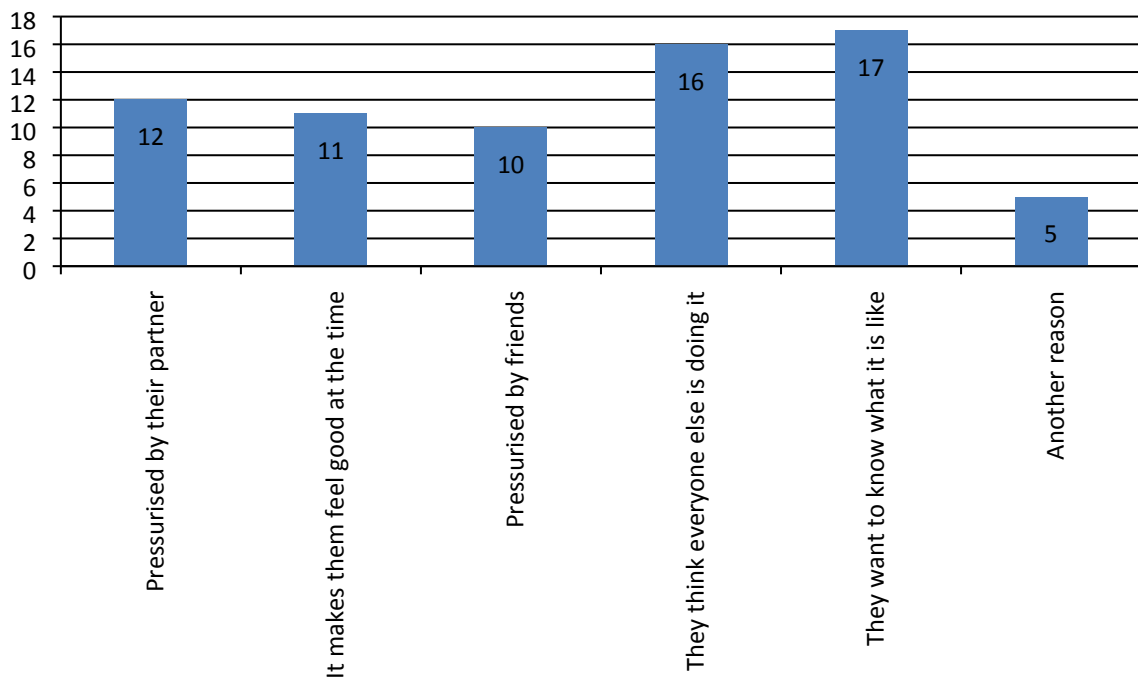
Have you ever taken drugs?



Have you taken any of the following drugs in the last year?



Many people have sex too young and then regret it. Why do you think they do this?



because they like the idea of it maybe?

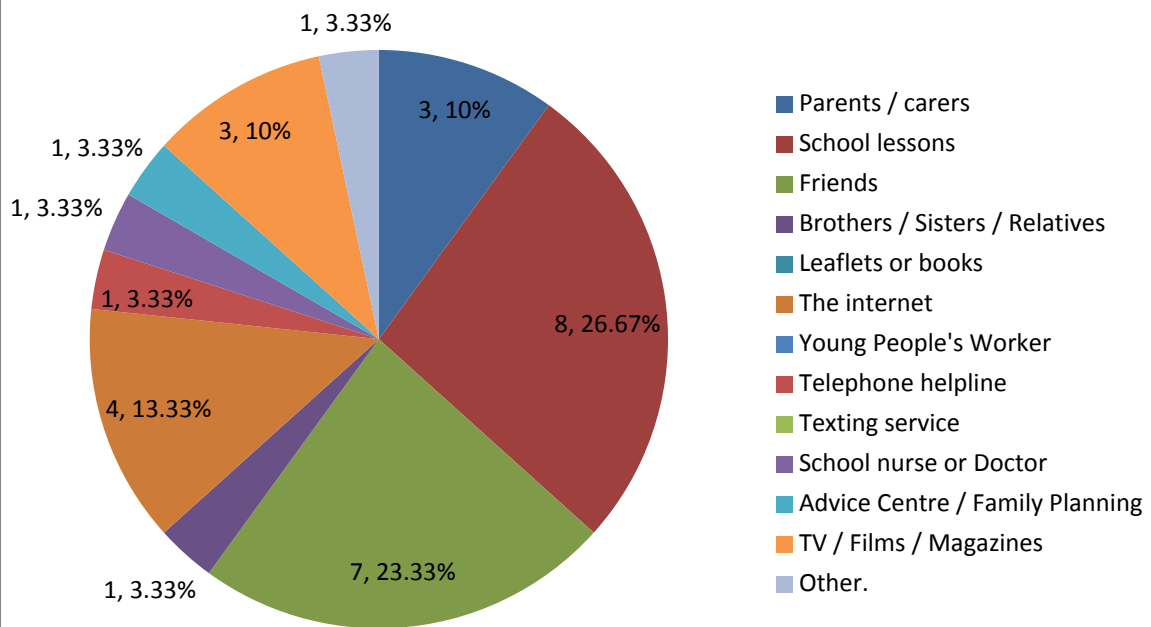
i dont know

i dont know sorry

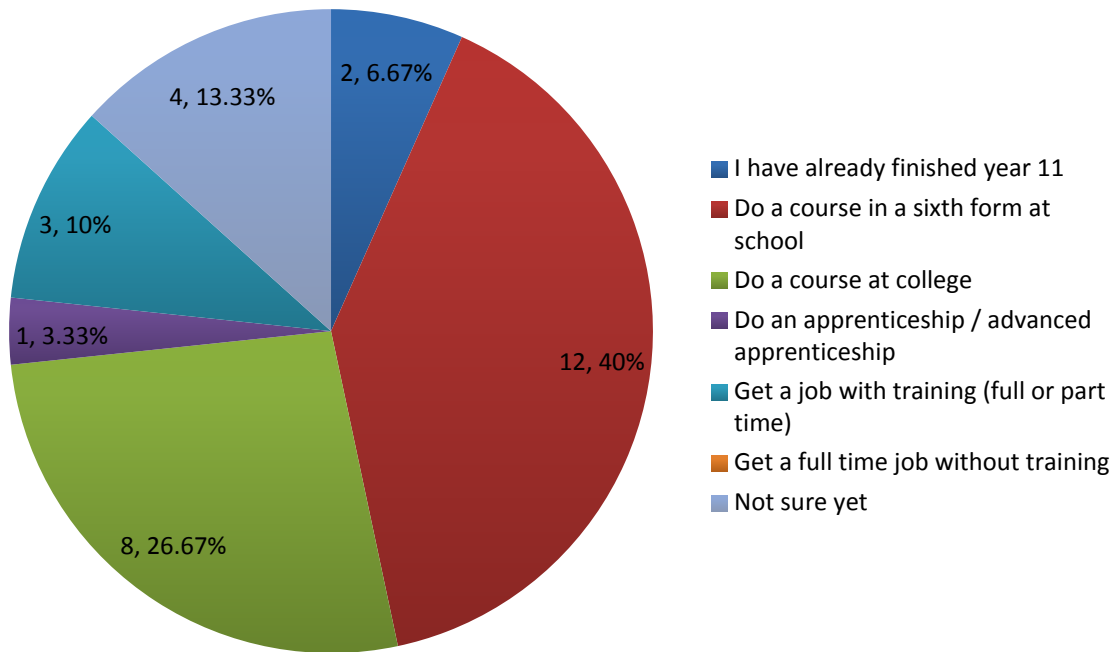
they are lonely and want to be accepted

They don't, it's amazing

Which of these is your main source of information about sex and relationships?



What do you think you will do when you finish year 11?



Do you think that you will go to University or Higher Education?

