

Consultation undertaken with young people around leisure time

South Norfolk – Summary

This consultation was undertaken in nine high schools in South Norfolk between September and November 2019. SNYAB Youth Workers attended the schools at lunchtimes, with a publicity stand for SNYAB, and asked a series of questions.

Total Number respondents: 497 **Male:** 182 **Female:** 315

Age	11	12	13	14	15	16
No. of yp	97 (19%)	118 (24%)	113 (23%)	78 (16%)	76 (15%)	15 (3%)

The breakdown of where young people live can be found on the individual consultation reports but numbers from each school are:

Ormiston Victory Academy	49	Framingham Earl	41
Archbishop Sancroft High School	45	Hobart High School	79
Diss High School	58	Hethersett Academy	92
Wymondham College	3	Long Stratton High School	115
Wymondham High Academy	15		

What do you like to do in your free time?

- 30 young people like to stay at home. Some said that their family was about, but others stayed in when parents went to work. Some of the younger ones said that they were not allowed out due to the reputation of crime and drug use at the parks.
- 90 young people (18%) stated that they spent time online:
- 220 young people (44%) stated they played sport or took part in physical activities:

Young people tended to do more than one sport, and some young people travel for their chosen activity – they generally got a lift from parents or cycled there.

- 80 (16%) young people are involved with the arts
- Some young people cited other leisure time activities including:

Work / volunteer	9	Uniformed group	15	Homework	13
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Where do you meet up with friends?

- Parks

227 young people (46%) said that they went to parks.

Lots of young people walked or cycled to parks, although some did get the bus, or got a lift from parents.

- Norwich – 118 young people (24%) said they spent time in the city, either taking the bus, or getting lifts from parents. Some who lived close, such as Poringland, cycled into the city.
- 95 young people (19%) said that they hung out at each other's houses.
- 45 (9%) hang out at local shops

What do you like to do when you are all together?

Talk	127 (26%)
Hang out / walk about / use equipment	184 (37%)
Shop	92 (19%)
Eat	64 (13%)
Football	41 (8%)

What facilities/clubs can be provided where you live to improve your life outside of school?

- Different sports that you don't have to travel far to access, such as:

Swimming	37 yp	Gym / Leisure Centre	20 yp
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Young people stated that they wanted to be able to access sports clubs and leisure centres for activities that were age specific and appropriate for them. They wanted easy to use equipment. Young people said that they didn't really know what went on at the leisure centre, and so they thought publicity might be an issue.

- Parks

Young people want to hang out in their local park. They want:

- Age specific areas and equipment in different parks or locations
- To feel safe
- To bring bikes, scooters, skateboards and use good equipment
- Equipment to be clean and well maintained
- Outside gym equipment
- Youth shelters, benches, seating, toilets
- Bins and lighting
- Grassy areas
- Plans that have been discussed to actually be put in place
- Poor behaviour to be addressed

- Youth Projects

Young people described somewhere that was just for them using the terms 'Youth Club' or 'Youth Café':

- Somewhere to meet and socialise, chat, hang out
- safe space
- aimed at specific age ranges
- fun activities that you can't do at home, activities that help you learn about outside world e.g. cooking, life skills, etc
- revision space, snacks
- somewhere to talk to adults

Would you like support from adults? If yes, why?

- 61 young people wanted someone to talk to (12%)
- 136 young people felt that there was enough support (27%)
- Many comments were made about not being judged by adults; being left to hang out without interruption; to not be shouted at; and to not assume that because you were young, you didn't know what you were doing. Young people wanted to know that there were adults who cared, who didn't jump to conclusions.

Anything else that you would like to say about what young people need in your area?

- Some young people cited drugs as an issue where they lived.
- Young people would like more access to their community and village halls. They don't know what goes on, but they don't think it's for them.
- Young people want to walk around safely on pavements, safe from (fast) traffic.
- Transport can be an issue for young people
- Bullying is a problem – face to face and online
- Litter is an issue across the district.