

JOINT ADDITIONAL NEEDS SURVEY RESULTS

JULY-AUGUST 2021

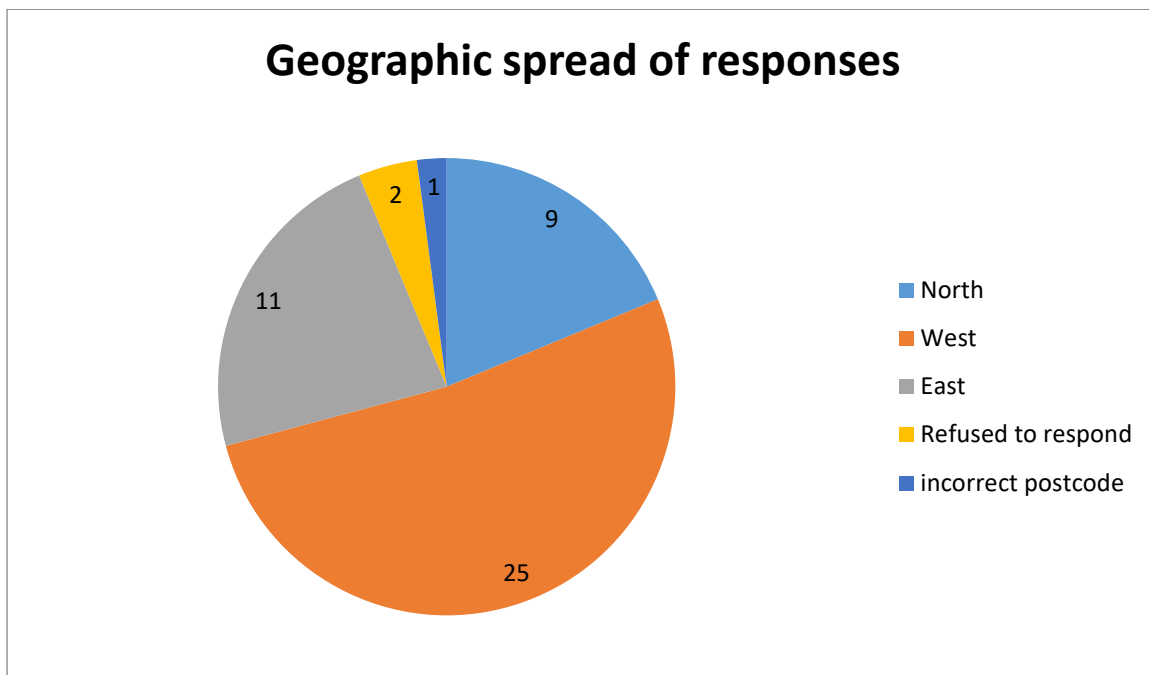
CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SURVEY

General:

48 children or young people responded

Half were of secondary age and 30% primary.

Respondents were asked to input part of their post code. The chart below is based on locality areas and gives an indication of the geographic spread.



Areas of Importance:

Top 4 areas with over half the votes...

- Happiness (enjoy life)
- Individual (everyone is different)
- Inclusion (everyone welcome)
- Equality (everyone has the same chances)

SCHOOL

Most children and young people felt ok about education (35%) but more felt unhappy (35%) than happy (30%).

What I like about school:

Top themes:

- Being with friends
- Quality of teaching/teachers
- Being in a good school
- Nothing (including lack of/ poor support, being told off, feeling scared)
- Having suitable support
- Specific subjects e.g. Art , music and Maths

What I don't like about school:

Top themes (note this question elicited a more varied response):

- Specific subjects/things being too hard/homework
- SENCo/professionals and teachers (lack of support/no allowances being made/being made to feel stupid)
- Being told off or labelled as naughty
- Not being listened to or needs understood
- Environmental factors such as noise, specific areas of the school
- Feeling lied to

Changes they wanted:

Top themes:

- More support and help
- More 'fun' activities and equipment
- Greater choice about what to study and doing things in smaller groups
- Local Authority to show they are listening and understanding
- Better understanding from Teachers/SENCo
- Help to fit into mainstream/recognition that mainstream does not work for all
- Faster EHCP process

HEALTH:

Most children and young people felt ok about their health needs (45%) and more felt happy (32%) than unhappy (23%).

What I like about health support:

Top themes (note top 2 account for more than half of the responses):

- Nice, friendly, good
- They care and understand
- Helpful
- Nothing or N/A

What I don't like about health support:

Top themes:

- Waiting too long/waiting lists
- Not being listened to/lack of understanding
- Specific treatments e.g. physio, needles, tablets
- Questions I don't understand and being made to feel stupid
- Lack of (insufficient) provision

Changes they wanted:

Top themes:

- Reduced waiting time
- To be listened to and understood
- Access to specific services/health professionals
- Continuity of care
- People to ask not assume

SOCIAL CARE:

22 children and young people out of the 48 respondents had a view to share.

41% of children and young people felt unhappy with their experience but 36% were happy; with 23% feeling ok.

What I like about social care:

Top themes:

- My Support worker/PA/other
- Helpful and make feel safe
- They understand
- Solo – specific schemes
- Nothing or N/A

What I don't like about social care:

Top themes:

- Lack of support/help
- Some workers
- Some activities e.g. craft, social clubs
- Impact of Covid on activities
- Not being eligible for an assessment

Changes they wanted:

Top themes:

- Explore different ways of helping
- More activities that are fun and include provision in school holidays
- To be able to go out as they did before Covid
- Change of worker
- Accurate advice especially with regard to eligibility for an assessment

COMMUNITY:

35% of children and young people felt unhappy with their experience of their community but 33% were happy; with 31% feeling ok.

What I like about my community:

Top themes:

- A range of specific clubs e.g. rugby, drama kickboxing etc.
- Family and friends help
- Activities provided by Solo
- There is no help or clubs
- Activities where friends and/or family can attend too

What I don't like about my community:

Top themes:

- Lack of available clubs
- Cost of clubs
- Some clubs are too busy/noisy
- Being treated as if not as good as others
- No help so unable to attend
- Not like clubs/anxious about attending

Changes they wanted:

Top themes:

- Greater understanding beyond their own family
- More activities with less people and noise
- More clubs targeted at SEN or more inclusive clubs
- Transport to and from clubs
- More inexpensive options
- Details on where to find information on clubs
- More clubs for specific activities e.g. basketball

SUPPORT NEEDED FOR GROWING UP:

Responses to this question were varied and seemed to link in many cases to the specific needs of the person responding.

Top themes:

- Support with emotional and mental health needs
- Support with physical needs
- Access to specific services such as social care, housing adaptations
- Good school and education
- Support with practical things such as dealing with money and living independently

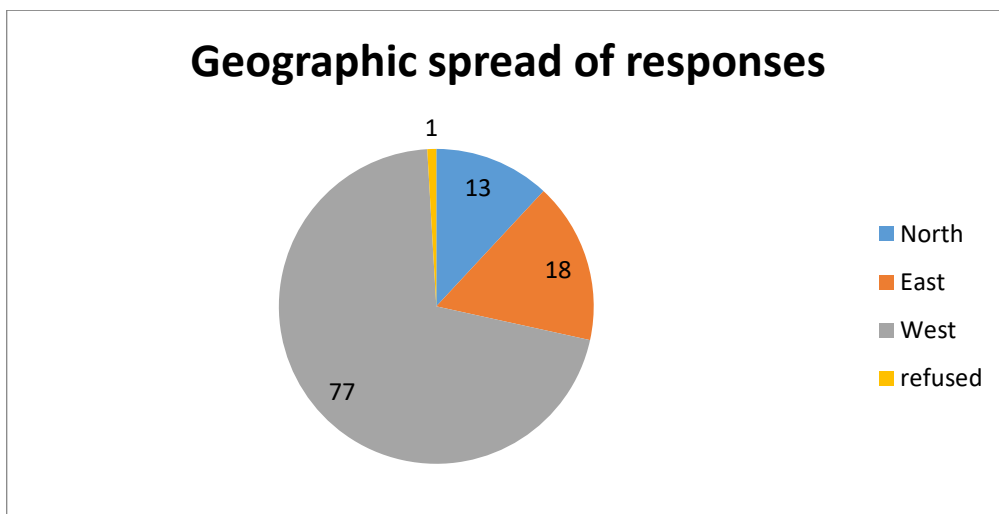
PARENT CARER SURVEY

General:

109 responses

Just over half were parents of secondary age children and 44% primary.

Respondents were asked to input part of their post code. The chart below is based on locality areas and gives an indication of the geographic spread.



Areas of Importance:

Respondents ranked the suggested priorities as follows:

1. Supporting children and young people to make progress, and be happy, in mainstream schools and other universal and targeted services
2. Developing specialist provision so more children and young people have access
3. Joined up working across education, social care and health
4. Co-production with parent carers and children and young people
5. Helping children, young people and families plan for the next stage of their life and move between settings and services
6. Improving the quality of our EHC plans

Other priority areas for consideration:

Top themes:

- Listen to child, parents and carers and improve support to them, including:
 - Recognise each child is unique
 - Support through process

- Navigating the system
- Single point of contact
- Home schooling support when child can't attend school
- Improved specialist provision (ARC, autism, mental health, ASD) in the borough with early access to it once need is identified
- Quicker identification of need (diagnosis) so support is provided as quickly as possible
- Improve transparency in EHCP process and ensure statutory obligations are met
- Encourage and support schools to be more inclusive and hold them to account
- Improved training and understanding of SEND for staff

What parent carers needed the most support with:

Top themes:

- Being listened to and not have to 'fight' to access diagnosis, provision, information etc.
- Support to navigate the system and to know that services/schools are working together in an inclusive and consistent way
- Support with transitions between schools, settings and into adulthood
- EHC Plans that are accountable reviewed and monitored. Simplify the process to make it easier to understand and follow.
- More specialist provision locally including specialist careers advice, autism, ASD, post 16, emotional support, dyslexia
- Support to help children and young people develop confidence, self-esteem, social skills

Improvements needed:

Parents felt education was the main area where improvement was needed (68%) ahead of social care (18%) and health (12%).

Top themes:

- Requests for a range of different support from 'any support' to specific services e.g. Solar, ADHD, sensory needs, housing assistance, clubs/activities geared towards children with additional needs, Social care assessments, mental health support
- Improve and adhere to EHC plans and ensure they are properly funded
- Have a holistic approach where services join up and talk to each other
- Improved communication between professionals and parents. "less of a battle". Listen to the parents
- Improve understanding of SEND in schools and teachers
- Support access to education and where appropriate mainstream school