



**Aiming High for Disabled Children, Surrey
(AHDC Surrey)**

**Children and Young People's Short Breaks
Questionnaire 2009**

Summary Report

Date: 30th September 2009

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About the activity:

The purpose of the Children and Young People's Questionnaire 2009 was to gather information from children and young people regarding the types of short break activities they would like; and to then distribute the findings to existing and potential providers to inform their planning.

In total, 17 settings agreed take part. At three of the settings questionnaires were carried out by the staff of that setting. The remaining 14 settings were visited by Justine Loggenberg of the AHDC team and/or Stephanie Anderson of the Children's Fund team.

Children and young people conveyed their preferences about sports, activities and outings via one or more of the following methods:

- conversation/ discussion
- drawing pictures
- making collages
- completing questionnaires
- using talking mats
- eye pointing

The information recorded about each child or young person included their age, primary disability, gender, ethnicity and the area of Surrey in which they took part. No information that could be used to identify an individual was recorded.

Key Findings:

By far, the most popular activity across all age ranges, disability groups and areas was swimming with 72% of all children listing it as an activity they enjoyed.

After swimming, trampolining and bowling were the next most popular sports with the percentages of children wanting to do these sports being 49% and 48% respectively.

Children with severe learning disabilities (51%) and on the autistic spectrum (35%) also wanted to have the chance to play football.

There were many activities that the children and young people enjoyed, the most popular of which were doing arts and crafts (45%), taking part in music related activities (45%) such as playing music, listening to music and dancing and also watching TV (38%).

The most popular outing across most age groups, disability groups and areas was going to the cinema with 57% of all children enjoying this activity. Eating out (50%) and going to the seaside (45%) were also very popular.

Children with severe learning disabilities of physical disabilities also enjoyed shopping.

Participants:

Parents/ carers and children had the option to opt out of the activities at each setting visited. In total 453 children and young people across 17 settings were approached to take part, of whom, 237 chose to participate.

The participants were from 10 different ethnic backgrounds, 89% of children were White British. In total, 150 of the participants were male.

The two largest disability groups who participated were children with SLD or Global Developmental Delay (102 children) and Children with ASD (97 children).

We also consulted 21 PMLD Children, 12 children with physical disabilities and 5 children with mild disabilities. Only the child's primary disability category was recorded, therefore we saw many more children with moving and handling difficulties than is reflected in the category "PD" as many of the children we saw with physical disabilities also had severe learning disabilities.

The 17 settings that took part were:

North West	North East
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fremantles School• Link Leisure• National Autistic Society After School Club• Woking NYAS Youth Forum - White Lodge• Portesbery School• Squirrel Lodge	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• National Autistic Society After School Club, Walton on Thames• Spelthorne Millennium After school Club• Walton Leigh School
South West	South East
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Ridgeway Community School• National Autistic Society After School Club, Godalming• Disability Challengers Guildford• Disability Challengers Farnham	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Disability Challengers Fetcham• Disability Challengers Leatherhead• Disability Challengers Oxsted• Reigate and Redhill YMCA

The breakdown of age ranges varied greatly between areas. Overall the largest age group we saw was 8 – 10 year olds with 64 children, followed closely by 14 – 16 year olds with 56 children of this age group participating across Surrey.

Further Information:

If you would like a more detailed breakdown of the information for your area or the whole of Surrey please contact Justine Loggenberg on Justine.loggenberg@surreycc.gov.uk