



CHILD FRIENDLY LEEDS

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

SURVEY INSIGHTS

2024

Introduction



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This consultation was conducted to gain insights from a diverse range of care-experienced children and young people regarding their hobbies, barriers to participation, and activity preferences. The data collected will be shared with social care representatives and used to help understand the interests and challenges faced by children and young people, guiding future programme/offer and support event planning.

How was it shared?

A flyer promoting the online survey was posted to all Leeds care experienced children and young people aged 8-18 through the children's rights mailout. A shorter, paper version of the survey was shared with children and young people at the STARS awards in May half term and at other events/activities that have taken place over the summer.

Number of responses

48 - online
102 - paper
150 in total

Survey views

122 - online
150 - paper

Engagement by age

Participants ranged in age from 2-25 providing a broad perspective on interests and barriers across different age groups.

Age	Number of CYP		
	Online	Paper	Total
Under 4	0	4	4
5-7	0	23	23
8-10	2	28	30
11-13	3	18	21
14-16	7	19	26
17-19	24	9	33
20-25	5	1	6
<i>No recorded age</i>	7	0	7e
total	48	102	150

Survey promotion

- 1500+ cyp received a flyer promoting the survey with a QR code through the post by Barnardo's Children's Rights.
- The online survey was also promoted via the VIC team to young people they work with with a link via whats app.
- The online survey was promoted via foster and kinship carers.
- There were only 2 responses from under 10s and 10 for 11- 16 year olds so this was not the most effective way to reach this age range but it was an effective approach to reach young people 17+.
- An incentive to complete the survey was provided for the online survey which was 2 x £20 Amazon vouchers, randomly selected.
- The shorter paper survey was shared at the two STARS awards event and various enrichment activities over the summer.
- Sharing the survey in person with children and young people at events or activities was the most successful approach to gathering feedback across different age ranges.
- No incentive was provided for completing the paper survey.

Question 1

We're planning some exciting activities for this summer, and we want to know which ones you would be interested in?

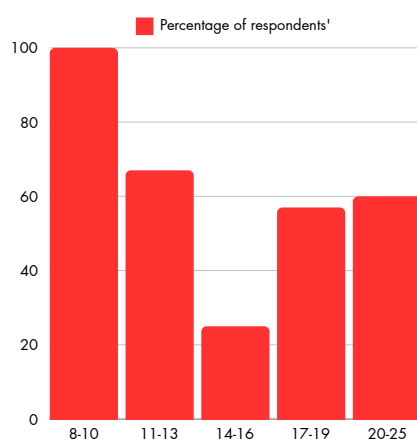
The online participants (48) were asked to select their preferred activity choice for an activity in the summer holidays, or to give an alternative suggestion. Participants were able to select multiple choices.

Participants were invited to check multiple boxes.
The table shows the results:

Activities	Number	Percentage
Lightwater Valley	25	52%
Herd Farm	13	27%
West Leeds Activity Centre	11	23%
Other	13	27%

44 out of 48
answered this
question

Lightwater Valley



The results indicate that Lightwater Valley was the most popular. The chart shows the age-split of the positive responses. This shows a lack in 'trend by age'.

22.8% of participants offered 'other' suggestions.

For those who gave an alternate suggestion by selecting 'other', key themes arose. They were sport; outdoor activities; and leisure activities.

Most mention activities being:

- Football
- Ice Skating
- Theme Parks

Question 2

2A - Is there an activity you really want to do? Tell us what it is?

This question was only answered by those who completed the online survey. Nine participants skipped the questions and a further eight participants gave an answer of 'no' or 'nothing', meaning 31 participants shared an activity they would like to do. As participants were invited to give open answers, the results have been grouped by theme:

Activities	Number	Percentage
Sports	12	39%
Activity Centres	8	26%
Travel	4	13%
Other	4	13%
Family time	3	10%

Sports was the most popular theme, mentioned by participants from the age of 11-18, with the most commonly mentioned activities being **football** (mentioned 3 times), **horse riding** (3) **go-karting** (2) and **ice skating** (2). Others mentioned were canoeing, quad-biking, roller-skating, gymnastics, rugby, dancing, bouldering, hand gliding and go karting.

Although 'activity centre' was the next most popular theme (mentioned in the answers of young people from the age of 12-21), there were no common trends in which activity centre. A large range of answers were given: Flamingo Land, Herd Farm, a safari park, Alton Towers, paintballing, zipline and York Maze.

A number of respondents outlined a desire to go on holiday with family, or alone. Others just referred to family time locally. These answers were more commonly given by respondents aged 17 and above. 'Other' responses mentioned crafts and going outdoors.



Question 2

2B – Is anything stopping you from doing this?

Participants identified barriers that hinder their ability to participate in activities that they would otherwise like to. These barriers are crucial in helping us understand how to better support and provide inclusive opportunities for everyone.

Financial limitations were the most frequently mentioned barrier (mentioned in 32% of responses), followed by accessibility issues such as transportation and medical conditions (13%), and lack of awareness (3%). Quotes are provided below, which exemplify these barriers in practice.

Barrier	Quotes
Financial limitations	"Quad biking, but it's very expensive." "I want to make a Harry Potter wand, no things to make it with." "I want to be able to go on holiday with my family the thing is stopping me is the money..." "Want my mum and siblings to come over but no funds." "I'd love to do a camping trip but can't do it as I don't have finances in full."
Accessibility	"I want to go to Alton Towers or Flamingo Land but I don't have enough money and a way of transportation." "Roller skating, the pain in my legs stops me." "I like all activities, it's just about getting these for me due to transport reasons and medical reasons." "Bouldering but it is hard to do safely."
Lack of Awareness	"I really like football but I know not everyone can have or afford the correct things, but I'm not sure what the other activities are."

Those in the older age ranges more commonly reported barriers. Whereas only 1 out of 5 of the youngest respondents (age 9–13) reported a barrier. It is worth noting that this question was only answered online, where respondents were older on average than those who answered on paper, meaning the youngest respondents to this question were age 9.

Of those barriers noted, finance was the most common. In this case, accessibility was only reported as a barrier by respondents aged 18–25.

Question 3

What is your hobby? You can list more than one.

This question was only answered by those who completed the online survey. Four participants skipped the question, meaning 44 participants shared a wide range of hobbies. This information is valuable for planning events and programs that cater to diverse interests.

As participants were invited to give open answers, the results have been grouped by theme. Four themes emerged in the data: sports; creative and artistic pursuits; outdoors; and indoor activities.

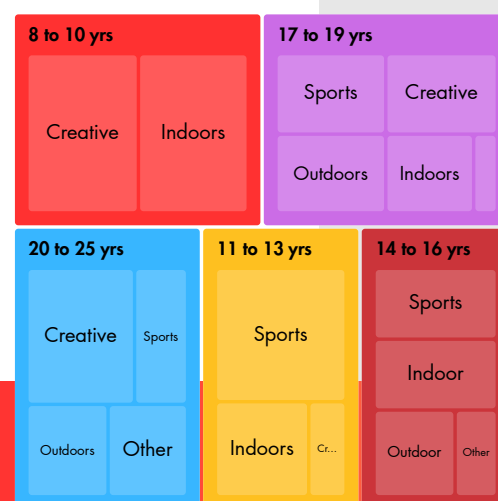
Activities	Number	Percentage
Sports	18	41%
Indoor leisure	17	39%
Creative and artistic	16	36%
Outdoor activities	6	14%
Other	3	7%

Sports was most popular in the 11 to 13 age range, and the top three answers within the 'sports', were football (8 mentions), swimming (4) and cricket/going to the gym/boxing (3 each). Other sports mentioned were: basketball, climbing, cycling, gymnastics, hockey, ice-skating and go-karting.

15 out of 17 of the 'indoors' category answers included reference to '**gaming**', e.g. 'playing games', 'gaming' or 'video games'. Other answers referenced cooking or indoor activities, like bowling and going to the cinema.

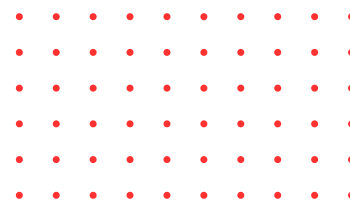
In the '**creative and artistic pursuits**' category. The most popular answers were reading/writing (mentioned 3 times), drawing (3), arts and crafts (2) and painting (2). Other more unique answers referenced cosplay, costume design and music production.

The most frequent answer in the 'outdoors' category was going for 'walks'. Other responses reference an enjoyment of simply being outside, whether that's with friends or out in the community.



Question 4

Out of the following activities, please select your favourites.

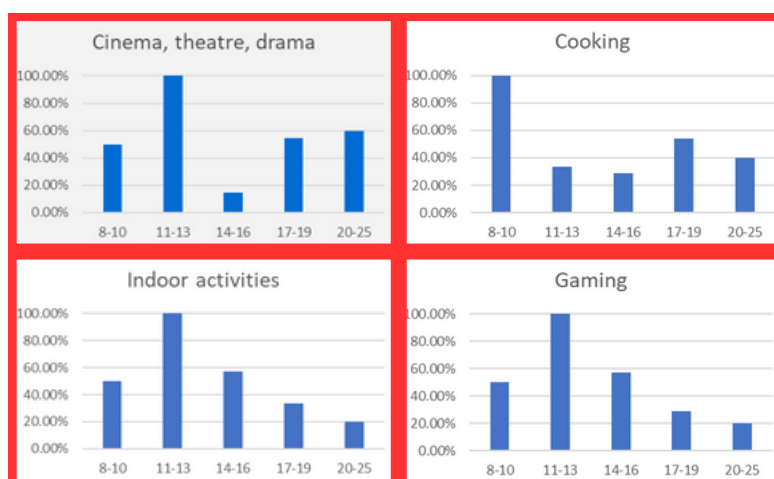


This question was asked of the 48 online participants, and one participant chose to skip this question, meaning a total of 47 responses were recorded. A total of 161 answers were recorded meaning, on average, each respondent chose around 3 to 4 activities, showing a variety of interests.

Activities	Number	Percentage
Cinema, theatre, drama	24	51%
Cooking	22	47%
Indoor leisure (e.g. laser quest, escape rooms)	20	43%
Technology and gaming	20	43%
Outdoor activities (e.g. Herd Farm, Go Ape)	19	40%
Animals, nature and wildlife	17	36%
Sports	17	36%
Arts and crafts	16	34%
Museums and libraries	5	11%
Visit historical sites	1	2%

'Cinema, theatre and drama' came in as the most popular choice, followed by 'cooking' and then 'indoor activities'. The following charts look into trends by age:

'Cinema, theatre, drama' was the most popular choice, but notably not preferred by the 14-16 age group. The more consistent choices across age groups were 'indoor activities' and 'gaming'.



Questions 5A-5E go into more detail around which specific activities within the categories in Question 4, respondents would be interest in taking part in.

Question 5

Out of the following activities, which would you like to try?

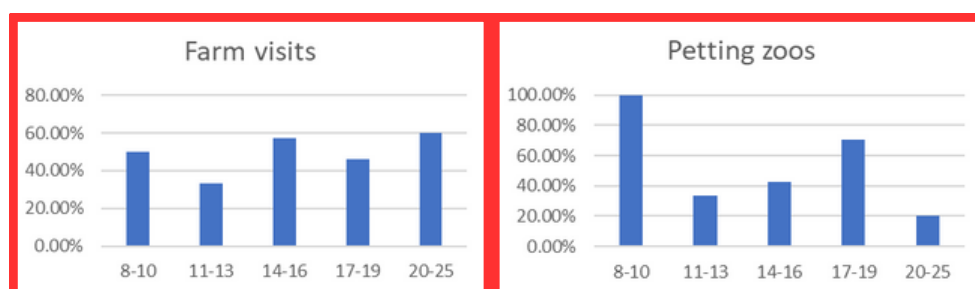
Question 5A was only asked on the online survey. Questions 5B–5E were asked to both online participants and paper participants with a total of 150 possible respondents.

5A) Would you be interested in any of these animals and wildlife activities?

Activities	Number	Percentage
Petting Zoos	27	56%
Farm visits	23	48%
Other	7	15%
Conservation activities	4	8%
Bug hunting	3	6%

All participants answered this question and, interestingly, ‘animals and nature’ was only the 6th in the previous question, asking about children’s favourite activity, but there is a clear interest in petting zoos and farm visits as an activity. This possibly shows that participants did not necessarily understand what kinds of activities ‘animals and nature’ could entail.

‘Other’ was more popular than the latter two activities and suggestions included ‘walking dogs’, ‘wildlife park’ and ‘horse riding’.



For the top two activities, ‘farm visits’ were most popular with 20–25 year olds, who possibly have children of their own who they’d like to take, followed by 14–16 year olds. ‘Farm visits’ were least popular with the 11–13 age bracket.

Petting zoos were most popular with 8–10 year olds, followed by 17–19 year olds. They were least popular with 20–25 year olds.

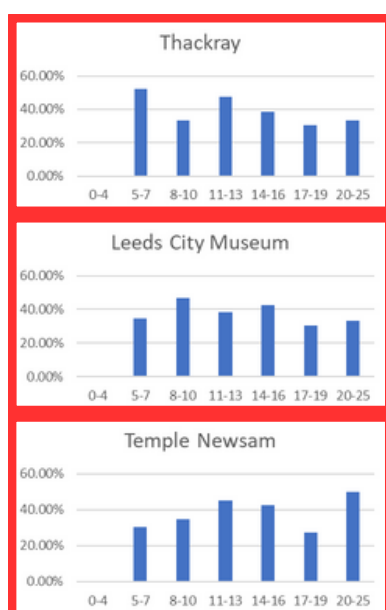
Question 5

5B) Which Leeds Museum/Galleries would you be interested in visiting? Tick all that apply.

12 online participants skipped this question meaning there were a total of 138 respondents.

Activities	Number	Percentage
Thackray Museum	56	37%
Leeds City Museum	53	35%
Temple Newsam	50	33%
Royal Armouries	48	32%
Abbey House Museum	48	32%
Libraries	47	31%
Leeds Art Gallery	43	29%
Leeds Industrial Museum	42	28%
Thwaite Watermill	38	25%
Harewood House	37	25%
Leeds Discovery Centre	35	23%
Lotherton	18	12%
Other	8	5%

Of those who selected 'other', the only common answer was Roundhay Park (mentioned 4 times). The following charts show the age of those most interested in the top 3 venues:



The most common answer '**Thackray**' was most popular with the 5-7 age group and the 11-13 age group.

'**Leeds City Museum**' was most popular with 8-10s and 14-16 year olds.

'**Temple Newsam**' was most popular with 20-25 year olds, as well as 11-13 and 14-16 year olds.

Question 5

5C) Which outdoor activities would you be interested in trying? Tick all that apply.

This question was answered by all 150 participants, who were also given the option to select 'other' and give their own suggestions.

Activities	Number	Percentage
Go Karting	76	53%
Animals, nature and insects	68	45%
Archery	67	45%
Zorbing	61	41%
Zipline	60	40%
Water sports	59	39%
Inflatables	58	39%
Assault Course	56	37%
High ropes	56	37%
Canoeing	54	36%
Bushcraft	55	36%
Hiking	52	35%
Sailing	49	33%
Paddle Boarding	46	31%
Abseilling	43	29%
Orienteering (online only)	8	16%

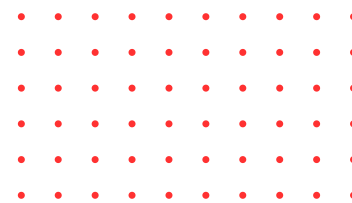
Before we look into the top responses, in the 'other' responses, nine of the suggestions by younger children (aged 2-9), mentioned 'parks'. 'horse riding' was mentioned 4 times as an alternative interest for children and young people aged 10-17, and 17-18 year olds mentioned 'camping' and 'rollercoasters'.



The top answers, 'animals / insects', has an even spread of popularity across the age ranges, and is most popular with 5-10 year olds. 'Go Karting' and 'archery' actually have larger 'spikes' in popularity but are less consistent. 'Go karting' is most popular with 8-10 and 14-16 year olds, dipping below 40% popularity for 5-7 and 20-25 year olds. Finally, 'archery' is most popular with 20-25 years olds, followed by a fairly consistent popularity of around 40% for all other age ranges, except 0-4 where it would not be age-appropriate.

Question 5

5D) Which indoor activities would you be interested in trying? Tick all that apply.



This question was **answered by all 150 participants**, who were also given the option to select 'other' and give their own suggestions.

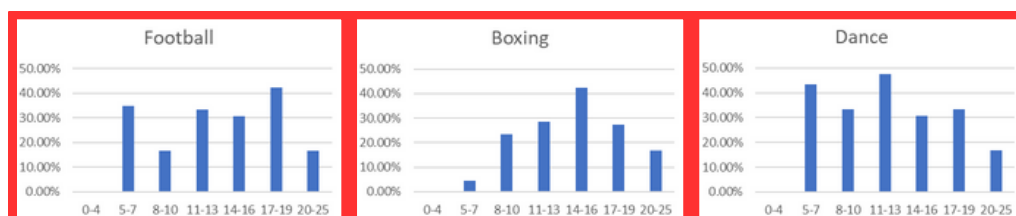
Activities	Number	Percentage
Arcade games	76	51%
Baking/cooking	76	51%
Trampolining	74	49%
Ice Skating	71	47%
Escape rooms	69	46%
Tenpin bowling	68	45%
Cinema	67	45%
Indoor climbing	64	43%
Laser Quest (paper only)	44	43%
Arts and crafts	58	39%
Clay making/pottery	51	34%
Skate Park	51	34%
Film workshops	47	31%
Drama/theatre	46	31%
Messy play	43	29%
Music workshops	39	26%
Coding workshops	37	25%

Question 5

5E) Which sports would you be interested in trying? Tick all that apply.

This question was answered by all 150 participants, who were also given the option to select 'other' and give their own suggestions.

Activities	Number	Percentage
Football	51	34%
Dance	50	33%
Boxing	38	25%
Basketball	35	23%
Cycling	35	23%
Gymnastics	34	23%
Athletics	31	21%
Cricket	29	19%
Netball	25	17%
E-sports (paper only)	15	15%
Ping Pong	20	13%
Golf	14	9%
Tennis	12	8%
Hockey	9	6%
Badminton	7	5%
Martial Arts	7	5%
Rugby	7	5%
Sports days	6	4%



'Football' was the most popular choice, with popularity peaking at age 17-19, followed by age 5-7 and then 11-13 and 14-16 year olds. 'Dance' was second most popular. Most popular with 11-13, 5-7 year olds and 8-10 and 17-19 year olds. Lastly, 'Boxing' was most popular with 14-16 year olds, followed by 11-13 and 17-19 year olds.

Conclusions

Summary - key headlines

The survey had 225 total views. 150 completed surveys were submitted of which 48 were online and 102 were submitted on paper.

By total of 'yes' across all ages, the following activity types were ranked by popularity:

- 1 Indoor leisure activities – 34%
- 2 Outdoor activities – 31%
- 3 Museums and heritage sites – 18%
- 4 Sports – 15%

Closed questions 5A–5E, the highest average positive response rate was for 'indoor activities', followed by 'outdoor activities' and then 'sports'.

Sports category was the most popular hobby but not respondents' favourite activity. Which suggests children and young people are looking to try something new.

The top four responses when asked to choose a 'favourite activity' were all indoor activities, and this preference is backed up with high response rate for specific indoor activities they'd like to try found in questions 5A–5E.

As expected, different age groups prefer different activities. This is broken down in questions 5A–5E and the concluding statements. This demonstrates the need to balance programming to accommodate a range of interests.

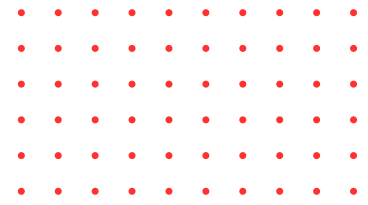
The most common '**other**' answers: i.e. answers not offered as part of multiple choice questions.

- Museums and heritage sites: **Parks, gardens and nature**. 0 – 9yrs with the most common park being named as **Roundhay**
- Outdoor activities: **Horse riding|Horses**
Quote: "I love horse riding and horses but I don't know how"
- Indoor leisure activities: **Fashion/makeup/cosplay/textiles/sewing**
- Indoor leisure activities: **Gaming**
- Sports: **Swimming, running, gym**

None of the suggested activities were of significant interest to 0–4 years olds.

Conclusions

Summary - top activities in each category by age



None of the suggested activities were of significant interest to **0-4 years olds**.

5-7 year olds had an average interest in all activity types they were asked about (5B-5E). Their favourite activities in each of the categories were: Thackray Museum; animals/insects; trampolining; and dance.

8-10 year olds had an average or above average interest in all activity types. Their favourite activities in each of the categories were: petting zoos; Leeds City Museum; go karting; trampolining; and dance.

11-13 year olds also had an average or above average interest in all activity types. Their favourite activities in each of the categories were: farm visits; Thackray Museum; go karting; trampolining; and dance.

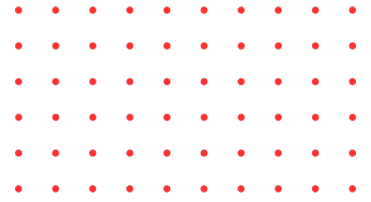
14-16 year olds had an above interest in all activity types, except for 'animals and wildlife' where they showed less than average interest. Their favourite activities in each of the categories (except 'animals and wildlife') were: Leeds City Museum joint with Temple Newsam; go karting; arcade; and boxing.

17-19 year olds only showed a significant interest in 'sports'. An average interest in 'animals and wildlife' and below average in other areas. Their favourite 'sports' activity was football, and their favourite 'animals and wildlife' was petting zoos.

20-25 year olds showed a below average interest in most activities, apart from 'indoor activities' and 'animals and wildlife'. Their favourite 'indoor activities' activity was arcade and their favourite 'animals and wildlife' activity was farm visits

Survey format

Overall, despite receiving fewer responses to the online survey, it was still worthwhile trying a range of approaches as we can be reassured that all looked after CYP were aware of the survey and had the opportunity to participate. The length of the survey/open questions may have put some CYP off completing this as 122 opened the survey but only 48 completed it and will be taken into consideration with further consultation.



Conclusions

Summary - top activities in each category ranked

Indoor leisure activities

Arcade games
Baking/cooking
Trampolining
Ice skating

Sports

Football
Dance (Break and ballet mentioned specifically)
Boxing - (Tai mentioned specifically)
Sharing 4th basketball, gymnastics and cycling

Outdoor activities

Go Karting
Animals, nature
Archery
Zorbing

Museums and heritage sites

Thackray Museum of Medicine
Leeds City Museum
Temple Newsam
Royal Armouries

Top three barriers recorded by free text answers

This feedback allows us to address main barriers to engagement when planning projects, activities and events as we evolve the 'enrichment offer'

1

Lack of finances

2

Accessibility & transportation

3

Lack of awareness

Other leisure activities frequently mentioned by free text answers

These are activities not commonly offered through the 'enrichment offer'

Theme Parks
Holidays and travel
Scouts