

#WhatsYourTake - Children's Services

July 2022



The #WhatsYourTake online survey is carried out each year to gather young people's views on current issues. This #WhatsYourTake survey was open from 10th June until 6th July 2022, and asked questions on the following topics:

- **Children's care and justice** - Imagining the future of children's care and justice
- **Reducing car use** - Working together to reduce car use for a healthier, fairer, greener Scotland
- **Cost of school** - Exploring the possibility of free school meals, school milk and low-cost uniform in secondary schools
- **Tobacco free Scotland** - Reaching for the future - building a Tobacco-free Scotland
- **Education** - Designing the national discussion on education
- **Children's Services** - Children's Services Reform

This report gives an overview of the key findings on the questions relating to Children's Services from the July 2022 #WhatsYourTake survey.

Respondent Profile

243 young people took responded to the #WhatsYourTake survey in July 2022.

Of these:

- **67.8%** are aged between 12 and 17, **16.7%** are aged 18-20, and **15.5%** are aged 21-25.
- **52.5%** identify as female, **35.3%** identify as male, **8.0%** identify as non-binary, and **3.4%** prefer to use their own term. The remaining respondents preferred not to say.
- **60.2%** are at school, **21.4%** go to university or college, **18.1%** are in full time or part time work, **0.8%** are doing an apprenticeship or other training, and **5.3%** are unemployed. **2.1%** are not taking part in any of these activities.
- **81.5%** identify as English / Welsh / Scottish / Northern Irish / British.
- Respondents came from **28 local authorities**, [our 11 national voluntary organisations](#), and various others representing a diverse range of communities of interest and lived experience (including youth voice organisations, student unions, a range of cadets, and various sports clubs).

This report was compiled by Rosy Burgess, SYP Governance and Events Manager - rosy.b@syp.org.uk.

Children's Services Reform

The Scottish Government is currently creating a new National Care Service that will over see all social care provided in Scotland, creating more consistency across the country. Your views will help the Scottish Government decide whether Children's Services should be included within the new service.

If you were in need of additional support where or who would you be most likely to go to for help? Please rank in order of most likely to least likely

	Parents	School	Internet	GP	Friends	Other family members (for example, siblings, grandparents, cousins)
1 - most likely	41.4%	8.0%	19.8%	3.0%	23.6%	4.2%
2	19.4%	8.4%	15.6%	5.1%	28.7%	22.8%
3	11.4%	17.3%	16.5%	11.0%	25.3%	18.6%
4	10.5%	21.1%	15.2%	20.7%	12.2%	20.3%
5	9.3%	19.0%	15.6%	26.6%	7.2%	22.4%
6 - least likely	8.0%	26.2%	17.3%	33.8%	3.0%	11.8%

Young people who responded 'other' to this question gave the following responses:

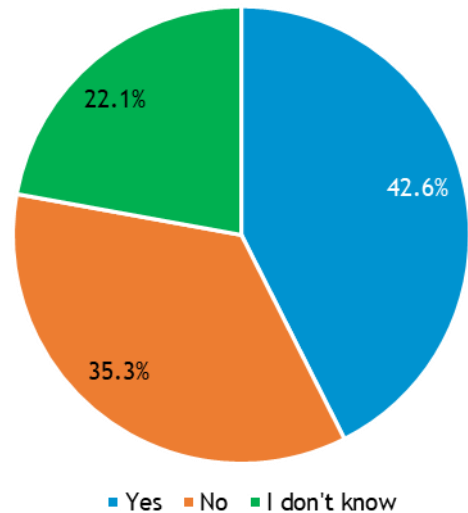
- This is a flawed survey. It assumes that everyone goes to school. If you are trying to consult with a wide range of people, why have this option?
- University
- It wouldn't let me change the numbers, however my order goes: Parents - 1, Friends - 2, Other family - 3, GP - 4 and the rest unsure
- Really it depends what I need support/help with ^
- University student support services
- Social Worker, Psychiatrist. Note: you've put ""parents"" which excludes this option for a lot of people, especially CEYP - who are the most important to hear from when discussing children's 'care' services. It may be a good idea to change this to ""parents/carers"" - a simple but great change.
- Don't really speak to anyone
- I'm not sure what sort of additional support you're referring to but these responses are in regards to additional support for my well-being, mental or physical.
- Support worker
- Social worker
- My counsellor
- Partner
- Uni / college
- Uni
- My support worker

If the first person you went to for support couldn't help you, would that put you off asking someone else for help?

Young people who commented on this question gave the following responses:

Of those who responded 'yes':

- and at the same time no
- It takes a lot of courage to ask the first person for help. If they couldn't help it would knock my confidence and make me more afraid to reach out to others. It is also exhausting to go through lots of different people and feel like you're being passed around, and no one can help you.
- If I needed help, I would be discouraged, as I might think why someone else would be able to help me if the first person couldn't help (depending on the problem).
- I might feel I gave it a fair chance and try sort it myself
- If I wanted to share something important, it would need to be with someone I trust implicitly.
- I have quite a good support network of teachers and a counsellor that I see at school so if they couldn't help me I'd worry that no one can.
- I think yes, but depending on how severe my problem is, if it's affecting my life I would seek further help.



Of those who responded 'no':

- I'm not a petulant child
- Not everyone is able to provide you with the support you need. YOU need to be responsible and respectful enough to realise that it's your own responsibility to find the support you need.

Of those who responded 'I don't know':

- Maybe, it completely depends on the situation but most likely no.
- It might make me think that I might not be able to get an answer to my questions
- It really depends on the issue. I wouldn't bring up anything if I didn't think they could help though.
- Depending on What It Is For
- That really depends on the situation, this goes for the above question as well. Depending on the problem depends who I would go to