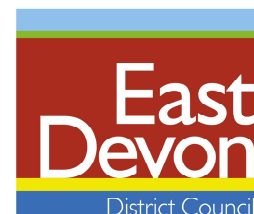


East Devon Youth Survey (EDYs)

Phase 3: Outline of results for Kings School, Ottery St. Mary

East Devon District Council, Knowle, Sidmouth, Devon, EX10 8HL.

Research Officer, March 2006



1 Introduction

This report provides an initial outline of data collected from Kings School, Ottery St. Mary in the 3rd phase of the East Devon Youth Survey (EDYs). The survey aimed to explore some aspects of leisure affecting young people in East Devon. This survey is being repeated at other secondary schools and the results will be published as they become available.

It was accepted that the term 'youth' could mean a number of age bands, and the term often comes with negative associations. In this part of the study we have taken youth to mean 'young people', specifically those at secondary school in the 12 to 18 year old band, with all their diversities, and hopefully without some of the baggage. This report does not include a survey of literature surrounding the theories of youth, nor a full methodology.

2 Research Background

Initially this research was requested by the Communities Directorate, East Devon District Council to determine sports facility usage and allied issues. Following proposed changes in the Council structure, and interest expressed by the Local Strategic Partnership Officer Group, Transport Group, and the Community Safety Group, the survey was extended to consider other issues affecting youth. The leisure content was required to remain within the survey and formed a dominant component. Health related questions were not included in this survey as it was considered that the survey was already becoming too overloaded, and that the NHS services were already producing survey proposals in this area.

The final survey aimed to look at young people's leisure activities in the broadest sense, taking into account sporting, and non-sporting activities. Other issues were to be considered in line with Government core indicators, and needs of key partners.

3 Methodology

By agreement with Kings School, questionnaires were circulated to all students in their morning tutor groups. It was accepted that a questionnaire survey had a number of advantages and disadvantages. The advantages were that the survey could gather data from a large number of pupils and the costs were relatively low, particularly in terms of staff time, and this process could be achieved within the current

Council setting. Disadvantages included problems with surveys potentially treating participants as a homogenous group, being impersonal, and not allowing elaboration of responses. Some students may have found a questionnaire a difficult way to express themselves, putting them at disadvantage to those who could express themselves more readily. Some elements of the survey were challenging, and the survey was quite lengthy for this type of study. It was however envisaged that the survey was the starting point of a process that would lead to a fuller dialogue later on. A number of open questions were included in the questionnaires to reduce some of the problems associated with this method. Ethical considerations needed to include issues around the age of participants.

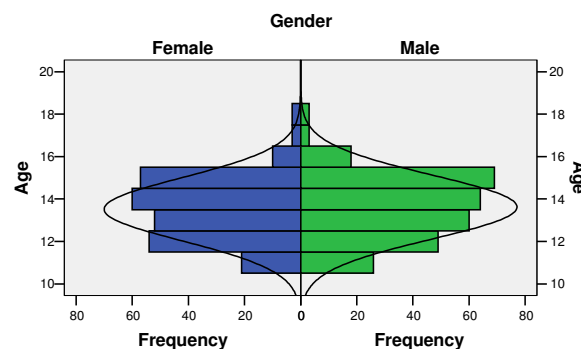
The questionnaire was formulated by discussing what was required with members of the Local Strategic Partnership. This was not a process led or heavily involving those who would be surveyed, though the draft questionnaires were circulated at a local youth club, and school, for comment and amendments were made.

4 Findings

The school has just over 1000 students. 556 questions were completed.

4.1 Age/sex

552 respondents entered their age and sex, 47% put themselves as female, and 53% as male.



4.2 Ethnicity

Almost all respondents entered their ethnicity. Over 98% stated their ethnicity as white. All of the non-white groups were below data protection threshold.

4.3 Disability

Most responded to the disability question, with 5% saying they had a recognised disability. Specific disabilities were not asked for as again, the data revealed would be below data protection threshold.

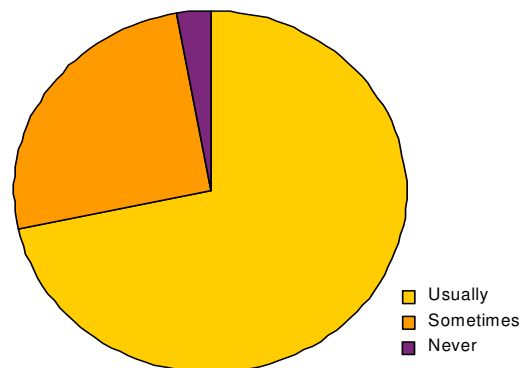
4.4 Town

About 40% of all students said they came from Ottery St. Mary, leaving a significant proportion coming in from surrounding areas, mainly within East Devon. 10 (1.9% did not respond to this question)

Town	Percent	Frequency
Alfington	0.5%	3
Awliscombe	0.2%	1
Aylesbeare	5.2%	29
Buckerell	0.7%	4
Budleigh	2.7%	15
Clyst Honiton	0.2%	1
Clyst Hydon	0.4%	2
Clyst St Mary	0.7%	4
Exeter	1.8%	10
Exmouth	8.6%	48
Fairmile	0.2%	1
Felson	0.2%	1
Feniton	9.7%	54
Fenny Bridges	0.4%	2
Gittisham	0.7%	4
Honiton	2.7%	15
Lympstone	0.4%	2
Marsh Green	0.5%	3
Newton Poppleford	0.5%	3
Otterton	0.2%	1
Ottery St. Mary	39.6%	220
Payhembury	4.1%	23
Plymtree	0.9%	5
Rockbeare	0.4%	2
Sidbury	0.2%	1
Sidford	0.5%	3
Sidmouth	1.8%	10
Talaton	1.6%	9
Tipton St. John	4.5%	25
Topsham	0.2%	1
Village	0.2%	1
West Hill	3.1%	17
Weston	0.4%	2
Whimble	2.9%	16
Wiggaton	0.2%	1
Woodbury	3.1%	17
Total	100%	556

4.5 Are people friendly where you live?

Are people friendly?



When asked "Are people friendly where you live?", from 555 respondents, over 75% said that people were 'usually', around 20% said 'sometimes', and just under 4% said 'never'. This question was asked as a proxy for information on social inclusion.

4.6 School

For this survey all respondents obviously came from Sidmouth Community College.

4.7 How you normally get to school?

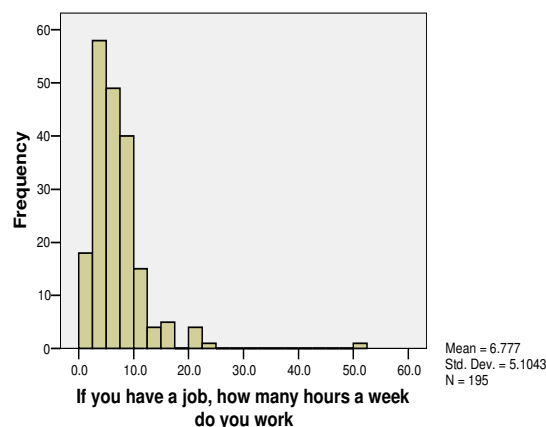
The main form of transport to school was school bus (46%), while 23% walked, 18% got a lift, 2% used a public bus.

4.8 How you normally get to leisure?

More than a quarter of respondents (38%) said that they got a lift, 18% walked, 18% cycled, 7% used public bus.

4.9 Jobs

Histogram



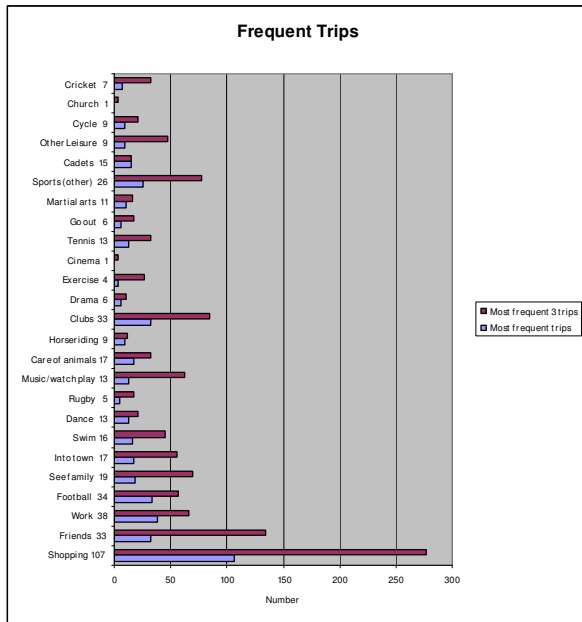
Just under 40% of respondents said they had a job. The mean hours worked was just over 6½ hours per week.

4.10 Frequent Trips

4.10.1 Reason for trips

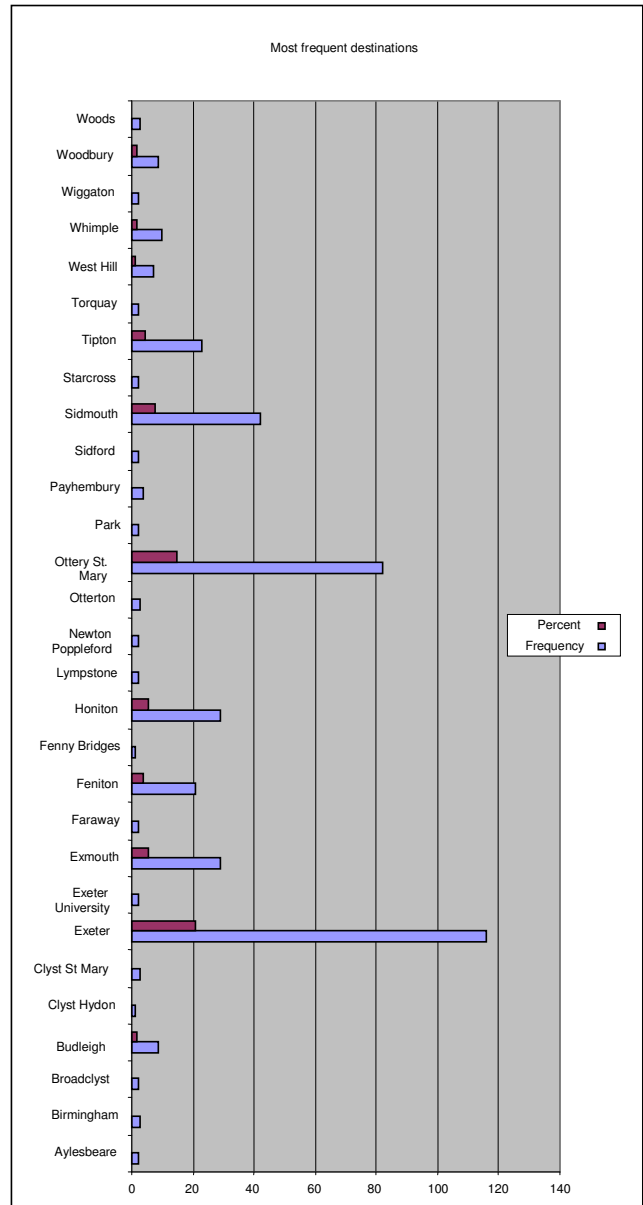
School journeys were excluded from this section. The most frequent trips were for shopping followed by work, football, other clubs or seeing friends.

Looking at the top 3 sets of frequent journeys together we see that shopping and seeing friends outstrip all others. Clubs, miscellaneous sports, and seeing family are also frequent.



4.10.2 Destination

The single destination of the majority of trips students made were to Exeter, followed by Ottery St. Mary, Sidmouth, Exmouth, Honiton and Tipton St. John. The rest were most journeys to East Devon towns and villages.

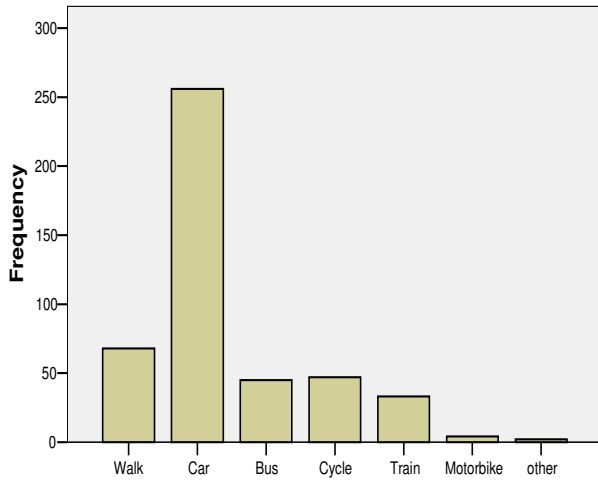


4.11 Mode of transport

For all trips the majority of respondents said they went by car, (56% for most frequent trips) with walking being the second most used form, of (10% for most frequent trips). For second and third transport (14% for most frequent trips) and cycling most frequent trips walking was used more (but still not as much as the car).

4.11.1 Most frequently made (non-school) journey

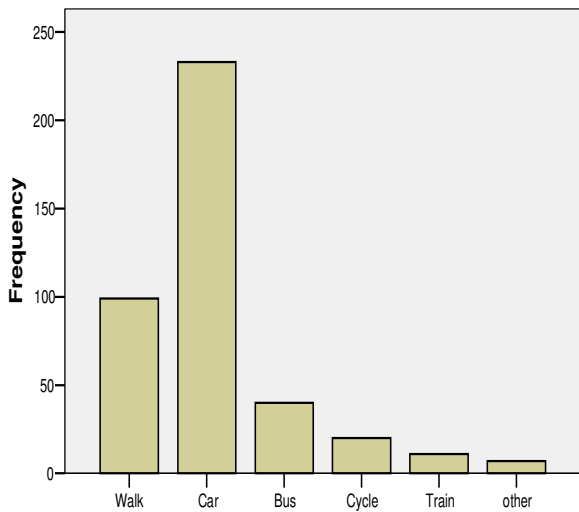
What is the main form of transport you use to get there?



What is the main form of transport you use to get there?

4.11.2 2nd most frequent (non school) journey

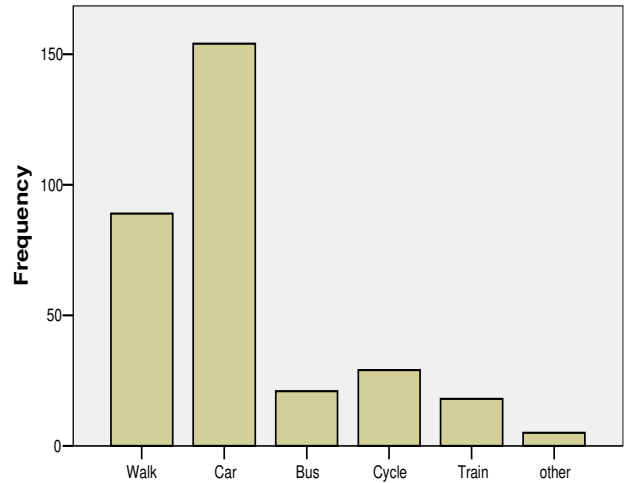
What is the main form of transport you use to get there?



What is the main form of transport you use to get there?

4.11.3 3rd most frequent (non-school) journey

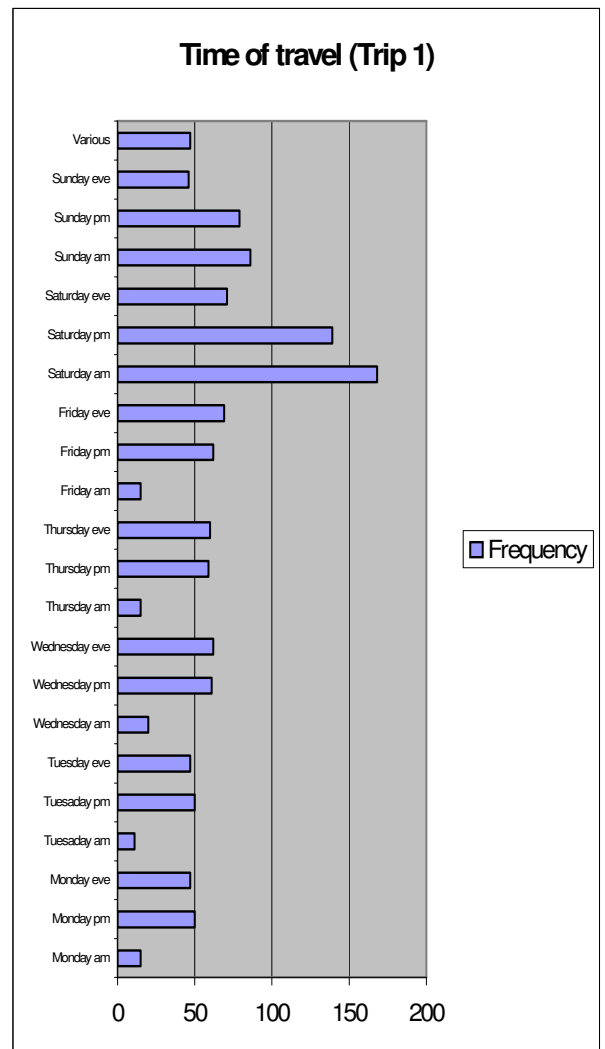
What is the main form of transport you use to get there?



What is the main form of transport you use to get there?

4.11.4 Time of travel

Most trips were made on Saturday mornings, closely followed by Saturday afternoons, with fewer trips made most evenings. Not surprisingly, the smallest frequencies occurred on weekday mornings, presumably coinciding with term time attendance at



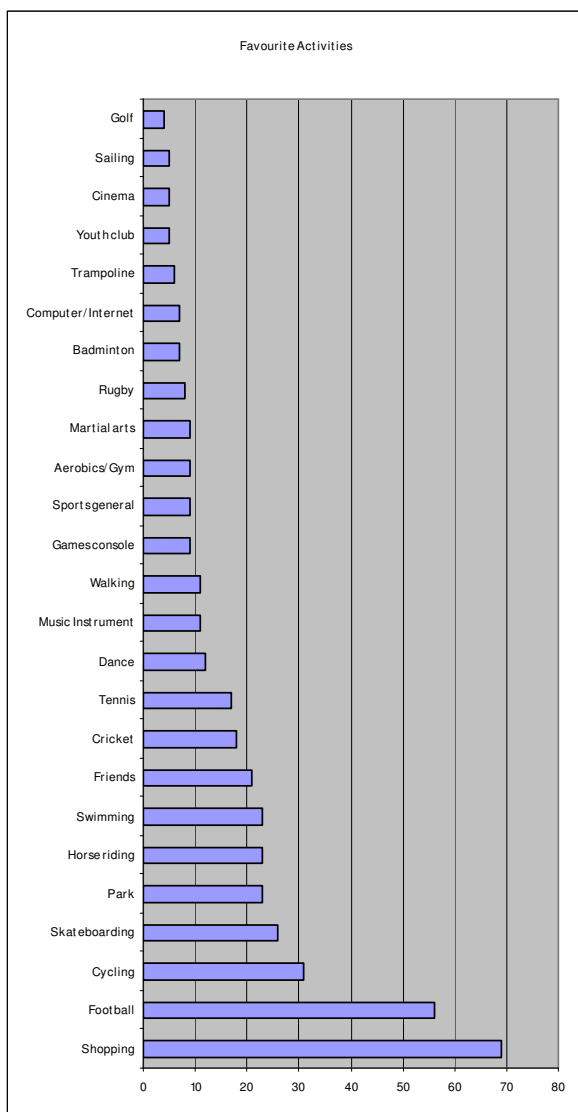
school. The frequency patterns for trips 1 to 3 were similar. The school journey was not included in this section.

4.12 Places used

Colin Tooze Sports Centre, Sidmouth Pool, Honiton Sports Centre and Pool, and Exmouth Sports Centre and Pool were the most frequently used from the list given. Cranford Club and Cavern were “non-listed” clubs which were also mentioned.

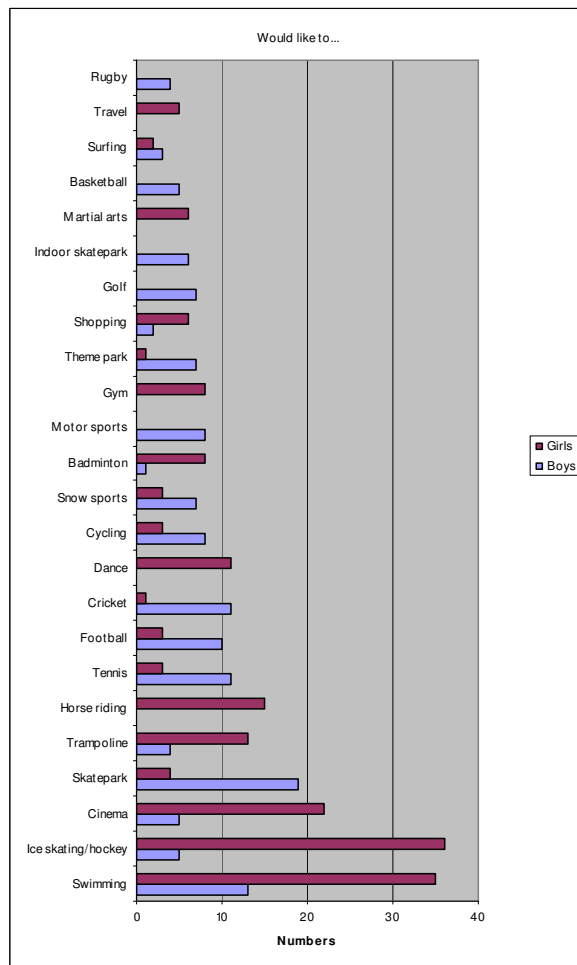
4.12 Current Favourite Activities

When asked what their favourite activities were, the predominant answers were shopping, football, cycling and skateboarding. Shopping was favourite for over an eighth of respondents.



4.13 Would like to do

When asked what they would like to do the most popular request was for swimming, by just under 10% of respondents. Ice sports were next, followed by cinema, skatepark and trampoline.



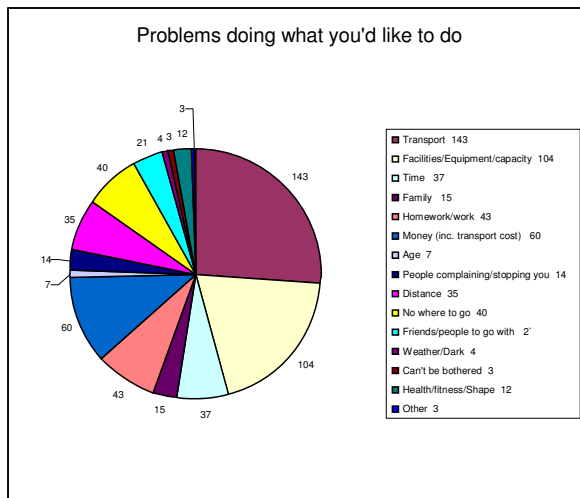
Interestingly the top 3 (swimming, ice sports and cinema) were very much dominating as demands from girls. Boys requests were more evenly spread with skateboarding being the most significant.

4.14 Problems in doing what would like to do.

Respondents listed 541 problems they encountered in doing what they wanted. The types of problems were placed into general categories before being ranked by frequency. Outlines of the types of problems encountered have been given for each of the headings.

4.14.1 Transport

Over a quarter of respondents, to the question on problems, said they had problems doing what they wanted due to access to transport. (times, regularity or availability). A further number had problems with the cost of transport (buses especially).



4.14.2 Facilities

Of those saying they had a problem around 16% related to facilities. This ranged from the favoured activity being unavailable, to "classes" being full (or cancelled). Whilst a small number of notable issues were lack of skateboarding in Ottery, and lack of general facilities in Ottery and West Hill.

4.14.3 Time

Just under 7% of those responding to the question of problems said they did not have enough time. The predominant reason for not having enough time was 'already being involved in other activities'. (See also "Homework")

4.14.4 Family

A few people said they had problems doing what they wanted due to family. The main reason given by respondents for not being able to do what they wanted by family was parents stopping them from doing things. Most responses were non specific, ie 'parents not allowing me'. Other family factors preventing people from doing the activities included domestic duties.

4.14.5 Homework/Work

Around 8% of those responding to the question on problems said that homework or work was an issue. The overall problem appeared to be that they thought that there was too much homework and coursework and that this prevented them from having time to do other things.

4.14.6 Money

Money, or lack of it, prevented around 1%, of those saying they had a problem, from being able to do what they wanted.

4.14.7 Age

Only 7 responses felt that age was a problem, either from not being able to get into clubs or other activities, use facilities on their own, or with friends, or that facilities tended to be tailored to older people.

4.14.8 People complaining/stopping you

14 respondents said that other people were a problem, mainly because they seemed to complain about things that young people did, and telling them, or preventing them from doing things.

4.14.9 Distance

The distance to activities was seen by some as a problem. Either the activities they wanted to do were too far away, in for example Exeter, or that they lived in a rural location away from most activities.

4.14.10 Nowhere to go

The category 'nowhere to go' differed slightly from lack of facilities, though they may be grouped together. Those 7% saying they had nowhere to go appeared to not necessarily to want to do any particular activity, but just have somewhere to go; for example somewhere to go out to, that was warm and dry, and away from home, like a café.

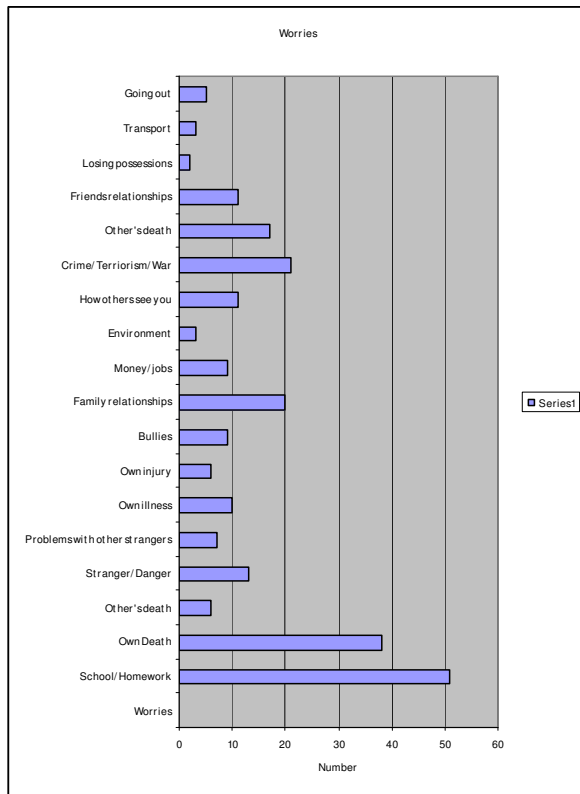
4.14.11 Friends/people to with

21 respondents commented on problems with friends, related to either friends doing other things, not enough of them, or insufficient numbers to make activities viable.

4.14.12 Weather

The cold, dark (not strictly weather) and wet would prevent only 4 respondents from going out and doing things.

4.15 Worries



Just under a half of all respondents reported a worry. The most prominent worry, around 21%, was to do with school work. The next most prominent worry, almost 16% of respondents, said fear of their own death was a worry, crime and family relationships were 9% each. Of the worries reported over 5% were worried about 'Stranger Danger' issues.

4.16 Activities from pre-defined list

We asked about a set of specific physical activities (linked to what East Devon District provides). We looked to see how many people were likely to undertake those activities and often.

Activities from a pre-defined list			
	No. likely	% would do often	No. often & likely
Aerobics	38	21	8
Badminton	184	51	99
Basketball	157	57	89
Bowls	34	23	8
Cycling	226	63	142
Cricket	114	61	69
Dance	114	57	65
5 a side	146	69	101
Football	164	67	110
Golf	79	43	34
Gym	121	60	73
Hockey	153	66	101
Martial Arts	93	58	54
Netball	93	56	52
Pitch and Putt	65	30	19
Rugby	104	45	47
Sailing	102	61	62
Skate Park	105	65	68
Squash	103	38	39
Swimming (Pool)	264	68	179
Swimming (Sea)	191	61	116
Tennis	197	68	134
Trampoline	217	74	160
Other (see below)	76	75	57

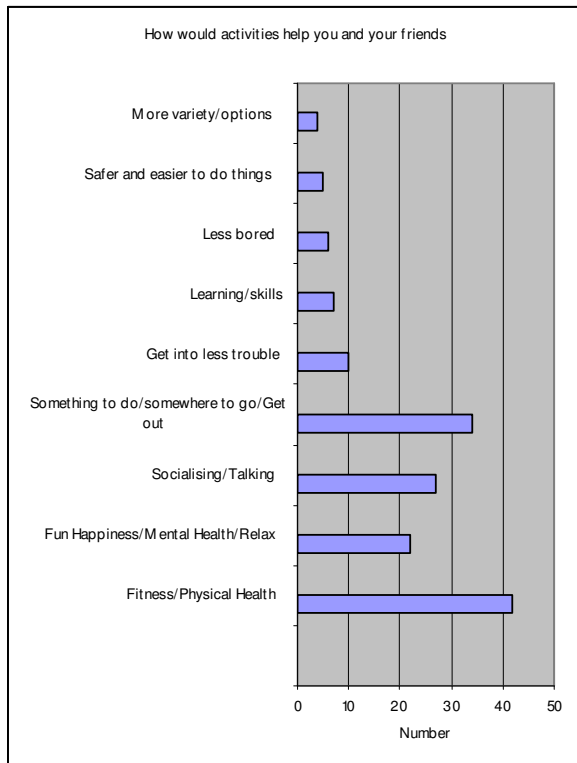
It would seem that respondents are most likely to frequently do swimming (Pool), Trampoline, Cycling, Tennis, Swimming (Sea) or Football, given the opportunity.

4.17.3

When asked the preferred choice of how to get to activities the preference was mostly for a lift in a parent's car though significant numbers would walk or cycle.

4.17.4 How activities can help you and your friends

Out of the 167 responses to the question on how the activities they wished for could help them or their friends, around one quarter said for fitness.



Under fitness respondents said the activities could help them 'get fit', 'get fitter', or 'keep us fit/healthier'. The next group of ideas (34 responses) related to having somewhere to go. Socialising was the next most predominant response, followed by 'fun'.

4.18 How we could ask in future

Very few of the students responded to this question, with no clear preference.

4.19 How would you like to hear the results

From 70% of students responding to the question asking how they would like to be informed, around 36% said through tutor groups/classes, and 32% through a newsletter or leaflet.

5. Action

The results of this survey will be communicated directly to all LSP partners for discussion and others involved in the initiative, including the school. The results will be posted on the Council website. This is the third survey, its findings will be added to results from similar studies at Sidmouth School and Axe Valley Colleges for comparison, and for validity. Further surveys may be undertaken at a later date depending on response by partners to the initial stages.

It is also hoped that Colleges will be able to participate in further discussions or surveys through school councils, part of Citizenship, or ICT (e.g. electronic surveys) curricula, or other activities.

The new Leisure East Devon' Trust will also view the results to determine how they may tailor activities for young people and ensure equality in service.

Acknowledgements

East Devon District Council wishes to thank the students and staff of The Kings School and the Sidmouth students who provided comments on the draft questionnaires. Thanks also goes to Sidmouth Youth Club for initial comments and suggestions, and our Local Strategic Partners, Peter Jeffs (East Devon District Council), Danielle Graysmark (Devon County Council Youth), Paul Kelly (Devon and Cornwall Police), and Dominique Holmes (East Devon Primary Care Trust). The Community Safety Partnership kindly donated part of the cost of the survey.