

APPENDIX F

Analysis of Summer Programme 2022 responses

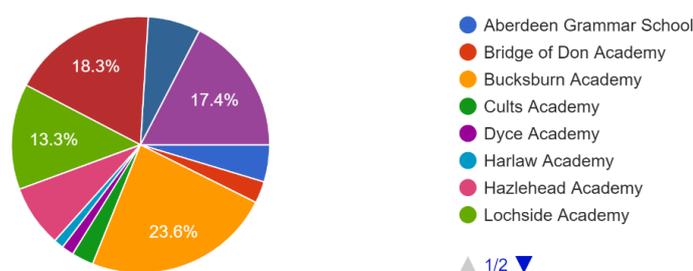
Parent and carer responses

On Tuesday 10th May 2022 parents and carers were invited to share their views by electronic survey on what a Summer 2022 Programme should offer. The survey also shared information on how the summer offer would prioritise the 6 priority groups as identified in the Child Poverty Action Plan to help communicate the changed approach and longer term plans. The survey was issued through schools and to targeted groups by members of the Easter of Play Strategic Group to ensure maximum coverage.

The survey was open for one week and a total of 728 parents and carers responded. 18.3% of responses were received from families with children attending Northfield Academy, 13.3% from those served by Lochside Academy and 17.4% by those zoned for St Machar Academy. Parents from all Associated Schools Groups responded with higher returns generally from our priority areas and from parents of young people at Bucksburn Wing.

Which of the following school catchment areas do you live in? (Please select one of the following options)

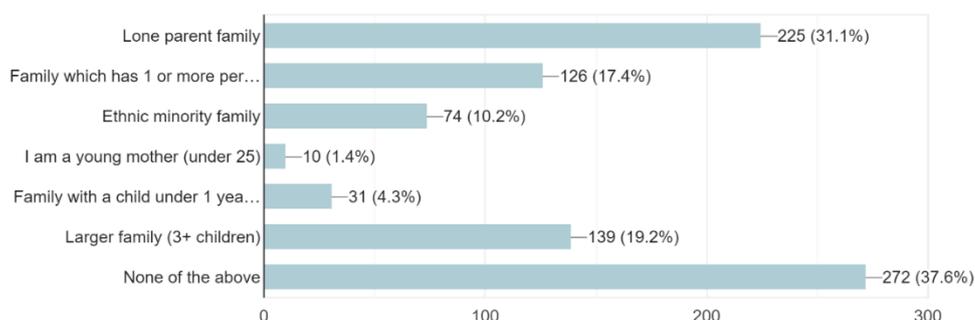
728 responses



Parents were asked to consider if they would associate with being one of the 6 groups most likely to be impacted by poverty as identified in the Child Poverty Action Plan. Only 272 of the parents who responded (37.6%) did not identify as being in one of the groups (just over one third).

Which of the following apply to you (please tick all that are relevant)?

724 responses



The highest number of returns were from lone parent families (31.1%), larger families (19.2%) and those impacted by disability (17.4%). There was no distinguishable difference in the requests made by the different groups other than a keen interest in affordable family activities from lone parent families as well as childcare opportunities to help with work and study. One common thread from single

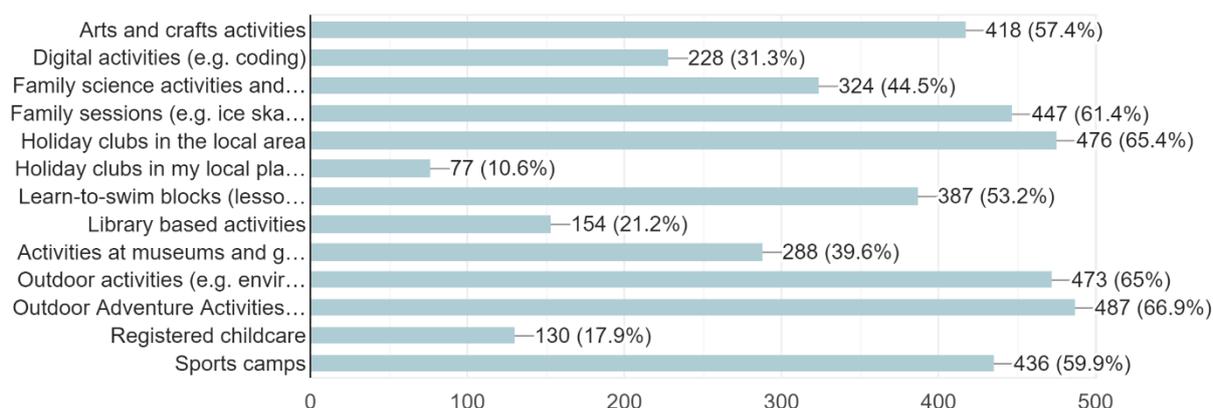
parent households was a request for, 'cheaper days out' and some concerns about being able to access spaces, 'I see priority is given to lone parent families, how do I register for this as the activities were sold out when I tried to book'. There is a need to think about how we get booking information to eligible families well in advance of the programme being live so that staff can familiarise themselves with how to book. Feedback from parent noted that, 'Last year the spots for outdoor adventure activities filled up very quickly – can you take this into account please' The feedback from this group really stood out as being keen to fully take advantage of the programme with one parent saying, 'I just want to say that this is a fantastic idea'

Activities requested by parents and carers

Parents and carers were asked to consider the activities that would be most enjoyed by their child and helpful to their family. Outdoor adventurous activities were the most requested (66.9% of families who responded requested them) followed by Holiday Clubs in the local area (65.4%). It is clear that there is a need for a mixed model of provision with access to childcare/holiday club type provision as well as opportunities to access activities being offered by a range of partners across the city.

What kind of activities would you like to see available over summer? (please tick all that apply).

728 responses



Analysis of the responses indicate that there are very few gaps in provision, the only activity not listed which drew multiple entries was the provision of music with one parent noting that the, 'choice is already very good'. The provision of music will be factored into planning. As a result we can conclude from this that the provision of activities which has been developed over the last two holiday periods is about right.

Lots of parents took the opportunity to feedback positive feedback on the quality of previous programmes. 'What was on last summer was perfect, the family session work best for us' and 'last years' summer of Play programme was fantastic, my children were fortunate to attend two outdoor adventure days and had an absolute ball'. Another said, 'We took part in the Easter of Play and the children loved it'

Some of the comments received highlight that the 5-14 age banding concerned some parents who asked that we consider those out with the age bracket. One parent explained that, 'I have a 3 year old due to start nursery and they have never mixed with others,' whilst another suggested, 'please provide opportunities for older children to complete sports based awards (i.e. rookie lifeguard' to provide opportunities for older children to take on leadership responsibilities'. One parent of older children requested that consideration be given to, 'evening activities such as Boys Brigade and Youth Clubs.'

Given the change in focus, it is perhaps unsurprising that a mixed response was received from families on changed approach. Some negative comments from those not eligible for priority access questioned why there had to be any prioritisation of children and young people. One parent noted that, “I think it is extremely unfair that some children will be given priority” and another said, “You can’t assume that everyone who works is well off”. This view wasn’t held universally by those not identifying as being in any of the priority groups, one parent who was not eligible said, “it would be nice to have a full list of activities, including those that you pay for, as there are lots of things available that I didn’t know about” with another stating that, “we would be happy to pay for provision to support their provision for others”. We will work to clarify all of the offers available to families including those which are paid for.

Some helpful feedback was received on how families will use the programme to support their working arrangements. One parent said, “Staggered start times...lots of activities book up quickly for those who are working and need a 9am drop off” and another noting that, “activities that cover a full day would be better for working parents.”

The needs of those with additional support needs and disability continued to be strongly reflected through the survey responses. One parent said, “Staff having a good training in autism” with another noting a need for, “provision for some ASN kids over 14 would be good – not all 15 year olds can look after themselves”. One parent noted, “During the Easter of Play my children (who has additional support needs) benefited from the Art sessions which were very inclusive, I would really appreciate similar opportunities again”. One carer of a care experienced child said “our son is care experienced and has the benefit of being prioritised for the summer of play, we would hope this will be possible again”. A programme for those with additional support needs/disability will be planned again with close working between education and children’s social work to ensure that children who require to be prioritised can access provision.

Barriers to participation

There is some really helpful qualitative data to inform the design of the programme. There is a strong desire for “activities to be available locally without having to drive” and a need to consider the accessibility of activities where possible to do so, “anything wheelchair accessible would be helpful”.

Responses from children and young people

On Tuesday 10th May 2022 children and young people were invited to share their views by electronic survey on what a Summer 2022 Programme should offer. The survey was issued through schools and through the Community Planning Partnership. The survey was open for one week and a total of 601 children and young people responded.

Children and young people between the ages of 4 to 17 responded to the survey with the highest number of respondents coming from the 10 – 14 age bracket. It is perhaps worth highlighting some minor statistical anomalies exist here with adults entering their own ages rather than the ages of the child responding.

Ages of respondents (sorted by descending value)

Ages	Count of How old are you?
10	112
11	99
9	89
8	67
13	40
12	40
6	36
7	34
14	27
5	25
16	11
15	9
17	5
4	2
30	1
39	1
25	1
(blank)	
Grand Total	599

Whereas responses from parents and carers were predominantly from our priority areas, the majority of responses from children and young people were from outwith our priority areas.

Which school do you go to? (% distribution of respondents)

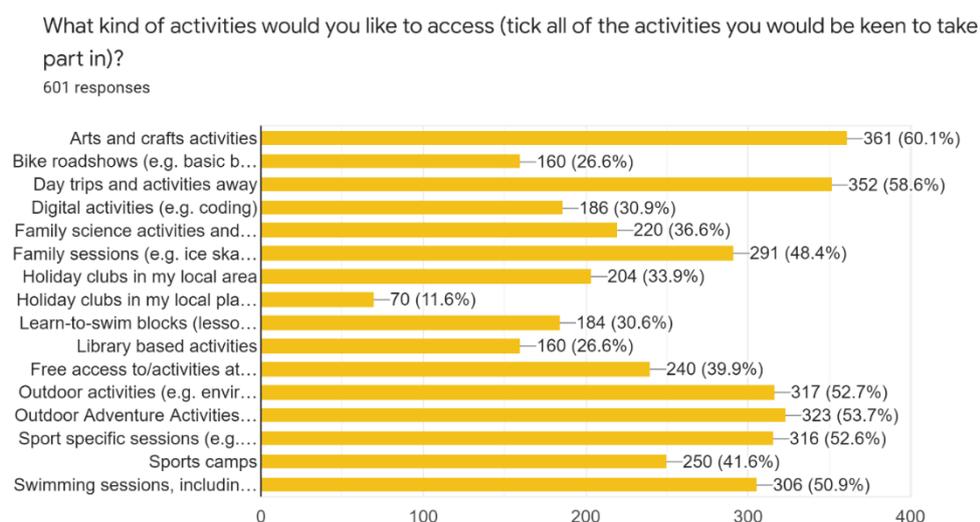
Skene Square School	15.47%
Abbotswell School	14.14%
Cults School	13.31%
Brimmond School	9.32%
Harlaw Academy	8.32%
Charleston School	7.15%
Culter School	6.16%
Sunnybank School	5.49%
Bucksburn Academy	4.33%
Northfield Academy	3.33%

Kittybrewster School	2.83%
Holy Family RC School	2.16%
Airyhall School	1.83%
Scotstown School	1.50%
Riverbank School	1.33%
Danestone School	0.83%
Stoneywood School	0.83%
Aberdeen Grammar	0.67%
Cornhill School	0.33%
St. Machar Academy	0.17%
Riverbank School	0.17%
Forehill School	0.17%
Greenbrae School	0.17%

Activities

Children and young people were asked to consider the activities they would most enjoy over the summer holiday period. The most popular activities amongst respondents were arts and crafts activities (60.1%), day trips and activities away (58.6%), outdoor activities e.g. environmental activities, den building etc (52.7%), outdoor adventure activities e.g. climbing wall, mountain biking, paddle-boarding etc (53.7%), sport specific sessions (52.6%) and swimming sessions, including inflatable sessions (50.9%).

Family sessions (48.4%), sports camps (41.6%), free access to activities at museums and galleries (39.9%), learn to swim blocks (30.6%), digital activities (30.9%) and local holiday clubs (33.9%) also proved popular.



There were no regularly recurring suggested activities that were not already covered in the options provided but it is worth noting that there were several repeated requests for gymnastics and sports such as skateboarding, BMXing etc.

How can we make it easier for you to access/participate?

Children and young people were asked to consider any barriers to participation. Most frequently, there was a strong indication of the need to ensure that activities were free. Respondents highlighted the need for us to ensure that the programme is well promoted/advertised and that all information about the programme (and booking system) is communicated in a timely and accessible manner. Many respondents indicated a preference for activities and opportunities to be offered in their local area and highlighted transport costs (most likely when required to be accompanied by an adult).

A number of responses highlighted the potential issue of not having the required kit (e.g. football boots etc) required to participate in some of the offered activities. Several also raised working parents as a potential obstacle and needed consideration. “[An early start time as my parents both work full time](#)”. This correlated with the information gleaned from the survey of parents and carers. Some children suggested that participation would be made easier if there were a number of all day sessions offered and if some activities were offered at weekends/outside of the working day. Some of the responding children and young people also highlighted the need to ensure that opportunities were provided for children and young people with additional support needs, “[Accessible play sessions for children with additional needs...](#)” and, “[Activities for my disabled little brother to attend too.](#)” This again clearly correlates with the information gleaned from parents and carers and will be factored into planning.

There was reference to priority bookings being seen as unfair by some. Children also highlighted some past issues with the popularity of some of the sessions offered, “[It would help if the spaces were not as limited \(free activities\), as it is hard to book when it's available](#)”.

Next steps

It is clear that the range of activities available is about right and that a mix of childcare/holiday club and activities in keeping with the wishes of children and young people should be prioritised. Where possible provision should be based in local communities and the accessibility of the programme should be considered and clearly advertised to support decision making of those with a physical disability.

There is a need to aim for sessions to be no less than 3 hours and full day where possible to support families to work and study. The timing of sessions should be considered carefully to ensure that working parents and carers are able to take advantage of the programme.

There is a need to ensure that those in priority groups are given ample time to familiarise themselves with the booking system in order to secure bookings. There is also a need to continue to explain the purpose of the funding and make sure that activities that are free for all, or can be paid for, are clearly signposted for families who do not fit into one of the priority groups.

There is a need to consider those who are out with the 5-14 and those with additional support needs when planning how best to utilise the 15% of non-ring

fenced funding and the remaining resource allocated as part of the Council budget setting process. Youth club type provision will be explored for our young people.