



**NEW QUESTIONS FOR THE HEALTH BEHAVIOUR IN SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN
(HBSC) STUDY IN IRELAND: PILOT 2018**

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INTRODUCTION

The Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC) study is a cross-national research study conducted in collaboration with the World Health Organisation (WHO) Regional Office for Europe and runs on a four-year cycle. In 2018, Ireland participated for the sixth time in the HBSC study (www.nuigalway.ie/hbsc). The overall aim of the HBSC study is to increase our understanding of young people's health and well-being, health behaviours and their social context. HBSC collects data on key indicators of health, health attitudes, and health behaviours, as well as the context of health for young people. The study is a school-based survey with information collected from children through self-completed questionnaires in classrooms. As of 2018, forty-eight countries are part of the HBSC International Network, from the geographical areas of Europe, North America, and former Soviet republics. HBSC Ireland 2018 was funded by the Department of Health. Further information on HBSC Ireland can be found at www.nuigalway.ie/hbsc or at the International HBSC website: www.hbsc.org.

There are three types of items in the HBSC questionnaire. *Mandatory* items are asked in exactly the same way in all participating countries to ensure that the results are comparable. These cover health behaviours (e.g., fruit and vegetable consumption, oral hygiene, physical activity), risk behaviours (e.g., tobacco and alcohol consumption, sedentary behaviour), and psychosocial background factors (e.g., family affluence, perceived support from family and peers) that are understood to be crucial aspects of adolescent health. *Optional* items are also administered in the same manner in each country, but it is a country-level decision which of these items to include (e.g., other dietary habits, active travel to school, romantic attraction). *National* items are developed by the national research teams, and reflect adolescent health issues that are salient in the given country. For instance, in Ireland, a number of child-developed questions are administered, including items on loving your family, playing indoors or outdoors and feeling self-confident.

The International HBSC network stipulates that each participating country conduct a pilot study prior to the main survey to ensure respondents' understanding of the items (particularly for the younger age groups), the appropriateness of questionnaire layout, sequencing of questions, translation and the provision of adequate instructions.

In this report, we present the pilot findings on the items that were reformulated since the 2014 data collection or new items that were considered for inclusion in the 2018 Irish questionnaire. The pilot study was conducted in line with the International HBSC Protocol, and NUI Galway research ethics approval for the HBSC 2018 study was obtained. Data collection took place in March and April 2018 in five schools that were not selected for the main study data collection. Children from 3rd class in primary school to 5th year in post-primary school were invited to participate.

Method

School principals were invited to take part in the pilot study by a letter of invitation and study information sheet. Once consent was obtained, a designated liaison person in the school selected the dates and classes that would participate in the piloting. School principals were informed that it was at their discretion whether active or passive parental consent should be sought from parents. Parental consent letters, asking for either active or passive consent, along with study information sheets were provided to the school. On the day of data collection, children were informed that they were free to decide if they want to take part in the data collection or not.

Researchers administered the questionnaires and facilitated subsequent classroom discussions based on a standard protocol. The classroom protocol followed a series of steps. First, the researchers introduced themselves, the study and provided an overview of HBSC to the children. They then explored ground rules

with the children and explained that all questionnaires were confidential and anonymous. Finally, it was reiterated that participants did not have to take part and they were allowed to skip any questions that they did not want to answer.

The questionnaires were distributed, and children were reminded not to write anything that would identify them or their school on the questionnaires. The children were invited to raise their hand that if they required any assistance. On a blank copy of the questionnaire the researchers made notes at any point where a question or query arose. Once the children had reached the end of the questionnaire, they were invited to go back to the beginning and underline any words or sentences that they did not understand; were embarrassed by; felt uncomfortable with or found unacceptable. They were also free to comment on any of the questions. At the end of the questionnaire, a text box was provided for closing remarks on the study in general.

During the classroom discussion each section of the questionnaire was discussed by asking: “Did you understand the questions; were they easy to answer; did you feel uncomfortable answering them or did you feel the questions were unacceptable?”. Once the discussion was finished the children were reminded to place the completed questionnaires in the envelopes provided for collection.

How to read this report

The findings of the 2018 Pilot Study are presented in the tables below. In summary, 363 children participated in the pilot. The sample composition (by schools and classes) is presented in Table 1. The presented findings are not weighted. In each section, first an overall table is presented, indicating number and frequency (percentage) of respondents for each of the response options and also missing responses. Responses are then broken down by gender and age, with valid percentages (which excludes missing responses) presented. For scale variables, the overall descriptive statistics and reliability index (Cronbach’s alpha) are reported followed by, the descriptive statistics by gender and age breakdown.

Table 1. Composition of the pilot sample (N = 363)

School	Class										Total
	C3	C4	C5	C6	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	TY	Y5	
School 1					22	17	22			19	80
School 2						37			22*		59
School 3	27	27	25	27							106
School 4		32		25							57
School 5	20	17	14	10							61
Total	47	76	39	62	22	54	22	0	22	19	363

Note. C = Class, Y = Year. *One child in this class reported being in 5th class, another in 4th year, and a third child ticked both 4th Year and Transition Year. The latter was recoded as TY.

Due to the nature and the aim of the study, no demographic characteristics were collected apart from school, class, gender, and birth date (year and month). The questionnaire items included were either new items developed by the international HBSC network, items proposed by members of the National Advisory Board for HBSC or from the Institute of Public Health or the Department of Children and Youth Affairs. These included:

- household composition (with whom the respondent is living all or most of the time)
- family meals
- ethnic or cultural background
- electronic cigarette use (lifetime and last 30 days)*
- alcohol availability (source of alcohol; venue of last alcohol consumption; perceived easiness of availing of alcohol; perceived alcohol consumption of peers)*
- electronic media communication (frequency of EMC usage; perceived easiness of EMC compared to face-to-face interactions; problematic EMC usage)
- bullying and cyberbullying
- spiritual health*
- mental health (well-being; stress and anxiety; depressive mood;)*
- better outcomes (perceived discrimination; sense of freedom; having a caring adult; feeling valued and respected; making a positive contribution; volunteer work; knowing rights as a young person)
- sun protection (sun protection; sunburn; sunbed use; sunbed safety)
- romantic experiences (gender of partners the respondent has been attracted to or in love with)*

* Topics administered to 5th class to 5th Year pupils only, all other topics were administered to 3rd class - 5th Year groups

Under each topic heading below, descriptive statistics for the items are presented. First, the overall descriptive data are presented: frequencies for categorical variables and means, standard deviations, standard errors and reliability indices for scale variables. Then the descriptive data are presented by gender and by age. Within each topic heading a qualitative section is also included, as follows¹:

- a) Words underlined by participants to indicate they were considered difficult to understand
- b) Written comments from participants on the specific item or wording
- c) Written comments from participants at the end of the questionnaire, but relevant to the item
- d) Relevant material from the fieldwork notes made by the researchers during data collection
- e) Where a textbox was provided for more detail, the data collected are summarised.

¹ Not all five sources of qualitative information were volunteered by participants for each item.

Topic 1: HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION

Please answer this question for the home where you live all or most of the time and tick the people who live there.

Table 2. Family members with whom the respondent lives all or most of the time (N = 362)

	Ticked N (%)	Not ticked N (%)
Mother	350 (96.7)	12 (3.3)
Father	281 (77.6)	81 (22.4)
Stepmother (or father's girlfriend/partner)	2 (0.6)	360 (99.2)
Stepfather (or mother's boyfriend/partner)	18 (5.0)	344 (95.0)
Foster or children's home	2 (0.6)	360 (99.2)
Someone or somewhere else	105 (29.0)	257 (71.0)

a) Words underlined by participants to indicate they were considered difficult to understand

'Foster or children's home'

'Boyfriend'

'Mother's partner'

b) Written comments from participants on the specific item or wording

Mother

"Both parents and siblings" (bracket drawn connecting mother and father responses)

"more than one home"

Circle drawn around the question number "Wording kind of funny" written and also crossed out

"My parents are split up"

Father

"and brother"

Stepmother (or father's girlfriend/partner)

"question could be more straight forward"

c) Written comments from participants at the end of the questionnaire, but relevant to this item

"You need to make question 1.5 more clear"

"What do you write if your siblings are in college?"

"There should be a separate box provided for siblings"

d) Relevant material from the fieldwork notes made during data collection

The question caused confusion as some pupils asked, “If I live with my brothers as well, do they go in this box as well”. One child asked, “is this question asking who I live with?”. They also asked can they tick more than one box when answering the question. The children identified the need for a ‘brother/ sister’ box to be provided.

e) Where a textbox was provided for more detail, the data collected are summarised

A textbox was provided underneath the ‘someone or somewhere else’ response option, and the following responses were provided:

- 1 brother (x3)
- 1 sister (x2)
- 2 brothers
- brother and sister (x3)
- siblings (x4)
- mother father sister and brother
- 2 sisters
- half brother
- mum then dad then mum then dad
- my uncle and grandad

Topic 2: FAMILY MEALS

How often do you and your family usually have meals together?

Table 3. Frequency of family meals together (N = 362)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
Every day	169	46.6	46.7
Most days	129	35.5	35.6
About once a week	46	12.7	12.7
Never	18	5.0	5.0
Total	362	99.7	100.0
Missing	1	0.3	

Table 4. Frequency of family meals by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
Every day	44.9	48.9
Most days	35.1	35.8
About once a week	14.1	11.4
Never	5.9	4.0

Table 5. Frequency of family meals by age (%)

	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
Every day	51.2	38.2	62.2	48.4	50.0	48.9
Most days	39.0	41.2	26.7	32.8	39.3	35.6
About once a week	4.9	16.2	8.9	14.1	7.1	6.7
Never	4.9	4.4	2.2	4.7	3.6	8.9

a) Words underlined by participants to indicate they were considered difficult to understand

No words underlined

b) Written comments from participants on the specific item or wording

No written comments

c) Written comments from participants at the end of the questionnaire, but relevant to this item

No written comments

d) Relevant material from the fieldwork notes made during data collection

Some children were confused about the circumstances of the meal. They indicated that it can be different every day for some people.

e) Where a textbox was provided for more detail, the data collected are summarised

No textbox provided

Topic 3: ETHNIC OR CULTURAL BACKGROUND

What is your ethnic or cultural background?

Table 6. Childs' ethnic or cultural background (N = 363)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
White			
Irish	231	63.6	71.5
Irish Traveller	8	2.2	2.5
Any other White background	33	9.1	10.2
Black or Black Irish			
African	18	5.0	5.6
Any other Black background	1	0.3	0.3
Asian or Asian Irish			
Chinese	0	0.0	0.0
Any other Asian background	8	2.2	2.5
Other, including mixed background			
Other	24	6.6	7.4
Total	323	89.0	100
Missing	40	11.0	

a) Words underlined by participants to indicate they were considered difficult to understand

'What is your ethnic or cultural background?'

'White'

'African'

All headings

'Any other White, Asian and other'

'Please choose one section from A to D'

'Traveller'

b) Written comments from participants on the specific item or wording

"I do not understand any of this question"

"I do not know"

"I don't know how to answer this"

"I don't really know what cultural background is"

c) Written comments from participants at the end of the questionnaire, but relevant to this item

"For the race section you should just have it blank so we could just write it down ourselves"

d) Relevant material from the fieldwork notes made during data collection

Certain children found the word 'ethnic' difficult to understand and there were lots of questions from different classes about the meaning of the word. One child asked, "Do you write where you're from?" The children indicated that the question was difficult to understand even for those that classify themselves as 'White/Irish' and there should be other options for white people from other countries. Many children did not know how to answer this especially for those who have parents from different countries. These children questioned if they could tick multiple boxes because they felt they fulfilled two or more categories (e.g., Irish and African).

e) Where a textbox was provided for more detail, the data collected are summarised

A textbox was provided under the 'other – write in description' response:

- half Irish, half Dutch
- Mom polish, Dad Irish
- Malaysian Irish
- Mixed Polish
- Mother Chinese, Dad Irish
- Mixed
- Parents from Los Angeles; raised in Spain
- Polish (x3)
- A brown tan Czech Republic
- Mom El Salvador, Dad Irish
- African/ Irish (x2)
- Mum Colombian, Dad Spanish
- African/ Asian background
- Mum Estonia, Dad Russia
- African/ Chinese
- Mum and Dad from Algeria
- Albanian
- Polish Canadian
- Algerian
- Trinidadian and Welsh
- Black Irish
- Romei
- Danish
- African and Irish
- half Irish, half Pakistan
- Armenian
- Romanian (x2)
- Born in Australia
- Italian
- Ireland
- Brazil
- Czech/ Irish
- half Irish, half Polish
- half Slovakian
- half French, half Irish
- Irish
- Lithuanian (x2)
- Sudan
- Russian
- Croatia, Bosnia, Italy
- Mum is white Irish, Dad is Black Irish
- England/ Spanish
- Mum is African, Dad is Irish
- Mum white Irish, Dad is tan Irish

Topic 4: ELECTRONIC CIGARETTE USE

On how many days (if any) have you used electronic cigarettes (e.g., e-cigarette, vape)?

Table 7. Frequency of electronic cigarette use in lifetime and last 30 days (N = 238)

	<i>In your lifetime</i>			<i>In the last 30 days</i>		
	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
Never	206	86.6	89.2	173	72.7	94.0
1-2 days	6	2.5	2.6	4	1.7	2.2
3-5 days	2	0.8	0.9	3	1.3	1.6
6-9 days	3	1.3	1.3	0	0.0	0.0
10-19 days	3	1.3	1.3	2	0.8	1.1
20-29 days	1	0.4	0.4	0	0.0	0.0
30 + days	10	4.2	4.3	2	0.8	1.1
Total	231	97.1	100	184	77.3	100
Missing	7	2.9		54	22.7	

Table 8. Frequency of electronic cigarette use in lifetime and last 30 days by gender (%)

	<i>In your lifetime</i>		<i>In the last 30 days</i>	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Never	90.8	88.5	94.6	93.4
1-2 days	1.8	2.5	2.2	2.2
3-5 days	0.0	1.6	0.0	3.3
6-9 days	1.8	0.8	1.1	1.1
10-19 days	0.9	1.6	2.2	0.0
20-29 days	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.0
30 + days	4.6	4.1	2.2	0.0

Table 9. Frequency of electronic cigarette use in lifetime and last 30 days by age (%)

	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
<i>In your lifetime</i>						
Never	100.0	95.2	100.0	81.8	90.3	67.6
1-2 days	0.0	1.6	0.0	2.3	6.5	5.9
3-5 days	0.0	1.6	0.0	2.3	0.0	0.0
6-9 days	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.5	0.0	2.9
10-19 days	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.3	0.0	5.9
20-29 days	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.3	0.0	0.0
30 + days	0.0	1.6	0.0	4.5	3.2	17.6
<i>In the last 30 days</i>						
Never	100.0	100.0	100.0	87.9	88.5	85.2
1-2 days	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.1	3.8	3.7
3-5 days	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.1	3.8	0.0
6-9 days	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
10-19 days	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.4
20-29 days	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
30 + days	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.8	3.7

a) Words underlined by participants to indicate they were considered difficult to understand

'Electronic Cigarettes'

Whole question

b) Written comments from participants on the specific item or wording

No written comments

c) Written comments from participants at the end of the questionnaire, but relevant to this item

No written comments

d) Relevant material from the fieldwork notes made during data collection

Numerous children were not sure if the question was for them. They felt that it should be removed as not many children use electronic cigarettes.

e) Where a textbox was provided for more detail, the data collected are summarised

No textbox provided

Topic 5: ALCOHOL

Alcohol, question 1

On the last occasion you drank alcohol, where did you get the alcohol?

Table 10. Source of alcohol on last drinking occasion (N = 238)

	Ticked N (%)	Not ticked N (%)
I have never drunk alcohol	159 (66.8)	79 (33.2)
A Parent/Guardian gave it to me	30 (12.6)	208 (87.4)
I took it from my home	5 (2.1)	233 (97.9)
Bought it in a supermarket/convenience store	3 (1.3)	235 (98.7)
Bought in a garage shop	1 (0.4)	237 (99.6)
Bought in a pub/bar/disco	4 (1.7)	234 (98.3)
Bought in an off-licence	2 (0.8)	236 (99.2)
Ordered online or by phone and delivered	0 (0.0)	238 (100.0)
Friends gave it to me	17 (7.1)	221 (92.9)
Brothers/sisters gave it to me	7 (2.9)	231 (97.1)
I gave someone else money to buy it for me	16 (6.7)	222 (93.3)
Some other way	9 (3.8)	229 (96.2)

Table 11. Source of alcohol on last drinking occasion by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
I have never drunk alcohol	70.8	63.7
A Parent/Guardian gave it to me	9.7	15.3
I took it from my home	1.8	1.6
Bought it in a supermarket/convenience store	0.9	1.6
Bought in a garage shop	0.0	0.8
Bought in a pub/bar/disco	1.8	1.6
Bought in an off-licence	0.9	0.8
Ordered online or by phone and delivered	0.0	0.0
Friends gave it to me	5.3	8.9
Brothers/sisters gave it to me	0.9	4.8
I gave someone else money to buy it for me	5.3	8.1
Some other way	5.3	2.4

Table 12. Source of alcohol on last drinking occasion by age (%)

	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
I have never drunk alcohol	100.0	90.6	67.9	53.3	46.9	27.8
A Parent/Guardian gave it to me	0.0	4.7	21.4	8.9	21.9	27.8
I took it from my home	0.0	1.6	0.0	4.4	3.1	2.8
Bought it in a supermarket/convenience store	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.2	0.0	5.6
Bought in a garage shop	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.8
Bought in a pub/bar/disco	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.4	0.0	5.6
Bought in an off-licence	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.6
Ordered online or by phone and delivered	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Friends gave it to me	0.0	3.1	3.6	13.3	9.4	13.9
Brothers/sisters gave it to me	0.0	4.7	0.0	2.2	3.1	5.6
I gave someone else money to buy it for me	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.9	18.8	16.7
Some other way	0.0	3.1	7.1	8.9	0.0	2.8

a) Words underlined by participants to indicate they were considered difficult to understand

No words underlined

b) Written comments from participants on the specific item or wording

A parent guardian gave it to me:

“It was my birthday”

“only a sip”

“wine (Easter) not actual alcohol”

Brothers/ Sisters gave it to me:

“Only a small bit”

Some other way:

“My parents let me try a small bit of theirs”

c) Written comments from participants at the end of the questionnaire, but relevant to this item

No written comments

d) Relevant material from the fieldwork notes made during data collection

It was expressed by some of the children that some people would not be comfortable answering these questions.

e) Where a textbox was provided for more detail, the data collected are summarised

No textbox provided

Alcohol, question 2

Think of the last day on which you drank alcohol. Where were you when you drank?

Table 13. Venue of alcohol consumption on last occasion (N = 238)

	Ticked N (%)	Not ticked N (%)
I never drink alcohol	155 (65.1)	83 (34.9)
At home	34 (14.3)	204 (85.7)
At someone else's home	25 (10.5)	213 (89.5)
Out on the street, in a park, beach, or other open area	10 (4.2)	228 (95.8)
At a bar or a pub	8 (3.4)	230 (96.6)
In a disco	6 (2.5)	232 (97.5)
In a restaurant	1 (0.4)	237 (99.6)
Some other place	14 (5.9)	224 (94.1)

Table 14. Venue of alcohol consumption on last occasion by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
I never drink alcohol	68.1	62.9
At home	8.8	18.5
At someone else's home	9.7	11.3
Out on the street, in a park, beach, or other open area	2.7	5.6
At a bar or a pub	3.5	3.2
In a disco	2.7	2.4
In a restaurant	0.0	0.8
Some other place	7.1	4.8

Table 15. Venue of alcohol consumption on last occasion by age (%)

	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
I never drink alcohol	97.0	89.1	67.9	53.3	43.8	25.0
At home	3.0	7.8	17.9	13.3	18.8	30.6
At someone else's home	0.0	4.7	0.0	17.8	18.8	22.2
Out on the street, in a park, beach, or other open area	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.1	9.4	5.6
At a bar or a pub	0.0	4.7	3.6	2.2	0.0	8.3
In a disco	0.0	0.0	3.6	0.0	9.4	5.6
In a restaurant	0.0	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Some other place	0.0	1.6	7.1	6.7	12.5	11.1

a) Words underlined by participants to indicate they were considered difficult to understand

No words underlined

b) Written comments from participants on the specific item or wording

At home:

"My auntie's house"

"My parents let me try some of theirs"

At a bar or pub:

"with my parents"

“What if it was different other times?”

c) Written comments from participants at the end of the questionnaire, but relevant to this item

No written comments

d) Relevant material from the fieldwork notes made during data collection

Various children felt that there were not enough options; they suggested that there should be a line provided where you can list the places that you drink/ drank alcohol or where you got alcohol from.

e) Where a textbox was provided for more detail, the data collected are summarised

No textbox provided

Alcohol, question 3

In the area where you live and go to school, how easy or difficult would it be for you to buy alcohol?

Table 16. Perceived easiness of buying alcohol in the respondent’s area (N = 238)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
Very easy	10	4.2	4.8
Easy	25	10.5	12.0
Neither easy nor difficult	46	19.3	22.0
Difficult	52	21.8	24.9
Very difficult	76	31.9	36.4
Total	209	87.8	100
Missing	29	12.2	

Table 17. Perceived easiness of buying alcohol in the respondent’s area by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
Very easy	7.0	2.8
Easy	14.0	9.3
Neither easy nor difficult	22.0	22.2
Difficult	24.0	25.9
Very difficult	33.0	39.8

Table 18. Perceived easiness of buying alcohol in the respondent's area by age (%)

	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
Very easy	0.0	1.9	3.8	5.0	6.5	12.1
Easy	12.0	7.4	3.8	15.0	9.7	24.2
Neither easy nor difficult	4.0	20.4	11.5	30.0	35.5	24.2
Difficult	24.0	22.2	34.6	20.0	29.0	24.2
Very difficult	60.0	48.1	46.2	30.0	19.4	15.2

Alcohol, question 4

In the area where you live and go to school, how easy or difficult would it be for you to get someone else to buy alcohol for you?

Table 19. Perceived easiness of getting others to buy alcohol for the respondent (N = 238)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
Very easy	28	11.8	13.7
Easy	49	20.6	24.0
Neither easy nor difficult	49	20.6	24.0
Difficult	27	11.3	13.2
Very difficult	51	21.4	25.0
Total	204	85.7	100
Missing	34	14.3	

Table 20. Perceived easiness of getting others to buy alcohol for the respondent by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
Very easy	16.5	10.4
Easy	21.6	26.4
Neither easy nor difficult	24.7	23.6
Difficult	13.4	13.2
Very difficult	23.7	26.4

Table 21. Perceived easiness of getting others to buy alcohol for the respondent by age (%)

	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
Very easy	0.0	9.1	3.7	18.4	23.3	23.5
Easy	15.0	9.1	29.6	21.1	36.7	41.2
Neither easy nor difficult	5.0	34.5	11.1	34.2	20.0	20.6
Difficult	20.0	12.7	18.5	18.4	3.3	8.8
Very difficult	60.0	34.5	37.0	7.9	16.7	5.9

a) Words underlined by participants to indicate they were considered difficult to understand

'Neither easy or difficult'

'In the area where you live and go to school, how easy or difficult would it be...?'

b) Written comments from participants on the specific item or wording

"Don't know never tried"

"I don't drink alcohol"

“I don’t really know “

“I never drink alcohol”

“I don’t drink so how am I supposed to know “

“It does not apply to me “

“Though I don’t drink but if I did it would be”

“Well I have never asked someone to buy me alcohol so I don’t know”

c) Written comments from participants at the end of the questionnaire, but relevant to this item

No written comments

d) Relevant material from the fieldwork notes made during data collection

Some children felt that the question was not relevant to those who did not drink and wondered how the children who do not drink were supposed to answer the question. Some children did not really understand the question. They could not distinguish if the question was asking about them buying alcohol or adults buy alcohol in the area.

e) Where a textbox was provided for more detail, the data collected are summarised

No textbox provided

Alcohol, question 5

Out of 100 people your age, how many do you think drink alcohol regularly (monthly)?

Table 22. Perceived frequency of peer alcohol consumption by gender and age (*N* = 211)

	Mean	SD	SE	Min.	Max.
Overall	38.64	30.75	2.12	0	100
Gender					
Boys	37.04	30.41	3.12	0	100
Girls	39.70	31.11	2.90	0	99
Age					
11	11.09	15.53	2.75	0	60
12	20.02	24.20	3.29	0	90
13	25.24	24.36	4.87	0	75
14	55.51	22.59	3.62	10	99
15	60.82	20.20	3.82	1	90
16 or older	67.21	22.44	3.91	20	100

a) Words underlined by participants to indicate they were considered difficult to understand

‘Out of 100 people your age how many do you think ...’

b) Written comments from participants on the specific item or wording

No written comments

c) Written comments from participants at the end of the questionnaire, but relevant to this item

No written comments

d) Relevant material from the fieldwork notes made during data collection

No relevant material from the fieldwork notes

e) Where a textbox was provided for more detail, the data collected are summarised

No textbox provided

Topic 6: ELECTRONIC MEDIA COMMUNICATION

Electronic media communication, question 1

How often do you have ONLINE contact with close friend(s)?

Table 23. Frequency of electronic media communication with close friends (*N* = 363)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
Don't know/Doesn't apply	35	9.6	10.5
Never or almost never	33	9.1	9.9
At least every week	55	15.2	16.5
Daily or almost daily	90	24.8	27.0
Several times a day	71	19.6	21.3
Almost all the time during the day	49	13.5	14.7
Total	333	91.7	100
Missing	30	8.3	

Table 24. Frequency of electronic media communication with close friends by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
Don't know/Doesn't apply	10.8	10.3
Never or almost never	12.5	7.1
At least every week	21.6	10.3
Daily or almost daily	25.0	29.5
Several times a day	19.3	23.7
Almost all the time during the day	10.8	19.2

Table 25. Frequency of electronic media communication with close friends by age (%)

	9 or younger	10	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
Don't know/Doesn't apply	32.1	19.7	21.4	7.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Never or almost never	35.7	19.7	14.3	4.8	3.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
At least every week	17.9	29.5	19.0	15.9	7.4	11.4	9.7	11.1
Daily or almost daily	7.1	24.6	31.0	25.4	40.7	25.0	45.2	22.2
Several times a day	3.6	4.9	9.5	36.5	25.9	31.8	19.4	36.1
Almost all the time during the day	3.6	1.6	4.8	9.5	22.2	31.8	25.8	30.6

Electronic media communication, question 2

How often do you have ONLINE contact with friends from a larger friend group?

Table 26. Frequency of electronic media communication with friends from a larger friend group (N = 363)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
Don't know/Doesn't apply	57	15.7	17.5
Never or almost never	77	21.2	23.7
At least every week	76	20.9	23.4
Daily or almost daily	74	20.4	22.8
Several times a day	31	8.5	9.5
Almost all the time during the day	10	2.8	3.1
Total	325	89.5	100
Missing	38	10.5	

Table 27. Frequency of electronic media communication with friends from a larger friend group by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
Don't know/Doesn't apply	18.6	16.6
Never or almost never	23.4	23.6
At least every week	23.4	23.6
Daily or almost daily	21.6	24.2
Several times a day	10.8	8.3
Almost all the time during the day	2.4	3.8

Table 28. Frequency of electronic media communication with friends from a larger friend group by age (%)

	9 or younger	10	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
Don't know/Doesn't apply	40.0	33.3	35.9	8.2	7.1	2.4	9.4	2.9
Never or almost never	43.3	40.4	35.9	24.6	7.1	7.1	9.4	8.6
At least every week	10.0	15.8	15.4	18.0	50.0	23.8	37.5	31.4
Daily or almost daily	3.3	7.0	10.3	37.7	17.9	40.5	31.3	28.6
Several times a day	3.3	1.8	2.6	8.2	10.7	21.4	12.5	20.0
Almost all the time during the day	0.0	1.8	0.0	3.3	7.1	4.8	0.0	8.6

Electronic media communication, question 3

How often do you have ONLINE contact with friends that you met online but didn't know before?

Table 29. Frequency of electronic media communication with friends met online (N = 363)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
Don't know/Doesn't apply	112	30.9	34.3
Never or almost never	140	38.6	42.8
At least every week	44	12.1	13.5
Daily or almost daily	16	4.4	4.9
Several times a day	10	2.8	3.1
Almost all the time during the day	5	1.4	1.5
Total	327	90.1	100
Missing	36	9.9	

Table 30. Frequency of electronic media communication with friends met online by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
Don't know/Doesn't apply	34.9	33.8
Never or almost never	42.6	42.7
At least every week	14.2	12.7
Daily or almost daily	4.7	5.1
Several times a day	2.4	3.8
Almost all the time during the day	1.2	1.9

Table 31. Frequency of electronic media communication with friends met online by age (%)

	9 or younger	10	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
Don't know/Doesn't apply	42.9	60.0	53.7	29.3	14.3	20.5	21.9	14.3
Never or almost never	50.0	30.0	26.8	44.8	64.3	43.2	50.0	48.6
At least every week	7.1	1.7	7.3	15.5	14.3	25.0	21.9	20.0
Daily or almost daily	0.0	5.0	9.8	6.9	7.1	4.5	0.0	2.9
Several times a day	0.0	3.3	0.0	3.4	0.0	0.0	6.3	11.4
Almost all the time during the day	0.0	0.0	2.4	0.0	0.0	6.8	0.0	2.9

Electronic media communication, question 4

How often do you have ONLINE contact with people other than friends (e.g., parents, brothers/sisters, classmates, and teachers)?

Table 32. Frequency of electronic media communication with people other than friends (N = 363)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
Don't know/Doesn't apply	66	18.2	19.9
Never or almost never	93	25.6	28.1
At least every week	60	16.5	18.1
Daily or almost daily	57	15.7	17.2
Several times a day	29	8.0	8.8
Almost all the time during the day	26	7.2	7.9
Total	331	91.2	100
Missing	32	8.8	

Table 33. Frequency of electronic media communication with people other than friends by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
Don't know/Doesn't apply	20.8	19.1
Never or almost never	32.4	22.9
At least every week	16.8	19.7
Daily or almost daily	13.3	21.7
Several times a day	8.7	8.9
Almost all the time during the day	8.1	7.6

Table 34. Frequency of electronic media communication with people other than friends by age (%)

	9 or younger	10	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
Don't know/Doesn't apply	28.6	38.3	29.3	16.7	14.3	11.4	12.1	0.0
Never or almost never	42.9	30.0	17.1	28.3	35.7	22.7	21.2	30.6
At least every week	7.1	18.3	22.0	15.0	21.4	15.9	21.2	25.0
Daily or almost daily	10.7	8.3	17.1	21.7	17.9	25.0	30.3	8.3
Several times a day	3.6	3.3	4.9	11.7	3.6	18.2	9.1	13.9
Almost all the time during the day	7.1	1.7	9.8	6.7	7.1	6.8	6.1	22.2

a) Words 'lined by participants to indicate they were considered difficult to understand

How often do you have ONLINE contact with the following people?'

'Never' and 'almost never'

'Never'

'Don't know/doesn't apply'

'Classmates' and 'Teachers'

'Friends from a larger friend group'

b) Written comments from participants on the specific item or wording

- “I don’t understand this question”
- “I don’t know what this means”
- “I don’t use any of them/those/these”
- “Don’t understand written between “friends you met online but didn’t know before and people other than friends”
- “Depends who” written between never and almost never for the friends that you met online but didn’t know before statement
- “I am not online/ don’t go online”
- “I don’t use them”
- “I use to “
- “I talk on Xbox that why I don’t talk to my family”
- “I contact my family but no one else”
- “don’t know, never, every week and daily ticked”
- “Not teachers and classmates” written beside people other than friends
- “I don’t have a phone or any form of contact with friends if they are not there in person”
- New boxes created “every so often”
- “Should put in parents next to close friends”
- “I don’t use a phone or tablet only to watch a movie or something”
- “I only use WhatsApp”
- “Does this mean online gaming?” written beside online contact with close friends
- “Sometimes it can differ” written beside daily or almost daily

c) Written comments from participants at the end of the questionnaire, but relevant to this item

No written comments

d) Relevant material from the fieldwork notes made during data collection

Various children suggested that ‘friends from a larger friend group’ should be changed to ‘mutual friends’ as more people would understand the word, as it was difficult to understand. Some children identified that there is no option to say “I don’t go on social media or have access to social media” in the response options and they asked “what do I do if I have never been on social media?” They suggested that there should be a box with ‘I have never been on social media’ or a ‘never’ response provided.

Various children stated that they “don’t play with strangers online” so they would not know how to answer the question and they queried if a “game console” counts, as children use PS4, Xbox and other consoles which allow online communication. One child indicated that they “didn’t like the questions”. It was suggested that teachers should be separate to families in the statements and it was also queried how to answer if children have only used online contact to interact with parents.

Finally, children advised that examples of applications that are more appropriate for younger children, such as ‘Facetime’ and ‘House Party’ would help them understand the question better.

e) Where a textbox was provided for more detail, the data collected are summarised

No textbox provided

Electronic media communication, question 5

I talk more easily about secrets online than I do face-to-face.

Table 35. Preference for talking about secrets online than face-to-face (N = 363)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
Strongly disagree	103	28.4	32.6
Disagree	108	29.8	34.2
Neither agree or disagree	52	14.3	16.5
Agree	40	11.0	12.7
Strongly agree	13	3.6	4.1
Total	316	87.1	100
Missing	47	12.9	

Table 36. Preference for talking about secrets online than face-to-face by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
Strongly disagree	35.9	29.1
Disagree	29.9	39.2
Neither agree or disagree	21.0	10.8
Agree	10.2	15.5
Strongly agree	3.0	5.4

Table 37. Preference for talking about secrets online than face-to-face by age (%)

	9 or younger	10	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
Strongly disagree	48.3	46.2	42.9	28.8	21.4	25.6	24.2	20.0
Disagree	34.5	34.6	31.4	45.8	28.6	27.9	24.2	37.1
Neither agree or disagree	10.3	9.6	11.4	15.3	21.4	16.3	27.3	25.7
Agree	3.4	7.7	14.3	10.2	17.9	18.6	18.2	14.3
Strongly agree	3.4	1.9	0.0	0.0	10.7	11.6	6.1	2.9

Electronic media communication, question 6

I talk more easily about personal feelings online than I do face-to-face.

Table 38. Preference for talking about personal feelings online than face-to-face (N = 363)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
Strongly disagree	96	26.4	30.2
Disagree	109	30.0	34.3
Neither agree or disagree	53	14.6	16.7
Agree	41	11.3	12.9
Strongly agree	19	5.2	6.0
Total	318	87.6	100
Missing	45	12.4	

Table 39. Preference for talking about personal feelings online than face-to-face by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
Strongly disagree	31.0	29.5
Disagree	36.3	32.2
Neither agree or disagree	16.1	16.8
Agree	11.9	14.1
Strongly agree	4.8	7.4

Table 40. Preference for talking about personal feelings online than face-to-face by age (%)

	9 or younger	10	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
Strongly disagree	44.8	48.1	34.3	26.7	21.4	22.7	24.2	14.3
Disagree	41.4	36.5	40.0	31.7	21.4	31.8	30.3	40.0
Neither agree or disagree	3.4	9.6	17.1	23.3	32.1	11.4	18.2	20.0
Agree	10.3	1.9	5.7	15.0	14.3	18.2	24.2	17.1
Strongly agree	0.0	3.8	2.9	3.3	10.7	15.9	3.0	8.6

Electronic media communication, question 7

I talk more easily about my worries online than I do face-to-face.

Table 41. Preference for talking about worries online than face-to-face (N = 363)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
Strongly disagree	99	27.3	31.3
Disagree	93	25.6	29.4
Neither agree or disagree	62	17.1	19.6
Agree	45	12.4	14.2
Strongly agree	17	4.7	5.4
Total	316	87.1	100
Missing	47	13.0	

Table 42. Preference for talking about worries online than face-to-face by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
Strongly disagree	30.5	32.4
Disagree	31.1	27.7
Neither agree or disagree	20.4	18.2
Agree	13.8	14.9
Strongly agree	4.2	6.8

Table 43. Preference for talking about worries online than face-to-face by age (%)

	9 or younger	10	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
Strongly disagree	48.1	49.1	50.0	28.3	25.0	15.9	18.2	14.3
Disagree	29.6	35.8	23.5	21.7	25.0	34.1	27.3	37.1
Neither agree or disagree	22.2	13.2	11.8	26.7	17.9	25.0	21.2	17.1
Agree	0.0	0.0	8.8	20.0	17.9	15.9	30.3	22.9
Strongly agree	0.0	1.9	5.9	3.3	14.3	9.1	3.0	8.6

a) Words 'underlined by participants to indicate they were considered difficult to understand

"Neither agree nor disagree"

Both 'strongly disagree' and 'agree'

'I talk more easily about my worries online than I do face to face'

b) Written comments from participants on the specific item or wording

"These two are kind of the same" written between statements 'I talk more easily about secrets online than I do face to face' and 'I talk more easily about personal feelings online than I do face to face'.

"I prefer face to face because strangers can see what you're worried about and cyberbully you" written beside 'I talk more easily about my worries online than I do face to face'

"I don't know this question" written beside statement 'I talk more easily about secrets online than I do face to face'

"not online" written beside the three statements

c) Written comments from participants at the end of the questionnaire, but relevant to this item

No written comments

d) Relevant material from the fieldwork notes made during data collection

It was indicated to the researchers by some children that they did not understand the first item 'I talk more easily about secrets ...' and that the language was confusing. Some children pointed out that 'I talk more easily about personal feelings online than I do face to face' and 'I talk more easily about my worries online than I do face to face' mean the same thing. They indicated that it would be better to have a skip option for non-users.

e) Where a textbox was provided for more detail, the data collected are summarised

No textbox provided

Electronic media communication, scale

Table 44. Descriptive statistics and reliability indices of the Social Media Disorder Scale, for all and by gender and age ($N = 296$)

	<i>n</i>	Alpha	Mean	SD	SE	Min.	Max.
Overall	296	.71	2.00	2.00	0.12	0	9
Gender							
Boys	151	.75	1.82	2.06	0.17	0	9
Girls	144	.66	2.19	1.93	0.16	0	9
Age							
9 or younger	23	.40 ^a	0.39	0.78	0.16	0	2
10	51	.89	1.31	2.22	0.31	0	9
11	37	.77	1.65	2.00	0.33	0	6
12	54	.68	2.02	1.93	0.26	0	9
13	26	.47 ^b	2.46	1.63	0.32	0	6
14	39	.47	3.15	1.83	0.29	0	7
15	31	.40	2.61	1.71	0.31	0	6
16 or older	35	.68	2.29	2.02	0.34	0	7

Note. The SMD has a scale range from 0 to 9 with higher scores indicating problematic social media use. A score of 5 or higher indicates disordered social media use (Eijnden, Lemmens, & Valkenburg, 2016). ^a Due to zero variances, three items were removed from the reliability analysis. ^b Due to zero variance, one item was removed from the reliability analysis. ^c Due to zero variances, two items were removed from the reliability analysis.

a) Words underlined by participants to indicate they were considered difficult to understand

'Often found that you can't think of anything else but the moment that you will be able to use social media again'

'Be able to use social media again'

'Social media'

'Had serious conflict with your parents, brother(s) or sister(s) because of your social media use'

'Neglected'

b) Written comments from participants on the specific item or wording

- Created a "not often" box between yes and no response option for all statements
- "Never" written over the top of the question
- "I am not allowed" written at the top
- "I am not on it" "I don't have social media" written at the top
- "This is too hard for me" beside often found that you can't think of anything else but the moment that you will be able to use social media again
- "Don't understand" beside often found that you can't think of anything else but the moment that you will be able to use social media again
- "Not allowed" beside often found that you can't think of anything else but the moment that you will be able to use social media again
- "I don't know this question" beside often felt bad when you could not use social media
- "Sometimes I use it instead of doing my homework" beside often lied to your parents or friends about the amount of time you spend on social media
- "Don't understand" beside had serious conflict with your parents, brother(s) or sister(s) because of your social media use
- "I only talk to my family" beside had serious conflict with your parents, brother(s) or sister(s) because of your social media use
- "To text my best friend" beside often felt bad when you could not use social media

- “Sometimes” beside often used social media social media to escape negative feelings
- “Never” beside often used social media social media to escape negative feelings
- “ Just small arguments” beside often had arguments with others because of your social media use
- “ My family say I’m on it a lot” beside often had arguments with others because of your social media use

c) Written comments from participants at the end of the questionnaire, but relevant to this item

No written comments

d) Relevant material from the fieldwork notes made during data collection

Some children felt that the statements could be phrased better especially ‘often found that you can’t think of anything else but the moment that you will be able to use social media again’ as it did not make sense on first reading and it needed to be re-read a few times to understand what was being asked. Suggested alternatives were “I’m always thinking about”, “always on my mind”, “can’t live without it” or “can’t wait to get back on it”. They also found ‘had serious conflict with your parents, brother(s), sister(s) because of your social media use’ and ‘often had arguments with others because of your social media use’ confusing. One child asked “does this mean if you have an argument with your friend and you then argue over social media?”

Some children asked “does this question include games” or if “game consoles counted” when answering the question as they felt that the questions would be appropriate for the “PlayStation and Wii”

Some children felt that there should be a ‘sometimes’ or ‘often’ option along with a ‘never’ option provided in the responses. They asked, “if we are not on social media, do we just tick no?” and some explained that they are not allowed to use these (e.g., messenger and Facebook) and others that they never use Facebook or Snapchat. Some stated that they did not understand YouTube, WhatsApp, Viber, Messenger and Instagram as they “don’t really go on social media”.

Several children felt that the examples were not all age appropriate and younger children specified using Roblox, Monster Messenger, Twitch and PS4 games (e.g., Fortnite, Super Smash Bros, Movie Star Planet and Call of Duty).

e) Where a textbox was provided for more detail, the data collected are summarised

No textbox provided

Topic 7: BULLYING

Bullying, question 1

How often have you taken part in bullying another student(s)/person(s) at school in the past couple of months?

Table 45. Involvement in bullying as a perpetrator (N = 363)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
I have not bullied another student/person in the past couple of months	277	76.3	85.0
It has only happened once or twice	40	11.0	12.3
Two or three times a month	4	1.1	1.2
About once a week	4	1.1	1.2
Several times a week	1	0.3	0.3
Total	326	89.8	100
Missing	37	10.2	

Table 46. Involvement in bullying as a perpetrator by questions either referring to bullying 'student(s)' or 'person(s)' (%)

	Student(s)	Person(s)
I have not bullied another student(s)/person(s) in the past couple of months	82.4	87.3
It has only happened once or twice	13.1	11.6
Two or three times a month	2.0	0.6
About once a week	2.6	0.0
Several times a week	0.0	0.6

Table 47. Involvement in bullying as a perpetrator by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
I have not bullied another student(s)/person(s) in the past couple of months	81.3	89.6
It has only happened once or twice	16.4	7.8
Two or three times a month	1.8	0.6
About once a week	0.6	1.9
Several times a week	0.0	0.0

Table 48. Involvement in bullying as a perpetrator by age (%)

	9 or younger	10	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
I have not bullied another student(s)/person(s) in the past couple of months	91.2	87.7	86.8	80.7	81.5	86.0	84.8	80.6
It has only happened once or twice	2.9	10.5	13.2	17.5	18.5	11.6	12.1	11.1
Two or three times a month	2.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.3	0.0	5.6
About once a week	2.9	1.8	0.0	1.8	0.0	0.0	3.0	0.0
Several times a week	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.8

Bullying, question 2

How often have you been bullied at school in the past couple of months?

Table 49. Frequency of bullying victimisation at school (N = 363)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
I have not been bullied at school in the past couple of months	230	63.4	69.5
It has only happened once or twice	67	18.5	20.2
Two or three times a month	12	3.3	3.6
About once a week	10	2.8	3.0
Several times a week	12	3.3	3.6
Total	331	91.2	100
Missing	32	8.8	

Table 50. Frequency of bullying victimisation at school by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
I have not been bullied at school in the past couple of months	72.3	66.9
It has only happened once or twice	18.5	22.3
Two or three times a month	1.7	5.7
About once a week	4.0	1.9
Several times a week	3.5	3.2

Table 51. Frequency of bullying victimisation at school by age (%)

	9 or younger	10	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
I have not been bullied at school in the past couple of months	66.7	70.2	71.8	71.7	51.9	69.8	78.8	69.4
It has only happened once or twice	19.4	19.3	15.4	25.0	33.3	23.3	12.1	13.9
Two or three times a month	5.6	3.5	7.7	3.3	0.0	0.0	3.0	5.6
About once a week	5.6	5.3	0.0	0.0	7.4	2.3	6.1	0.0
Several times a week	2.8	1.8	5.1	0.0	7.4	4.7	0.0	11.1

a) Words underlined by participants to indicate they were considered difficult to understand

‘How often have you taken part in bullying another student(s)/ person(s) at school in the past couple of months?’

b) Written comments from participants on the specific item or wording

- “Never” written beside all the questions
- “I have never bullied anyone”
- “It was in my old school that it happened for 7 years that I was bullied several times a week”
- “I don’t bully people”
- “It’s not bullying when a person is teased in a friendly and playful manner”
- A “Never” box created with responses
- “I’ve done things accidentally”
- “I have never bullied”
- “I have never bullied at school”
- “I don’t get bullied, I get hassled”
- “I was bullied in Junior Infants”
- “My class is nice we don’t bully each other we know it is wrong”
- “It only happened me once or twice”
- “I used to be bullied”
- “I was bullied in my old school”

- “It was this up to last year” (arrow drawn to several times a week)

c) Written comments from participants at the end of the questionnaire, but relevant to this item

“I spent 2 years being bullied and constantly tried to move class, I had to admit to suicidal thoughts before anything was done”

“Some questions don’t have a no or never option”

“There should be a never box there, the option for never should appear”

“There should be an option for never and not just couple of last months”

d) Relevant material from the fieldwork notes made during data collection

Numerous children indicated that there should be a ‘never’ response option provided. Some could not understand why this would not be a response. They questioned whether ‘never in my life’ should be available among the response options as indicated by questions like “how do you answer the question if you have never been bullied or bullied a person”. Some children indicated that they did not answer the question due to the fact that they “haven’t bullied”. One child queried whether the question was specific to their current school as they “moved to this school last year, so do I include if I was bullied at my last school?”

e) Where a textbox was provided for more detail, the data collected are summarised

No textbox provided

Bullying, question 3

In the past couple of months, how often have you taken part in cyberbullying (e.g., sent mean instant messages, email or text messages; wall postings; created a website making fun of someone; posted unflattering or inappropriate pictures online without permission or shared them with others)?

Table 52. Frequency of perpetration of cyberbullying (N = 363)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
I have not cyberbullied another student(s)/person(s) in the past couple of months	291	80.2	92.4
It has only happened once or twice	18	5.0	5.7
Two or three times a month	2	0.6	0.6
About once a week	2	0.6	0.6
Several times a week	2	0.6	0.6
Total	315	86.8	100
Missing	48	13.2	

Table 53. Frequency of perpetration of cyberbullying by questions referring to cyberbullying 'student(s)' or 'person(s)' (%)

	Student(s)	Person(s)
I have not cyberbullied another student(s)/person(s) in the past couple of months	92.5	92.3
It has only happened once or twice	6.1	5.4
Two or three times a month	0.0	1.2
About once a week	0.7	0.6
Several times a week	0.7	0.6

Table 54. Frequency of perpetration of cyberbullying by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
I have not cyberbullied another student(s)/person(s) in the past couple of months	95.8	89.2
It has only happened once or twice	3.0	8.8
Two or three times a month	0.0	1.4
About once a week	0.6	0.7
Several times a week	0.6	0.0

Table 55. Frequency of perpetration of cyberbullying by age (%)

	9 or younger	10	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
I have not cyberbullied another student(s)/person(s) in the past couple of months	96.4	92.6	100.0	93.0	88.9	90.7	93.9	83.3
It has only happened once or twice	0.0	5.6	0.0	7.0	7.4	9.3	6.1	8.3
Two or three times a month	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.7	0.0	0.0	2.8
About once a week	3.6	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Several times a week	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.6

Bullying, question 4

In the past couple of months, how often have been cyberbullied (e.g., someone sent mean instant messages, email or text messages; wall postings; created a website making fun of you; posted unflattering or inappropriate pictures of you online without permission or shared them with others)?

Table 56. Frequency of cyberbullying victimisation (N = 363)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
I have not been cyberbullied at school in the past couple of months	260	71.6	80.5
It has only happened once or twice	51	14.0	15.8
Two or three times a month	8	2.2	2.5
About once a week	1	0.3	0.3
Several times a week	3	0.8	0.9
Total	323	89.0	100
Missing	40	11.0	

Table 57. Frequency of cyberbullying victimisation by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
I have not been cyberbullied at school in the past couple of months	86.5	74.3
It has only happened once or twice	11.2	21.1
Two or three times a month	1.2	3.9
About once a week	0.6	0.0
Several times a week	0.6	0.7

Table 58. Frequency of cyberbullying victimisation by age (%)

	9 or younger	10	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
I have not been cyberbullied at school in the past couple of months	83.3	78.9	78.4	84.7	67.9	88.4	81.8	75.0
It has only happened once or twice	16.7	19.3	10.8	11.9	25.0	9.3	18.2	19.4
Two or three times a month	0.0	1.8	8.1	3.4	7.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
About once a week	0.0	0.0	2.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Several times a week	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.3	0.0	5.6

a) Words underlined by participants to indicate they were considered difficult to understand

'Cyberbullying'

'How often have you taken part in cyberbullying/been cyberbullied (e.g., someone sent mean instant messages, email or text messages; wall postings; created a website making fun of you; posted unflattering or inappropriate pictures of you online without permission or shared then with others)'

'Unflattering or inappropriate pictures online without permission'

b) Written comments from participants on the specific item or wording

"I have never cyberbullied anyone"

"I have never been cyberbullied"

"This question is too hard for me" beside "How often have you taken part in cyberbullying/been cyberbullied"

“I think it only happened once”

“I don’t have my own phone, iPad or computer”

“I don’t text or email”

“Me and my friend were talking about someone else. Does this count?” beside I have not cyberbullied another student

c) Written comments from participants at the end of the questionnaire, but relevant to this item

No written comments

d) Relevant material from the fieldwork notes made during data collection

Several children indicated the need for a ‘never’ response option. They pointed out that the word ‘cyberbullying’ was difficult to understand and maybe the words “online/ computer bullying” would be better. Some children reported that they felt uncomfortable with the wording of ‘posted unflattering or inappropriate pictures online’.

e) Where a textbox was provided for more detail, the data collected are summarised

No textbox provided

Topic 8: SPIRITUAL HEALTH

Table 59. Reliability of the Spiritual Health total scale and factors, and proportion of those for whom spirituality is important (%) (N = 211)

	n	Spiritual Health (full scale) ^a	Spiritual Health domain ^b			
			Others	Self	Nature	Transcendence
Alpha	211	.80	.70	.69	.74	.83
Overall	211	49.3	76.7	80.3	57.5	27.6
Gender						
Boys	98	38.8	67.9	75.5	50.0	23.1
Girls	112	58.9	85.4	85.2	64.8	32.1
Age						
11	24	66.7	90.9	84.4	71.9	52.0
12	56	62.5	81.0	90.3	76.2	32.2
13	28	46.4	75.0	67.9	50.0	11.9
14	42	33.3	70.5	70.5	43.2	20.7
15	29	31.0	68.8	81.3	46.9	23.5
16 or older	32	53.1	72.2	80.0	44.1	27.6

Note. ^a Score ≥ 32 out of 40 for the total scale. ^b Score ≥ 8 out of 10 for individual domains. For cut-off values see [Michaelson et al. \(2016\)](#).

a) Words underlined by participants to indicate they were considered difficult to understand

‘Feel connection to a higher spiritual power’ (x5)

‘Feel connected to nature or wilderness’

b) Written comments from participants on the specific item or wording

‘Meditate’ was crossed out

c) Written comments from participants at the end of the questionnaire, but relevant to this item

No written comments

d) Relevant material from the fieldwork notes made during data collection

Some children did not understand ‘feel a sense of belonging to something greater than yourself’ and questioned if “this was asking about their own faith?” They also had difficulty with ‘feel connected to a higher spiritual power’ and questioned “is this God?” Some did not understand ‘feel connected to nature and wilderness’. One child said that ‘mediate or pray’ is different for people depending on their religion.

e) Where a textbox was provided for more detail, the data collected are summarised

No textbox provided

Topic 9: MENTAL HEALTH

Mental health, scale 1

Mental Health Inventory and Perceived Stress

Table 60. Descriptive statistics and reliability indices of the Mental Health Inventory² for all and by gender and age ($N = 220$)

	<i>n</i>	Alpha (orig./rev) ^a	Mean	SD	SE	Min.	Max.
Overall	220		64.67	20.20	1.36	8	100
Response order							
Original	114	.83	66.63	19.52	1.83	8	100
Reverse	106	.82	62.57	20.78	2.01	20	100
Gender							
Boys	105	.80/.77	68.19	17.68	1.73	16	100
Girls	115	.87/.84	61.46	21.82	2.04	8	100
Age							
11	27	.70/.78	71.85	17.73	3.41	32	100
12	58	.87/.85	69.31	18.53	2.43	20	92
13	28	.83/.76	64.43	19.91	3.76	24	96
14	44	.83/.78	59.45	21.63	3.26	8	96
15	30	.63/.84	59.73	19.28	3.52	20	92
16 or older	33	.86/.80	62.30	21.82	3.80	16	100

Note. The MHI has a scale range from 0 to 100 with higher scores indicating greater mental health. ^a Some children responded to the MHI and PS scale with the response options in the original MHI format (“All of the time” to “None of the time”) and others with the response options in reverse order (“None of the time” to “All of the time”). ^b No 1st year children received the reversed response order version of the MHI and no 5th year children received the MHI in its original response format.

a) Words underlined by participants to indicate they were considered difficult to understand

‘Downhearted’

b) Written comments from participants on the specific item or wording

No written comments

c) Written comments from participants at the end of the questionnaire, but relevant to this item

No written comments

d) Relevant material from the fieldwork notes made during data collection

Some children noted that the mental health section was disturbing to answer, with one child reporting they could not answer the questions on mental health. Some other children said that they did not understand some of the questions.

² Without the additional single-item perceived stress scale.

e) Where a textbox was provided for more detail, the data collected are summarised

No textbox provided

Mental health, scale 2

Center for Epidemiologic Studies Depression Scale Revised (CESD-R-10)

Table 61. Descriptive statistics and reliability indices of the CESD-R 10 for all and by gender and age (N = 205)

	<i>n</i>	Alpha	Mean	SD	SE	Min.	Max.
Overall	205	.78	9.08	5.70	0.40	0	29
Gender							
Boys	98	.72	8.47	5.49	0.55	0	29
Girls	107	.80	9.64	5.85	0.57	0	25
Age							
11	24	.82	9.29	7.68	1.57	0	29
12	53	.75	7.02	4.58	0.63	0	25
13	28	.71	9.29	5.02	0.95	2	20
14	40	.75	10.38	5.54	0.88	1	22
15	28	.71	9.93	4.94	0.93	1	23
16 or older	32	.84	9.78	6.48	1.15	0	27

Note. The CES-D-R 10 has a scale range from 0 to 30. Based on original work by Radloff (1977), this version has been previously evaluated by Haroz *et al.* (2014), amongst others.

a) Words underlined by participants to indicate they were considered difficult to understand

‘I could not get going’

‘My sleep was restless’

‘Restless’

b) Written comments from participants on the specific item or wording

“Daydreaming” and question marks written beside ‘I had trouble keeping my mind on what I was doing’

“What does this mean” written beside ‘I could not get going’

Question mark beside ‘I could not “get going”’

“It’s been a good week I think” written beside ‘I felt depressed’

“Does this question want to know about since last Monday or the last seven days?”

c) Written comments from participants at the end of the questionnaire, but relevant to this item

No written comments

d) Relevant material from the fieldwork notes made during data collection

Numerous children had difficulty comprehending ‘could not get going’ and ‘my sleep was restless’. They suggested using ‘waking up tired’ and ‘being wrecked’ as alternatives.

e) Where a textbox was provided for more detail, the data collected are summarised

No textbox provided

Mental health, scale 3

The World Health Organization five item Well-being Index

Table 62. Descriptive statistics and reliability indices of the WHO-5 for all and by gender and age ($N = 237$)

	<i>n</i>	Alpha	Mean	SD	SE	Min.	Max.
Overall	230	.88	54.95	23.65	1.56	0	100
Gender							
Boys	110	.86	56.98	22.08	2.11	12	100
Girls	120	.89	53.10	24.96	2.28	0	100
Age							
11	32	.88	68.50	25.23	4.46	24	100
12	61	.87	59.74	21.56	2.76	16	96
13	28	.79	51.29	21.25	4.02	4	92
14	44	.90	47.18	25.11	3.79	0	96
15	31	.82	49.55	19.64	3.53	16	92
16 or older	34	.89	51.65	23.37	4.01	12	100

Note. The WHO-5 Well-being Index has a scale range from 0 to 100. Developed as part of a WHO Europe project (Staeher Johansen, 1998), Topp *et al.* (2015) provide a full review of it's use.

a) Words underlined by participants to indicate they were considered difficult to understand

'Vigorous'

'I have felt active and vigorous'

b) Written comments from participants on the specific item or wording

No written comments

c) Written comments from participants at the end of the questionnaire, but relevant to this item

No written comments

d) Relevant material from the fieldwork notes made during data collection

Some children suggested that 'energised' would be preferable to the term 'vigorous'

e) Where a textbox was provided for more detail, the data collected are summarised

No textbox provided

Topic 10: BETTER OUTCOMES

Better outcomes, questions 1-9

UNFAIR AND NEGATIVE TREATMENT

How often are you treated unfairly or negatively because of where you, your parents or grandparents were born?

Table 63. Frequency of unfair treatment because of birth place of respondent, their parents or their grandparents (*N* = 237)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
Never	179	75.5	76.8
Hardly ever	30	12.7	12.9
Sometimes	17	7.2	7.3
Often	6	2.5	2.6
Very often	1	0.4	0.4
Total	233	98.3	100
Missing	4	1.7	

Table 64. Frequency of unfair treatment because of birth place of respondent, their parents or grandparents by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
Never	79.5	74.4
Hardly ever	10.7	14.9
Sometimes	8.0	6.6
Often	1.8	3.3
Very often	0.0	0.8

Table 65. Frequency of unfair treatment because of birth place of respondent, their parents or grandparents by age (%)

	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
Never	81.8	88.9	75.0	70.5	80.6	55.9
Hardly ever	3.0	7.9	21.4	13.6	3.2	32.4
Sometimes	9.1	3.2	0.0	11.4	12.9	8.8
Often	6.1	0.0	3.6	2.3	3.2	2.9
Very often	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.3	0.0	0.0

How often are you treated unfairly or negatively because you are a boy or a girl?

Table 66. Frequency of unfair treatment because of gender (N = 237)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
Never	169	71.3	72.8
Hardly ever	34	14.3	14.7
Sometimes	21	8.9	9.1
Often	8	3.4	3.4
Very often	0	0.0	0.0
Total	232	97.9	100
Missing	5	2.1	

Table 67. Frequency of unfair treatment because of gender by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
Never	83.2	63.0
Hardly ever	9.7	19.3
Sometimes	5.3	12.6
Often	1.8	5.0
Very often	0.0	0.0

Table 68. Frequency of unfair treatment because of gender by age (%)

	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
Never	84.4	82.5	64.3	72.7	62.5	60.6
Hardly ever	9.4	14.3	28.6	11.4	12.5	15.2
Sometimes	3.1	3.2	7.1	11.4	18.8	15.2
Often	3.1	0.0	0.0	4.5	6.3	9.1
Very often	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

How often are you treated unfairly or negatively because of your age?

Table 69. Frequency of unfair treatment because of age (*N* = 237)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
Never	156	65.8	67.5
Hardly ever	36	15.2	15.6
Sometimes	28	11.8	12.1
Often	9	3.8	3.9
Very often	2	0.8	0.9
Total	231	97.5	100
Missing	6	2.5	

Table 70. Frequency of unfair treatment because of age by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
Never	71.4	63.9
Hardly ever	13.4	17.6
Sometimes	12.5	11.8
Often	2.7	5.0
Very often	0.0	1.7

Table 71. Frequency of unfair treatment because of age by age (%)

	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
Never	75.8	76.2	65.4	72.1	59.4	47.1
Hardly ever	3.0	14.3	26.9	16.3	12.5	23.5
Sometimes	18.2	7.9	3.8	7.0	18.8	20.6
Often	3.0	0.0	0.0	4.7	9.4	8.8
Very often	0.0	1.6	3.8	0.0	0.0	0.0

How often are you treated unfairly or negatively because of your disability?³

Table 72. Frequency of unfair treatment because of disability (N = 237)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
Never	207	87.3	90.0
Hardly ever	12	5.1	5.2
Sometimes	5	2.1	2.2
Often	2	0.8	0.9
Very often	4	1.7	1.7
Total	230	97.0	100
Missing	7	3.0	

Table 73. Frequency of unfair treatment because of disability by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
Never	88.4	91.5
Hardly ever	6.3	4.2
Sometimes	2.7	1.7
Often	0.9	0.8
Very often	1.8	1.7

Table 74. Frequency of unfair treatment because of disability by age (%)

	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
Never	90.0	93.7	81.5	90.9	93.8	85.3
Hardly ever	3.3	6.3	7.4	6.8	0.0	5.9
Sometimes	3.3	0.0	7.4	2.3	3.1	0.0
Often	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.9
Very often	3.3	0.0	3.7	0.0	3.1	2.9

³ Not cleaned by reporting having a disability or not.

How often are you unfairly or negatively treated because of your race?⁴

Table 75. Frequency of unfair treatment because of race (N = 237)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
Never	192	81.0	82.8
Hardly ever	21	8.9	9.1
Sometimes	13	5.5	5.6
Often	4	1.7	1.7
Very often	2	0.8	0.9
Total	232	97.9	100
Missing	5	2.1	

Table 76. Frequency of unfair treatment because of race by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
Never	83.0	82.5
Hardly ever	6.3	11.7
Sometimes	8.0	3.3
Often	2.7	0.8
Very often	0.0	1.7

Table 77. Frequency of unfair treatment because of race by age (%)

	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
Never	80.6	93.7	78.6	77.3	84.4	73.5
Hardly ever	12.9	3.2	7.1	13.6	6.3	14.7
Sometimes	0.0	3.2	7.1	6.8	9.4	8.8
Often	3.2	0.0	7.1	0.0	0.0	2.9
Very often	3.2	0.0	0.0	2.3	0.0	0.0

⁴ Not cleaned for reported ethnicity.

How often are you unfairly or negatively treated because of your sexual orientation?

Table 78. Frequency of unfair treatment because of sexual orientation (N = 237)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
Never	199	84.0	89.6
Hardly ever	12	5.1	5.4
Sometimes	6	2.5	2.7
Often	4	1.7	1.8
Very often	1	0.4	0.5
Total	222	93.7	100
Missing	15	6.3	

Table 79. Frequency of unfair treatment because of sexual orientation by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
Never	91.6	87.8
Hardly ever	3.7	7.0
Sometimes	2.8	2.6
Often	1.9	1.7
Very often	0.0	0.9

Table 80. Frequency of unfair treatment because of sexual orientation by age (%)

	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
Never	91.3	93.7	96.4	93.0	80.6	79.4
Hardly ever	8.7	3.2	0.0	2.3	9.7	11.8
Sometimes	0.0	1.6	3.6	4.7	6.5	0.0
Often	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.2	8.8
Very often	0.0	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

How often are you unfairly or negatively treated because of your religion?

Table 81. Frequency of unfair treatment because of religion (N = 237)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
Never	209	88.2	90.5
Hardly ever	14	5.9	6.1
Sometimes	5	2.1	2.2
Often	2	0.8	0.9
Very often	1	0.4	0.4
Total	231	97.5	100
Missing	6	2.5	

Table 82. Frequency of unfair treatment because of religion by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
Never	93.7	87.5
Hardly ever	3.6	8.3
Sometimes	1.8	2.5
Often	0.9	0.8
Very often	0.0	0.8

Table 83. Frequency of unfair treatment because of religion by age (%)

	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
Never	90.6	93.7	88.9	90.9	90.3	85.3
Hardly ever	0.0	6.3	7.4	6.8	9.7	5.9
Sometimes	6.3	0.0	0.0	2.3	0.0	5.9
Often	0.0	0.0	3.7	0.0	0.0	2.9
Very often	3.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

How often are you unfairly or negatively treated because you are a member of the Traveller community?⁵

Table 84. Frequency of unfair treatment because a member of the Traveller community (N = 237)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
Never	213	89.9	95.1
Hardly ever	8	3.4	3.6
Sometimes	0	0.0	0.0
Often	2	0.8	0.9
Very often	1	0.4	0.4
Total	224	94.5	100
Missing	13	5.5	

Table 85. Frequency of unfair treatment because a member of the Traveller community by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
Never	97.2	93.0
Hardly ever	0.9	6.1
Sometimes	0.0	0.0
Often	1.8	0.0
Very often	0.0	0.9

Table 86. Frequency of unfair treatment because a member of the Traveller community by age (%)

	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
Never	93.3	95.2	100	88.6	100	96.6
Hardly ever	6.7	3.2	0.0	9.1	0.0	0.0
Sometimes	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Often	0.0	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.4
Very often	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.3	0.0	0.0

⁵ Not cleaned by reporting membership of the Traveller community.

How often are you unfairly or negatively treated because of other reason?

Table 87. Frequency of unfair treatment because of other reason (N = 237)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
Never	45	19.0	58.4
Hardly ever	4	1.7	5.2
Sometimes	15	6.3	19.5
Often	9	3.8	11.7
Very often	4	1.7	5.2
Total	77	32.5	100
Missing	160	67.5	

Table 88. Frequency of unfair treatment because of other reason by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
Never	63.3	50.0
Hardly ever	2.0	10.7
Sometimes	20.4	17.9
Often	12.2	10.7
Very often	2.0	10.7

Table 89. Frequency of unfair treatment because of other reason by age (%)

	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
Never	50.0	52.2	37.5	57.1	75.0	87.5
Hardly ever	0.0	4.3	12.5	7.1	8.3	0.0
Sometimes	16.7	34.8	12.5	14.3	8.3	12.5
Often	25.0	4.3	25.0	21.4	0.0	0.0
Very often	8.3	4.3	12.5	0.0	8.3	0.0

a) Words underlined by participants to indicate they were considered difficult to understand

‘Sexual orientation’

‘Because of your race’

b) Written comments from participants on the specific item or wording

No written comments

c) Written comments from participants at the end of the questionnaire, but relevant to this item

“Good that there was a section to write suggestions in”

d) Relevant material from the fieldwork notes made during data collection

Some children asked for a definition of sexual orientation. Children reported that all reasons for unfair or negative treatment had been included in the statements. They also suggested that it was a good idea to have the line available for them freely to write down their own suggestions or reasons.

e) Where a textbox was provided for more detail, the data collected are summarised

A textbox was provided underneath 'because of (please write it here):'

- "height"
- "How I act at times"
- "I wear glasses"
- "my body"
- "my looks"
- "nothing"
- "of how unfit I am?"
- "of my teeth"
- "reddish hair colour"
- "what you wear"
- "your personality"
- "because I'm small"
- "being myself or standing up for others"
- "Different music tastes than everyone else (ACDC, Led Zeplin)"
- "how you look"
- "I don't know"
- "I don't know English"
- "I yell too much"
- "if you're fat"
- "my body shape"
- "my family"
- "my past"
- "My size"
- "my skin colour"
- "name calling"
- "never treated unfairly"
- "nothing"
- "Rumours"
- "Sport I do"
- "vegan"
- "Where I live"
- "where my dad lives"
- "You are a member of a religion Community"
- "your weight"

Better Outcomes, question 10

In general, do you feel you have freedom in your life?

Table 90. Extent to which respondents feel they have freedom in their lives (*N* = 237)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
1 Very much	77	32.5	32.8
2	109	46.0	46.4
3	39	16.5	16.6
4 Not at all	10	4.2	4.3
Total	235	99.2	100
Missing	2	0.8	

Table 91. Extent to which respondents feel they have freedom in their lives by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
1 Very much	35.4	30.3
2	46.9	45.9
3	15.0	18.0
4 Not at all	2.7	5.7

Table 92. Extent to which respondents feel they have freedom in their lives by age (%)

	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
1 Very much	54.5	32.8	28.6	25.0	25.0	32.4
2	39.4	48.4	53.6	45.5	46.9	44.1
3	6.1	15.6	17.9	20.5	21.9	17.6
4 Not at all	0.0	3.1	0.0	9.1	6.3	5.9

Better Outcomes, question 11

In general, do you have a caring adult you can tell anything to?

Table 93. Extent to which respondents have a caring adult they can tell anything to (*N* = 237)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
1 Very much	141	59.5	60.8
2	52	21.9	22.4
3	31	13.1	13.4
4 Not at all	8	3.4	3.4
Total	232	97.9	100
Missing	5	2.1	

Table 94. Extent to which respondents have a caring adult they can tell anything to by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
1 Very much	58.6	62.8
2	20.7	24.0
3	16.2	10.7
4 Not at all	4.5	2.5

Table 95. Extent to which respondents have a caring adult they can tell anything to by age (%)

	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
1 Very much	77.4	68.8	46.4	48.8	65.6	52.9
2	19.4	21.9	25.0	18.6	28.1	23.5
3	3.2	7.8	28.6	23.3	6.3	14.7
4 Not at all	0.0	1.6	0.0	9.3	0.0	8.8

Better Outcomes, question 11

In general, do you feel you are valued and respected as a person?

Table 96. Extent to which respondents feel they are valued and respected as a person (N = 237)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
1 Very much	99	41.8	42.5
2	90	38.0	38.6
3	41	17.3	17.6
4 Not at all	3	1.3	1.3
Total	233	98.3	100
Missing	4	41.8	

Table 97. Extent to which respondents feel they are valued and respected as a person by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
1 Very much	45.1	40.0
2	38.1	39.2
3	14.2	20.8
4 Not at all	2.7	0.0

Table 98. Extent to which respondents feel they are valued and respected as a person by age (%)

	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
1 Very much	60.6	51.6	35.7	35.7	25.0	38.2
2	21.2	35.9	42.9	40.5	56.3	38.2
3	18.2	10.9	21.4	23.8	18.8	17.6
4 Not at all	0.0	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.9

Better Outcomes, question 12

In general, do you feel that you make a positive contribution to the world?

Table 99. Extent to which respondents feel they make a positive contribution to the world (N = 237)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
1 Very much	75	31.6	32.5
2	98	41.4	42.4
3	45	19.0	19.5
4 Not at all	13	5.5	5.6
Total	231	97.5	100
Missing	6	2.5	

Table 100. Extent to which respondents feel they make a positive contribution to the world by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
1 Very much	31.5	33.3
2	45.9	39.2
3	18.9	20.0
4 Not at all	3.6	7.5

Table 101. Extent to which respondents feel they make a positive contribution to the world by age (%)

	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
1 Very much	45.2	38.7	25.0	27.3	25.0	29.4
2	35.5	43.5	53.6	45.5	46.9	29.4
3	16.1	14.5	10.7	15.9	25.0	38.2
4 Not at all	3.2	3.2	10.7	11.4	3.1	2.9

Better Outcomes, question 13

In general, do you take part in volunteer work?

Table 102. Extent to which respondents take part in volunteer work (N = 237)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
1 Very much	44	18.6	19.0
2	67	28.3	28.9
3	65	27.4	28.0
4 Not at all	56	23.6	24.1
Total	232	97.9	100
Missing	5	2.1	

Table 103. Extent to which respondents take part in volunteer work by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
1 Very much	15.2	22.5
2	33.0	25.0
3	30.4	25.8
4 Not at all	21.4	26.7

Table 104. Extent to which respondents take part in volunteer work by age (%)

	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
1 Very much	29.0	12.7	21.4	9.1	31.3	20.6
2	35.5	30.2	25.0	34.1	21.9	23.5
3	22.6	38.1	32.1	18.2	21.9	29.4
4 Not at all	12.9	19.0	21.4	38.6	25.0	26.5

Better Outcomes, question 14

In general, do you know your rights as a young person?

Table 105. Extent to which respondents know their rights as a young person (N = 237)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
1 Very much	99	41.8	42.3
2	78	32.9	33.3
3	46	19.4	19.7
4 Not at all	11	4.6	4.7
Total	234	98.7	100
Missing	3	1.3	

Table 106. Extent to which respondents know their rights as a young person by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
1 Very much	36.3	47.9
2	40.7	26.4
3	20.4	19.0
4 Not at all	2.7	6.6

Table 107. Extent to which respondents know their rights as a young person by age (%)

	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
1 Very much	59.4	48.4	53.6	27.3	34.4	32.4
2	31.3	37.5	17.9	38.6	43.8	23.5
3	9.4	14.1	25.0	22.7	12.5	38.2
4 Not at all	0.0	0.0	3.6	11.4	9.4	5.9

a) Words underlined by participants to indicate they were considered difficult to understand

'Volunteer'

b) Written comments from participants on the specific item or wording

No written comments

c) Written comments from participants at the end of the questionnaire, but relevant to this item

No written comments

d) Relevant material from the fieldwork notes made during data collection

No relevant material from the fieldwork notes

Topic 11: SUN PROTECTION

Sun protection, covering and avoiding, question 1

If you go outside on a sunny day, do you use a sun hat?

Table 108. Use of a hat on a sunny day (N = 363)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
Always	38	10.5	10.6
Sometimes	200	55.1	56.0
Never	119	32.8	33.3
Total	357	98.3	100
Missing	6	1.7	

Table 109. Use of a hat on a sunny day by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
Always	11.4	9.3
Sometimes	56.5	55.8
Never	32.1	34.9

Table 110. Use of a hat on a sunny day by age (%)

	9 or younger	10	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
Always	12.5	16.2	16.3	6.3	11.1	6.7	6.1	8.3
Sometimes	70.0	69.1	58.1	55.6	37.0	51.1	54.5	33.3
Never	17.5	14.7	25.6	38.1	51.9	42.2	39.4	58.3

Sun protection, covering and avoiding, question 2

If you go outside on a sunny day, do you wear sunglasses?

Table 111. Use of sunglasses on a sunny day (N = 363)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
Always	65	17.9	18.3
Sometimes	198	54.5	55.8
Never	92	25.3	25.9
Total	355	97.8	100
Missing	8	2.2	

Table 112. Use of sunglasses on a sunny day by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
Always	12.1	24.4
Sometimes	56.0	55.8
Never	31.9	19.8

Table 113. Use of sunglasses on a sunny day by age (%)

	9 or younger	10	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
Always	27.5	35.8	16.3	11.3	14.3	8.9	12.1	11.4
Sometimes	55.0	53.7	55.8	56.5	64.3	53.3	60.6	51.4
Never	17.5	10.4	27.9	32.3	21.4	37.8	27.3	37.1

Sun protection, covering and avoiding, question 3

If you go outside on a sunny day, do you wear clothes that cover arms and legs?

Table 114. Wearing clothes that cover arms and legs on a sunny day (N = 363)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
Always	46	12.7	13.1
Sometimes	158	43.5	44.9
Never	148	40.8	42.0
Total	352	97.0	100
Missing	11	3.0	

Table 115. Wearing clothes that cover arms and legs on a sunny day by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
Always	10.9	14.9
Sometimes	43.2	47.0
Never	45.9	38.1

Table 116. Wearing clothes that cover arms and legs on a sunny day by age (%)

	9 or younger	10	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
Always	5.3	10.3	12.2	9.7	25.0	11.1	12.1	27.8
Sometimes	63.2	44.1	22.0	50.0	42.9	51.1	45.5	36.1
Never	31.6	45.6	65.9	40.3	32.1	37.8	42.4	36.1

Sun protection, covering and avoiding, question 4

If you go outside on a sunny day, do you avoid the sun between 12 and 3pm?

Table 117. Avoidance of the sun between 12 and 3pm (N = 363)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
Always	18	5.0	5.2
Sometimes	112	30.9	32.5
Never	215	59.2	62.3
Total	345	95.0	100
Missing	18	5.0	

Table 118. Avoidance of the sun between 12 and 3pm by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
Always	5.0	4.9
Sometimes	30.9	34.4
Never	64.1	60.7

Table 119. Avoidance of the sun between 12 and 3pm by age (%)

	9 or younger	10	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
Always	5.9	1.5	7.1	3.2	3.8	6.7	9.4	8.3
Sometimes	38.2	40.3	42.9	33.9	19.2	24.4	21.9	27.8
Never	55.9	58.2	50.0	62.9	76.9	68.9	68.8	63.9

Sun protection, covering and avoiding, question 5

If you go outside on a sunny day, do you use sunscreen?

Table 120. Use of sunscreen on a sunny day (N = 363)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
Always	156	43.0	43.5
Sometimes	135	37.2	37.6
Never	68	18.7	18.9
Total	359	98.9	100
Missing	4	1.1	

Table 121. Use of sunscreen on a sunny day by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
Always	34.2	52.9
Sometimes	41.8	33.3
Never	23.9	13.8

Table 122. Use of sunscreen on a sunny day by age (%)

	9 or younger	10	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
Always	57.9	67.6	46.7	50.0	21.4	26.7	30.3	16.7
Sometimes	28.9	22.1	33.3	40.6	53.6	37.8	48.5	55.6
Never	13.2	10.3	20.0	9.4	25.0	35.6	21.2	27.8

Sun protection, covering and avoiding, comments

a) Words 'underlined by participants to indicate they were considered difficult to understand

'Avoid the sun between 12 and 3 pm'

b) Written comments from participants on the specific item or wording

Beside 'Avoid the sun between 12 and 3 pm' was written "only when it is really warm"

Question mark at 'avoid the sun between 12 and 3pm'

"I don't know what time I go out into the sun at"

c) Written comments from participants at the end of the questionnaire, but relevant to this item

No written comments

d) Relevant material from the fieldwork notes made during data collection

Some children suggested that 'wear clothes that covers arms and legs' did not make sense to them. Certain children asked if the questions were in relation to "a hot day or just when the sun is out?" It was noted that some children expressed that they would avoid sun between 12 and 3 more in Ireland than they would on holidays.

e) Where a textbox was provided for more detail, the data collected are summarised

No textbox provided

Sun protection, sunburn, question 1

How many times did you get sunburn (red skin for hours after being in the sun) last summer?

Table 123. Frequency of sunburn last summer (N = 363)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
Never	142	39.1	40.9
1 time	84	23.1	24.2
2 times	69	19.0	19.9
3-4 times	31	8.5	8.9
5 times or more	21	5.8	6.1
Total	347	95.6	100
Missing	16	4.4	

Table 124. Frequency of sunburn last summer by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
Never	40.8	40.7
1 time	21.2	27.5
2 times	21.2	18.6
3-4 times	8.9	9.0
5 times or more	7.8	4.2

Table 125. Frequency of sunburn last summer by age (%)

	9 or younger	10	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
Never	50.0	49.2	41.9	38.1	50.0	31.8	21.2	44.1
1 time	30.6	30.8	30.2	23.8	21.4	18.2	15.2	17.6
2 times	11.1	10.8	18.6	12.7	21.4	27.3	54.5	14.7
3-4 times	5.6	1.5	4.7	19.0	7.1	11.4	9.1	11.8
5 times or more	2.8	7.7	4.7	6.3	0.0	11.4	0.0	11.8

Sun protection, sunburn, question 2

How many times did you get sunburn (red skin for hours after being in the sun) in your lifetime?

Table 126. Frequency of sunburn in lifetime (N = 363)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
Never	85	23.4	25.0
1 time	47	12.9	13.8
2 times	51	14.0	15.0
3-4 times	58	16.0	17.1
5 times or more	99	27.3	29.1
Total	340	93.7	100
Missing	23	6.3	

Table 127. Frequency of sunburn in lifetime by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
Never	25.3	24.3
1 time	14.1	13.6
2 times	12.4	17.8
3-4 times	16.5	17.8
5 times or more	31.8	26.6

Table 128. Frequency of sunburn in lifetime by age (%)

	9 or younger	10	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
Never	45.5	27.9	22.7	17.7	33.3	24.4	12.5	22.9
1 time	18.2	23.0	11.4	14.5	11.1	8.9	6.3	11.4
2 times	21.2	18.0	18.2	14.5	7.4	11.1	12.5	14.3
3-4 times	6.1	11.5	25.0	21.0	18.5	13.3	25.0	14.3
5 times or more	9.1	19.7	22.7	32.3	29.6	42.2	43.8	37.1

Sun protection, sunburn, comments

a) Words underlined by participants to indicate they were considered difficult to understand

No words underlined

b) Written comments from participants on the specific item or wording

“On my neck” written beside “how many times did you get sunburn”

c) Written comments from participants at the end of the questionnaire, but relevant to this item

No written comments

d) Relevant material from the fieldwork notes made during data collection

Many of the children asked whether the question was to do with Ireland, asking “is this for in Ireland or in different countries?”, “Is this when I am on a foreign holiday?”, “Does this mean in Spain/ Portugal or Ireland??” and “here or abroad - was it about location?” One child also stated “I don’t keep count of how many times I have been sunburnt”.

e) Where a textbox was provided for more detail, the data collected are summarised

No textbox provided

Sun protection, sunbed use, question 1

How many times have you used a tanning solarium or sunbed (lying down or standing up) in the last 12 months?

Table 129. Frequency of sunbed use in the last 12 months (N = 363)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
Never	312	86.0	93.7
1 time	7	1.9	2.1
2 times	6	1.7	1.8
3-4 times	4	1.1	1.2
5 times or more	4	1.1	1.2
Total	333	91.7	100
Missing	30	8.3	

Table 130. Frequency of sunbed use in last 12 months by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
Never	93.8	94.2
1 time	3.4	0.6
2 times	1.1	2.6
3-4 times	0.6	1.9
5 times or more	1.1	0.6

Table 131. Frequency of sunbed use in last 12 months by age (%)

	9 or younger	10	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
Never	90.0	98.3	95.3	94.9	100	88.9	100	82.9
1 time	3.3	0.0	0.0	1.7	0.0	8.9	0.0	2.9
2 times	3.3	1.7	4.7	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
3-4 times	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.2	0.0	8.6
5 times or more	3.3	0.0	0.0	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.7

Sun protection, sunbed use, question 2

How many times have you used a tanning solarium or sunbed (lying down or standing up) in your lifetime?

Table 132. Frequency of sunbed use in lifetime (N = 363)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
Never	299	82.4	89.8
1 time	11	3.0	3.3
2 times	9	2.5	2.7
3-4 times	5	1.4	1.5
5 times or more	9	2.5	2.7
Total	333	91.7	100
Missing	30	8.3	

Table 133. Frequency of sunbed use in lifetime by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
Never	88.9	91.3
1 time	3.5	3.1
2 times	2.9	2.5
3-4 times	2.3	0.6
5 times or more	2.3	2.5

Table 134. Frequency of sunbed use in lifetime by age (%)

	9 or younger	10	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
Never	85.7	96.6	88.9	90.3	100	82.2	96.8	80.0
1 time	7.1	0.0	4.4	1.6	0.0	11.1	0.0	2.9
2 times	3.6	0.0	4.4	3.2	0.0	4.4	3.2	2.9
3-4 times	0.0	1.7	0.0	3.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.9
5 times or more	3.6	1.7	2.2	1.6	0.0	2.2	0.0	11.4

Sun protection, sunbed use, comments

a) Words underlined by participants to indicate they were considered difficult to understand

‘Tanning solarium’

‘How many times have you used a tanning solarium or sunbed (lying down or standing up)’

b) Written comments from participants on the specific item or wording

“I don’t know what a tanning solarium or sunbed was so I just wrote ‘never’”

“What if it was only once and it was for a skin condition??”

c) Written comments from participants at the end of the questionnaire, but relevant to this item

No written comments

d) Relevant material from the fieldwork notes made during data collection

Some children identified that they did not understand what a tanning solarium was with some asking “what is it?” and others wondering “is it when you put on sunscreen on and lie in the sun?” They questioned if using ‘fake tan’ would count when answering the question and some admitted that they “thought that a tanning solarium was fake ‘tan’”.

Certain children highlighted the need to have a ‘skip’ pattern in the questions for those who have never used a tanning solarium or else a ‘never used one’ response option should be provided.

Younger respondents felt that the questions “might be for older kids as they were only 10”. It was also suggested that the words ‘tanning bed’ or ‘sunbed’ should be used instead of the word ‘solarium’.

Sun protection, sunbed warnings, question 1

If you have used a tanning solarium or sun bed (lying down or standing up) were you asked how old you were?⁶

Table 135. Frequency of being asked their age when using a sunbed (N = 363)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
Yes, every time	8	2.2	5.1
Yes at least once	10	2.8	6.3
No	106	29.2	67.1
I don't remember	34	9.4	21.5
Total	158	43.5	100
Missing	205	56.5	

Table 136. Frequency of being asked their age when using a sunbed by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
Yes every time	3.1	6.8
Yes at least once	5.1	8.5
No	71.4	61.0
I don't remember	20.4	23.7

Table 137. Frequency of being asked their age when using a sunbed by age (%)

	9 or younger	10	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
Yes, every time	4.5	5.3	5.0	3.1	0.0	10.0	7.7	11.1
Yes, at least once	9.1	0.0	0.0	3.1	7.7	15.0	0.0	11.1
No	54.5	73.7	80.0	75.0	69.2	50.0	84.6	55.6
Don't remember	31.8	21.1	15.0	18.8	23.1	25.0	7.7	22.2

Sun protection, sunbed warnings, question 2

If you have used a tanning solarium or sunbed (lying down or standing up), were you told to wear protective goggles?⁷

Table 138. Frequency of being told to wear protective goggles when using a sunbed (N = 363)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
Yes, every time	10	2.8	6.3
Yes at least once	9	2.5	5.7
No	110	30.3	69.6
I don't remember	29	8.0	18.4
Total	158	43.5	100
Missing	205	56.5	

⁶ Not cleaned by reported sunbed use.

⁷ Not cleaned by reported sunbed use.

Table 139. Frequency of being told to wear protective goggles when using a sunbed by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
Yes, every time	4.2	9.8
Yes at least once	6.3	4.9
No	74.0	62.3
I don't remember	15.6	23.0

Table 140. Frequency of being told to wear protective goggles when using a sunbed by age (%)

	9 or younger	10	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
Yes, every time	0.0	5.6	5.3	3.0	0.0	19.0	7.7	11.1
Yes, at least once	4.5	5.6	10.5	0.0	7.7	19.0	0.0	0.0
No	68.2	77.8	68.4	81.8	69.2	38.1	84.6	66.7
Don't remember	27.3	11.1	15.8	15.2	23.1	23.8	7.7	22.2

Sun protection, sunbed warnings, question 3

If you have used a tanning solarium or sunbed (lying down or standing up) were you given advice on your skin type?⁸

Table 141. Frequency of being given advice on their skin type when using a sunbed (N = 363)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
Yes, every time	10	2.8	6.3
Yes at least once	12	3.3	7.5
No	107	29.5	67.3
I don't remember	30	8.3	18.9
Total	159	43.8	100
Missing	204	56.2	

Table 142. Frequency of being given advice on their skin type when using a sunbed by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
Yes, every time	4.2	9.7
Yes at least once	7.3	8.1
No	72.9	58.1
I don't remember	15.9	24.2

Table 143. Frequency of being given advice on their skin type when using a sunbed by age (%)

	9 or younger	10	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
Yes, every time	9.1	5.6	5.3	3.0	0.0	9.1	7.7	11.1
Yes, at least once	0.0	0.0	10.5	6.1	7.7	18.2	7.7	5.6
No	59.1	72.2	73.7	81.8	76.9	40.9	76.9	61.1
Don't remember	31.8	22.2	10.5	9.1	15.4	31.8	7.7	22.2

⁸ Not cleaned by reported sunbed use.

Sun protection, sunbed warnings, question 4

If you have used a tanning solarium or sunbed (lying down or standing up), were you told about the health risks?⁹

Table 144. Being told about the health risks when using a sunbed (N = 363)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
Yes, every time	14	3.9	8.8
Yes at least once	14	3.9	8.8
No	102	28.1	63.8
I don't remember	30	8.3	18.8
Total	160	44.1	100
Missing	203	55.9	

Table 145. Being told about the health risks when using a sunbed by gender⁴ (%)

	Boys	Girls
Yes every time	7.1	11.5
Yes at least once	12.2	3.3
No	66.3	59.0
I don't remember	14.3	26.2

Table 146. Being told about the health risks when using a sunbed by age⁴ (%)

	9 or younger	10	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
Yes, every time	9.1	10.0	10.5	0.0	0.0	22.7	7.7	11.1
Yes, at least once	4.5	15.0	5.3	9.4	15.4	9.1	15.4	0.0
No	54.5	70.0	73.7	75.0	69.2	36.4	76.9	61.1
Don't remember	31.8	5.0	10.5	15.6	15.4	31.8	0.0	27.8

Sun protection, sunbed warnings, comments

a) Words underlined by participants to indicate they were considered difficult to understand

'Tanning solarium'

b) Written comments from participants on the specific item or wording

"Never used one"

"I haven't used one" (never response box added to each statement)

"I didn't use a sunbed or solarium"

"N/A"

⁹ Not cleaned by reported sunbed use.

c) Written comments from participants at the end of the questionnaire, but relevant to this item

“Tanning solarium- I don’t know what these are?”

“Never used sunbed should be an option”

d) Relevant material from the fieldwork notes made during data collection

Some children highlighted that the layout of the question was not appropriate where they pointed out that further questions on sunbed are irrelevant due to their answers on the overall use of sunbed item, and questioned if you need to answer these questions “if you have never used one” or “if the answers above are ticked no”. They suggested that there “definitely should be instruction to skip the question.”

e) Where a textbox was provided for more detail, the data collected are summarised

No textbox provided

Topic 11: ROMANTIC EXPERIENCES

Romantic experiences, question 1

Are you attracted to... (please tick the box which best describes you)

Table 147. Frequency of attraction towards girls, boys and girls and boys (N = 239)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
Girls	95	39.7	40.4
Boys	98	41.0	41.7
Both girls and boys	16	6.7	6.8
I am not attracted to anyone yet	26	10.9	11.1
Total	235	98.3	100
Missing	4	1.7	

Table 148. Patterns of attraction (N = 239)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
Opposite-gender attracted	189	79.1	80.8
Same-gender attracted	4	1.7	1.7
Both-gender attracted	16	6.7	6.8
I am not attracted to anyone yet	25	10.5	10.7
Total	234	97.9	100
Missing	5	2.1	

Table 149. Patterns of attraction by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
Opposite-gender attracted	85.6	76.2
Same-gender attracted	3.6	0.0
Both-gender attracted	2.7	10.7
I am not attracted to anyone yet	8.1	13.1

Table 150. Patterns of attraction by age (%)

	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
Opposite-gender attracted	58.1	82.5	85.2	91.1	81.3	80.0
Same-gender attracted	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.2	0.0	8.6
Both-gender attracted	6.5	4.8	3.7	2.2	18.8	8.6
I am not attracted to anyone yet	35.5	12.7	11.1	4.4	0.0	2.9

Romantic experiences, question 2

Have you ever been in love with... (please tick the box which best describes you)

Table 151. Frequency of love for girls, boys and girls and boys (N = 239)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
A girl or girls	71	29.7	30.5
A boy or boys	66	27.6	28.3
Both girls and boys	9	3.8	3.9
I have never been in love	87	36.4	37.3
Total	233	97.5	100
Missing	6	2.5	

Table 152. Patterns of love (N = 239)

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent
Opposite-gender love	133	55.6	57.3
Same-gender love	4	1.7	1.7
Both-gender love	8	3.3	3.4
Never been in love	87	36.4	37.5
Total	232	97.1	100
Missing	7	2.9	

Table 153. Patterns of love by gender (%)

	Boys	Girls
Opposite-gender love	63.1	52.5
Same-gender love	2.7	0.8
Both-gender love	2.7	4.2
Never been in love	31.5	42.5

Table 154. Patterns of love by age (%)

	11	12	13	14	15	16 or older
Opposite-gender love	38.7	59.7	53.6	69.8	56.3	60.0
Same-gender love	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.3	0.0	8.6
Both-gender love	6.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.4	8.6
Not attracted	54.8	40.3	46.4	27.9	34.4	22.9

a) Words underlined by participants to indicate they were considered difficult to understand

No words underlined

b) Written comments from participants on the specific item or wording

“I have liked someone but not truly in love with them”

“I am not attracted to anyone yet”

c) Written comments from participants at the end of the questionnaire, but relevant to this item

“I don’t think that people should be asked about ‘sexual orientation’ or ‘romantic experiences’”

“These are very personal questions”

“I don’t understand what some of the questions had anything to do with my health (either mental, physical or social) like for example ‘have you ever been in love with?’ What does that matter? Are you trying to determine my sexuality??? To me that doesn’t really have anything to do with my health. Sure when you are in love you become a bit distracted but that’s about it.”

d) Relevant material from the fieldwork notes made during data collection

A number of children spoke about how there was no option for those who think that “they’re in love or really in love”. Some felt that the questions were “sad” and they “have nothing to do with romantic experiences”.

e) Where a textbox was provided for more detail, the data collected are summarised

No textbox provided

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Further information on HBSC Ireland is available at <http://www.nuigalway.ie/hbsc>.

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