



From Scotland's Young People

The Scottish Youth Parliament's
Manifesto 2021-2026



Contents

Letter to decision-makers	3
Consultation process	4
A huge thank you	6
COVID-19	7
Culture and Media	10
Education and Lifelong Learning	11
Equalities and Human Rights	13
External Affairs, UK and International Relations	15
Health and Wellbeing	17
Jobs, Economy and Fair Work	19
Justice	20
Social Security	21
Sports and Leisure	23
Transport, Environment, and Rural Affairs	24
Glossary	26
Demographics	28



Dear decision-makers,

'From Scotland's Young People' is a five-year document provides you with a detailed overview of what changes we want to be made. Now, we need the adults in charge to make meaningful use of these policy recommendations. We need reassurance and action to make sure that our human rights and life opportunities are not at risk.

Throughout 2020, young people have made significant sacrifices. Like many others, we have suffered greatly during the pandemic. It has taken a toll on our physical and mental wellbeing, education, jobs, and so much more. There have been instances where we've felt we have been let down. On issues like the decisions around the 2020 exams, and the stress caused by student lockdowns, we feel we have not been listened to. And that needs to change. In addition to the unique challenges we've faced during the pandemic, many of the existing issues facing young people have been exacerbated and will continue to worsen if action is not taken.

This is why our manifesto not only contains stats, but real-life insights from young people across Scotland, many of whom come from groups who might otherwise be seldom heard. With the help of our fantastic partners, we've been able to amplify the voices of these young people.

We're apprehensive about what the next five years has in store for us, but we're optimistic, too, about what we can achieve when we work together. What is certain is that this manifesto provides a strong mandate for politicians to commit to the following (tick off as you go!):

- Reflect these calls in your party's manifesto.
- Support calls via a parliamentary motion, question or debate.
- Propose a call for a Parliamentary Committee's agenda.
- Write to the Scottish Government about an issue.
- Discuss an issue with young people locally, initiating further discussion, investigation, review or inquiry on the issue or proposing policy or legislation.

By committing to the calls in this manifesto, you will champion Scotland's young people, and you will be upholding article 12 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). By the time the next Scottish Parliament sits, the UNCRC will have been incorporated into Scots Law. We can't wait for this to happen, and the cultural change it will bring about, in which young people always at the heart of decision-making!

How we consulted young people

As the democratically elected voice of Scotland's young people, SYP has a responsibility to establish and then communicate the views of young people to local and national decision-makers, to ensure they are taken into account in all decisions that affect them. By actively asking young people about the changes they wish to see over the next Parliamentary term, we are able to confidently advocate and campaign for policies that reflect the needs and wants of Scotland's youth.

Our 'From Scotland's Young People' manifesto consultation exercise will determine our policy direction for the 2021-26 period. The consultation process as a whole was led by MSYPs and supported by the staff team, in line with our youth led ethos. The strategy was also developed in consultation with SYP's Convenors Group.

Due to the innovative and multifaceted approach we took with this manifesto, we do not have the exact number of young people we engaged throughout this process. However, we estimate this to be around 10,000.

Adapting the consultation for unprecedented times

We made a deliberate effort to shine a light on the issues that are most important to young people who might otherwise be harder to reach - and whose lives may have been affected disproportionately by the pandemic. The manifesto presents detailed insights about the issues that matter most to these young people, to amplify those voices and ensure they are heard by those in power.

During the manifesto process, the SYP staff team and our Manifesto Ambassadors undertook a series of consultation activities that were quite different to the approach we would usually take, in response to the very different world that we are all living in. This was a deliberate shift in our approach, based on our understanding of how significantly the pandemic has exacerbated inequalities in our communities, and was all about supporting young people who might not otherwise have their voices heard, to be heard!

The figures alone do not capture the real lived experiences of young people, and how exactly the proposed changes will benefit them. Therefore, we have worked in partnership with a variety of organisations to run a second series of focus groups in Autumn 2020 that enabled seldom heard young people to share with us, in their own words, what they think about the calls included within our manifesto. Quotes from these have been included throughout this report. We have also been able to use the findings of the Lockdown Lowdown seldom heard voices focus groups, ran by SYP throughout October 2020, to bring real lived experience to the COVID-19 section of this report.

We are currently in the process of developing a From Scotland's Young People online hub. This will be a youth-friendly platform where both Scotland's young people and adults can learn about our manifesto statements and why we are calling for them. This will launch in early 2021, so stay tuned!

How our consultation was designed

The SYP staff team and Conveners Group issued a call for policy ideas for the consultation to young people across Scotland in Autumn 2019. We worked with our partner organisations to promote this call as widely as possible. All existing MSYPs were also asked to tell us what changes they'd like to see over the next Parliamentary term.

We carried out a number of engagement sessions with seldom-heard groups including young parents, disabled and armed forces young people which allowed them to tell us what issues they would like our manifesto to reflect. Finally, we collected suggestion from a number of partner organisations and other national organisations for suggestions on policies from their area of expertise that were relevant to the young people they worked with.

These suggestions, alongside of a literature review of SYP's and our partner organisation's existing policies, were used to create a list of policy proposals which were then shortlisted and redrafted by our Conveners Group in January 2019. As part of this, we asked the group to ensure at least 10 of our statements covered suggestions from seldom heard groups. Using the findings of the Lockdown Lowdown survey and input from partner organisations, this list was later amended to reflect the new long-term challenges facing young people as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The resulting list of 44 policy calls were then put out to consultation.

The consultation process

Our consultation survey was launched on 15th May 2020 and ran until 16th October 2020. This gave all young people in Scotland aged 12-25 the opportunity to give us their views on the proposed calls for our 2021-26 manifesto. To ensure the safety of the young people involved, our primary method of consultation took place using an online survey hosted on the Alchemer survey platform. A paper survey was provided in addition to this to help prevent digital exclusion. This was made available on our website and by request, and could be returned using a free-post option.

MSYPs were supported to work with their local authority and/or national voluntary organisation team to ensure as many young people as possible in their area filled in the consultation through promotion on social media, virtual events and reaching out to schools, youth groups and local organisations.

We recruited a group of MSYP 'Manifesto Ambassadors' who took the lead in promoting this survey and helped SYP staff to design our wider promotional strategy. The consultation was promoted by SYP through direct contact with partner organisations; schools, further and higher education establishments; and various other stakeholders. A virtual engagement session was also created to help young people understand and engage with the survey. Regular updates and promotions were provided through both our website and social media platforms.

How we analysed the data

The statements in this document were generated from our analysis of all responses received. Each statement in this manifesto document gives the percentage of young people who responded to that question who agreed with it, who disagreed with it, and who didn't know. It is important to note that not all questions were answered by all respondents. Any statement that received less than 50% agreement of the total responses to that question was discarded. All of the statements in this document therefore become official SYP policy for the 2021-26 period. We received a total of 6137 responses (4355 completed responses and 1782 partial responses).

A huge thank you!

During the consultation period, we were faced with barriers to engagement as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Thanks to our partners' help and our allies across the country, we were able to adapt our consultation process, and focus on the young people whose lives have been disproportionately affected by the pandemic.

By helping us promote the consultation and hold focus groups, our partners played a vital role in ensuring young people will have their voices heard by decision-makers over the next five years.

Thank you to the following organisations who helped us to run focus groups with the young people they work with:

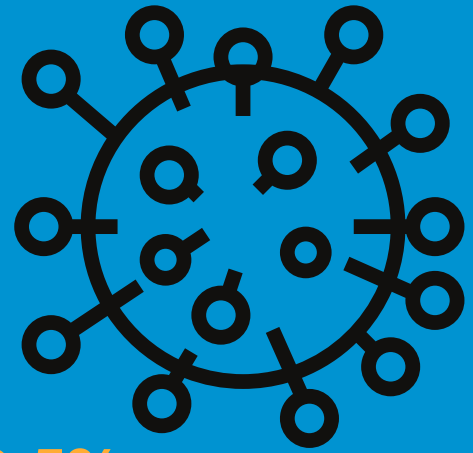
- Aim High Young Parents Programme
- Enable Scotland's Arbroath ACE Youth Group
- Enable Scotland's Fife ACE Youth Group
- GAMH's young carers group
- Gingerbread Fife's Teen Parent Project
- National Deaf Children's Society
- Queen Victoria School
- The Royal Caldeonian Educational Trust
- Scottish Families Affected by Alcohol & Drugs
- Scottish Refugee Council
- Interfaith Scotland

Our partners who fed into the consultation design by sharing the issues affecting the young people they work with and policy proposals they'd believe could solve them:

- Alcohol Focus Scotland
- Children 1st
- Church of Scotland
- Clan Childlaw
- Enable Scotland
- Families Outside
- LGBT Youth Scotland
- Nourish Scotland
- Scottish Refugee Council
- Stonewall Scotland
- Together Scotland
- Who Cares Scotland
- Women's Aid Scotland
- Yello!

A huge thank you also to our local authority partners and National Voluntary Organisations, MSYPs, SYP's Manifesto Ambassadors, Conveners Group and staff team, and our supporters across the third sector who helped us promote the consultation.

COVID-19



Children and young people's rights should be at the forefront of decisions made during the COVID-19 crisis and recovery process.

AGREE 68.5%

DISAGREE 14.5%

DON'T KNOW 17.0%



If [SYP] weren't so kind to give us a top up I wouldn't have been able to make [this focus group]. [Without credit,] you lose access to friends, family and support networks. I get 4GB of data to last a month. That's one Zoom call and it's gone. The impact is, I can't access college, I can't access all these different things. Even getting online to check the symptoms, I wouldn't have got a test for COVID if I didn't go online and look through the NHS guide.

- Young person with experience of the criminal justice system

AGREE 83.2%

DISAGREE 7.1%

DON'T KNOW 9.7%

Every young person in Scotland should have access to fast and reliable internet and devices to access the digital world, regardless of their geographical location or financial standing.

The Scottish Government should work to lower the educational attainment gap¹ and ensure that young people's academic achievements aren't negatively impacted by the COVID-19 crisis.

AGREE 85.2%

DISAGREE 3.8%

DON'T KNOW 11.0%

“

All of the people who are sitting Highers this year have never sat an SQA exam in their senior education, so sending us all into the exam hall after COVID, after finding out these exams counts for everything, we're all going to end up freaking out because we've never sat an exam before. I don't think they've thought about the impact it's going to have on our mental health.

- Armed forces young person

“

I understood the rules at the beginning of lockdown. They felt basic, simple and easy to follow. But as we started to go through the phases, that's when I started to lose track. There was a rule about this, but also a rule about this and this and the next thing.

- Armed forces young person

Public bodies² (such as the NHS, the SQA and Police Scotland) should work with young people to ensure that information is made available in a youth-friendly and accessible manner. They should also ensure that young people's views are taken into account when making decisions that affect them.

AGREE 86.8%

DISAGREE 3.5%

DON'T KNOW 9.7%

Policies and initiatives should be created to ensure that young people have good employment prospects throughout the recovery from the COVID-19 crisis, such as youth employment schemes, work experience initiatives and skills development programmes.

AGREE 83.8%

DISAGREE 3.3%

DON'T KNOW 12.9%

“

It's impacted me quite negatively. I lost my job in March [...] which had a knock-on effect for rent [...] It's been quite a difficult last six months for myself personally my mental health has gone downhill because I've not had the chance to socialise with people.

- A disabled young person

“

I know what I want to do career wise, but not how I get there. COVID has delayed my plans. By May [2021] I'll be out of school and I don't want to be out of school and still not know what I am doing.

- A disabled young person

AGREE 84.3%

DISAGREE 3.8%

DON'T KNOW 11.9%

Colleges, universities and employers should amend their admissions and recruitment policies to ensure young people who's grades and/or work experience were affected by the COVID-19 crisis are not penalised.

CULTURE AND MEDIA



Funding for the arts, culture and media sectors should be protected as Scotland recovers from the COVID-19 crisis.

AGREE 73.2%

DISAGREE 9.8%

DON'T KNOW 17.0%



I heard about youth work cut backs and I just think that is so sad, I had all of these opportunities when I was younger, and now kids are having these opportunities taken away.

- Armed forces young person

Local youth work should be invested in by national and local government and protected by law from budget cuts.

AGREE 74.9%

DISAGREE 6.4%

DON'T KNOW 18.7%

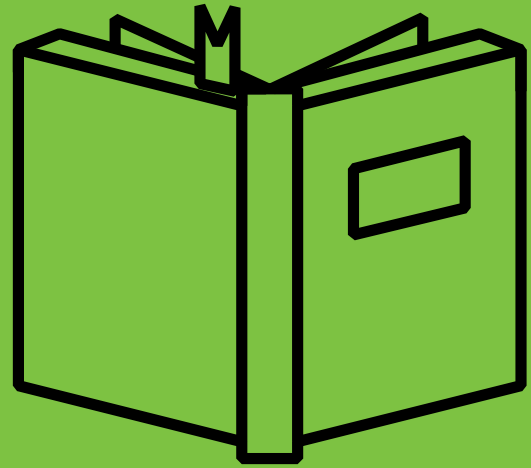
The Scottish Youth Parliament should receive additional funding to ensure they can reach more young people across Scotland.

AGREE 72%

DISAGREE 10.0%

DON'T KNOW 18.0%

EDUCATION AND LIFELONG LEARNING



The Scottish Government and Councils should invest in more support for and awareness of learners with Additional Support Needs.³

AGREE 84.7%

DISAGREE 4.9%

DON'T KNOW 10.4%



There's been a lot in my life that's happened and I've not really been able to focus on school. With my dad passing away, [I didn't find] the school very supportive [...] They gave me one and a half days off. I was in a really bad place and I didn't want to be in school, and they were forcing me [to attend].

- A young person whose family is affected by alcohol or drugs

There should be more investment in college and university welfare services, such as mental health support, pastoral care, advice services, and housing support.

AGREE 85.5%

DISAGREE 4.2%

DON'T KNOW 10.3%

There should be a dedicated fund for initiatives to educate, prevent and address LGBT bullying and discrimination in schools.

AGREE 73.8%

DISAGREE 12.9%

DON'T KNOW 13.3%

“

I experienced some harassment from students that went largely ignored. When I came out [as a transgender man] to my teaching set, another pupil stood up to declare that he couldn't just "come in tomorrow and say I'm a girl." [...] He was told to be quiet but nothing was done beyond that - no actual challenge was made to the lack of tolerance his comments showed.

- A transgender young person

Young people should be able to contribute to the development of the school curriculum and school budgetary decisions.⁴

AGREE 75.8%

DISAGREE 11.3%

DON'T KNOW 12.9%

AGREE 59.4%

DISAGREE 29.7%

DON'T KNOW 10.9%

To increase productivity, wellbeing and attendance, the school day should start no earlier than 10am for all secondary school pupils in Scotland.

EQUALITIES AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Children and young people from seldom heard groups⁵ (such as immigrants and refugees, gypsy traveller communities, single parents, disabled people, Armed Forces, care experienced and justice experienced) must be listened to by policy makers on issues that affect them.



[Decision makers] might have an idea of what life is like for a service child in general, but the difference between the experience of a service child years ago and now is really different... if they could just take the time to consult the younger generation on how things have changed I think they'd be really surprised.

- Armed forces young person

AGREE 80.4%

DISAGREE 5.7%

DON'T KNOW 13.9%



Disabled people are far too often an afterthought in the minds of the public and decision makers. We are still dangerously perceived as burdens and disposable. This is only exacerbated when you're a disabled young person as well.

- Disabled young person

The United Nations Convention on the Protection of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)⁶ should be fully brought into Scots law to protect the rights of disabled children and young people, ensure access to independent living, support those with invisible disabilities⁷ and reduce stigma.⁸

AGREE 82.8%

DISAGREE 3.2%

DON'T KNOW 14.0%

An individual should be permitted to change their legal gender⁹ from the age of 16, through a simple process of self-declaration.

AGREE 62.1%

DISAGREE 21.0%

DON'T KNOW 16.9%



The experience of non binary young people is so often left out of the conversation around trans rights and so people often don't recognise the unique struggles we face every day. The Scottish Government recognising non binary identities would validate something that I've known about myself all my life, and it would mean so much to see my identity respected in law.

- Non-binary young person

The Scottish Government should allow non-binary¹⁰ gender identities to be recognised by law.

AGREE 62.8%

DISAGREE 19.0%

DON'T KNOW 18.2%

Hate crime¹¹ law should be improved to ensure all groups at risk are equally and consistently protected.

AGREE 82.1%

DISAGREE 7.4%

DON'T KNOW 10.5%



Those who come from a faith background [...] would be more likely to experience hate crime. Personally, I feel that, around the Muslim faith in particular, there is a massive misunderstanding due to negative press about it, rather than the amazing contribution that the Muslim religion brings to Scottish society.

- A member of Interfaith Scotland

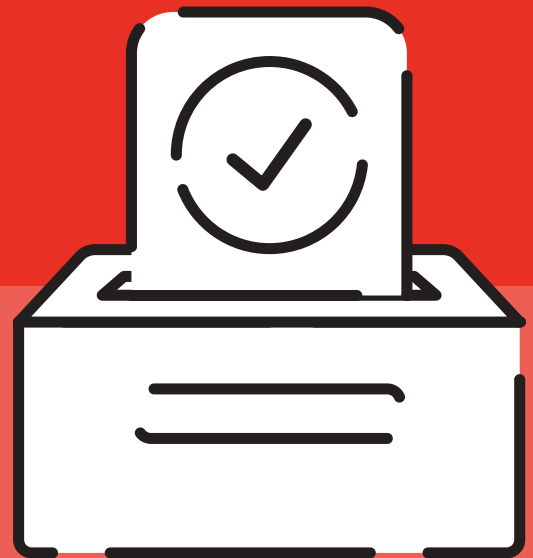
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, UK AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Children and young people's rights including workplace rights, EU citizens rights, the right to health and the right to work and study abroad, should be upheld and strengthened throughout the Brexit negotiations.

AGREE 80.7%

DISAGREE 4.0%

DON'T KNOW 15.2%



“

I think [this policy] sends a message that Scotland values refugees, asylum seekers and immigrants as respected, valuable members of society. I think it's a message that needs to be heard more to show that we are an accepting society - that we are welcoming refugees.

- A member of Interfaith Scotland

AGREE 75.0%

DISAGREE 15.5%

DON'T KNOW 9.5%

Every Scottish resident aged 16 and over should have the right to vote in all Scottish elections, including refugees¹², asylum-seekers¹³, and immigrants¹⁴.

The UK Government must set a worldwide example by keeping its promise to end the detention of migrants¹⁵ under the age of 18.



AGREE 69.3%

DISAGREE 8.0%

DON'T KNOW 22.7%



Everyone wants to see their families. As a young person here, I would like to be with my family and be reunited in the UK, or to have some opportunity to see them somehow.

- A young refugee/asylum seeker



I think it is a human right to be reunited with your family. It is not right not to have that right.

- A young refugee/asylum seeker

AGREE 85.6%

DISAGREE 5.7%

DON'T KNOW 8.7%

Refugee and asylum-seeking children should have a right to join their families in the UK.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING



There should be mandatory training for those working in education and health care settings on how to identify mental health problems and provide support for all young people, especially those most at risk.¹⁶

AGREE 89.4%

DISAGREE 3.2%

DON'T KNOW 7.4%



I don't really know where I would've looked for mental health support. During the pandemic, if I needed help, I wouldn't know who to ask about it.

- Armed forces young person



I've got a guidance teacher, and there's a 'Wellbeing' room in the school. Teachers are in there and they help. A few weeks ago I was in class and it was really noisy and I had an anxiety attack, and [...] the teachers helped me calm down.

- A young person whose family is affected by alcohol or drugs

AGREE 88.8%

DISAGREE 2.5%

DON'T KNOW 8.7%

Every child or young person with a disability or long term health condition should have the right to a Transitions Plan¹⁷ to help with their move from child to adult services.



I think there was a rise in support for the NHS during the pandemic with the clap and everything, but really that [...] didn't do anything to help. My mum works in A&E as a nurse. She went to work every day and despite the clapping she was still mistreated at work.

- Armed forces young person

The NHS should be protected from privatisation,¹⁸ remaining free at the point of use.

AGREE 83.6%

DISAGREE 4.2%

DON'T KNOW 12.2%

Drug misuse should be treated as a public health issue¹⁹ and should be tackled by...

Decriminalising the possession of illegal drugs, such as through the provision of safe injection rooms:

**Agree 52.3% Disagree 24.8%
Don't know 22.8%**

Investing more in support services for those affected by drug misuse:

**Agree 82.8% Disagree 6.4%
Don't know 10.8%**



I don't think it should be a criminal [offence], because people use it for different reasons. It should be a health thing...Drugs can be a way to escape from real life.

- A young person whose family is affected by alcohol or drugs

JOBS, ECONOMY & FAIR WORK

Employers should increase efforts to close the gender pay gap²⁰ by...



Improving equal opportunity policies:

Agree 86.6% Disagree 6.1%
Don't know 7.3%

Carrying out investigations into equal pay:

Agree 84.8% Disagree 7.0%
Don't know 8.2%

Having flexible working policies:

Agree 83.6% Disagree 5.2%
Don't know 11.2%

Ensuring equal pay for equal work:

Agree 91.1% Disagree 3.5%
Don't know 5.4%



To an extent, universal credit is good, but it's really, really bare minimum, like you're scraping by. I can't live off it.

- **A young parent**

The UK Government should take action to ban or reform zero-hour²¹ contracts.

AGREE 58.8%

DISAGREE 11.6%

DON'T KNOW 29.5%

All citizens should be provided with a guaranteed minimum of income support²² to ensure that no individual faces financial hardship.

AGREE 75.8%

DISAGREE 9.3%

DON'T KNOW 15.0%

JUSTICE



In order to protect young offenders and young people who have a family member in prison, newspapers and other media outlets should be prevented from publishing the address of a person who has been sentenced in Court.

AGREE 86.1%

DISAGREE 6.1%

DON'T KNOW 7.8%



We've had a few young people be quite upset because people at school have found out about things that have gone on at home. Even local newspapers have published the details, and where we live, everyone knows you!

- A young person whose family is affected by alcohol or drugs

AGREE 56.1%

DISAGREE 25.7%

DON'T KNOW 18.2%

Young offenders up to the age of 18-years-old should not be imprisoned, and rehabilitative alternatives²³ to detention should be put into practice.

SOCIAL SECURITY



Anyone experiencing homelessness should receive support and shelter, and therefore, the 'Housing First'²⁴ policy should be introduced across Scotland.

AGREE 87.9%

DISAGREE 4.6%

DON'T KNOW 7.4%



[It's important to] give not just a home, but a safe neighbourhood, the ability to interact with people and access to good services near-by, making it as easy as possible to integrate into an area.

- A member of Interfaith Scotland



I stay in a flat by myself with my son and I'm on universal credit because I can't work. There have been times where I've went a week without having stuff to eat because I could only afford to feed my son.

- Young parent

AGREE 90.4%

DISAGREE 3.5%

DON'T KNOW 6.2%

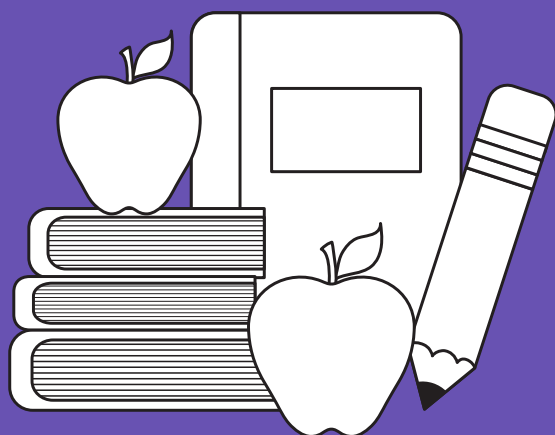
The right to food should be upheld in Scotland by creating a fair, healthy and sustainable food system that is accessible to everyone.

“

My mum is a single mum on her own who struggles a lot. Luckily I'm small, so one of my blazers lasted me like four years so that was really good. I didn't want her to buy me a new one so I'd kind of pull it down and stretch out the arms a bit. I took a food tech class last year, and it cost £50 to take one subject, and I didn't know it had that cost. When I found out I said: "No, it's fine, I won't do it!"

- A young person whose family is affected by alcohol or drugs

State schools²⁵ should be financially supported by decision-makers to reduce or eliminate the costs of...



School meals:

**Agree 85.4% Disagree 7.9%
Don't know 6.7%**

Uniforms:

**Agree 79.6% Disagree 12.9%
Don't know 7.5%**

School trips:

**Agree 69.4% Disagree 18.7%
Don't know 11.9%**

Stationary and jotters:

**Agree 82.6% Disagree 9.7%
Don't know 7.7%**

Extra-curricular activities:

**Agree 73.6% Disagree 13.9%
Don't know 12.5%**

Applications for university:

**Agree 84.3% Disagree 7.1%
Don't know 8.6%**

Travel to and from school:

**Agree 84.6% Disagree 7.8%
Don't know 7.5%**

Attending work experience:

**Agree 81.4% Disagree 8.5%
Don't know 10.1%**

SPORTS AND LEISURE

Funding for sports and leisure facilities and programmes should be protected from budget cuts and supported through a dedicated COVID-19 recovery fund to ensure all young people can continue to participate in activities, regardless of where they live or their household's income.



Playing football really helped me during COVID. It was a time to have fun and forget about it all.

- **Armed forces young person**

AGREE 80.5%

DISAGREE 6.8%

DON'T KNOW 12.7%



AGREE 87.3%

DISAGREE 4.2%

DON'T KNOW 8.5%

The Scottish Government should encourage and provide funding to local councils to work with young people with disabilities to design and maintain more accessible parks.

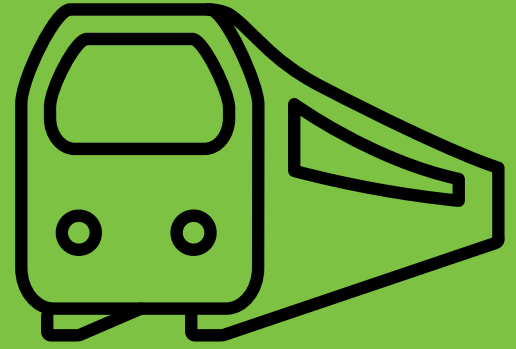
More sports centres, cultural and arts facilities should have reduced entry fees or discounts for young people with a Young Scot card.

AGREE 86.1%

DISAGREE 6.6%

DON'T KNOW 7.3%

TRANSPORT, ENVIRONMENT AND RURAL AFFAIRS



The possibility of discounted or free transport should be explored for groups who struggle to access travel such as carers, Armed Forces young people²⁶ and those in recovery from drug and alcohol addiction.

AGREE 79.2%

DISAGREE 8.6%

DON'T KNOW 12.2%

The food and retail industry should...

Make it possible to recycle and reuse packaging:

Agree 93.5%

Disagree 2.4%

Don't know 4.1%

Avoid using too much packaging in their products:

Agree 90.7%

Disagree 3.9%

Don't know 5.4%

Make it possible for people to rely less on plastic packaging:

Agree 89.3%

Disagree 3.9%

Don't know 6.8%

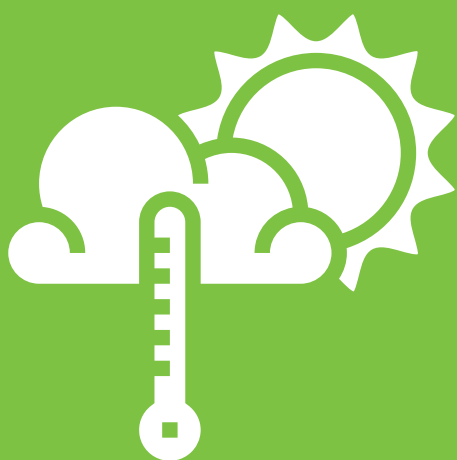
Make it possible for people to rely less on packaging that can only be used once:

Agree 85.8%

Disagree 4.7%

Don't know 4.4%

The global climate emergency²⁷ is an issue of climate justice²⁸, where those who contribute least to greenhouse gas emissions are most impacted. Countries most responsible for greenhouse gas emissions must...



Be the first to reduce their emissions:

Agree 75.4%

Disagree 6.0%

Don't know 18.7%

Share benefits of their increased wealth and development with those countries most impacted by climate change:

Agree 71.4%

Disagree 9.8%

Don't know 18.8%

Compensate loss and damage incurred in less developed countries as a result of climate change by contributing finances to a global fund, supporting research and working on international cooperation:

Agree 69.9%

Disagree 8.1%

Don't know 22.0%



You need to meet up with people. I began to lose the ability to socialise and speak to people throughout lockdown, I found it really hard to have conversations. Beyond COVID, if you don't have access to transport you can have the same problem.

AGREE 89.0%

DISAGREE 3.4%

DON'T KNOW 7.5%

- Armed forces young person

Transport Scotland and the Scottish Government should provide funding to support initiatives which make it easier, cheaper, and safer for young people to use active and sustainable travel options.

Glossary

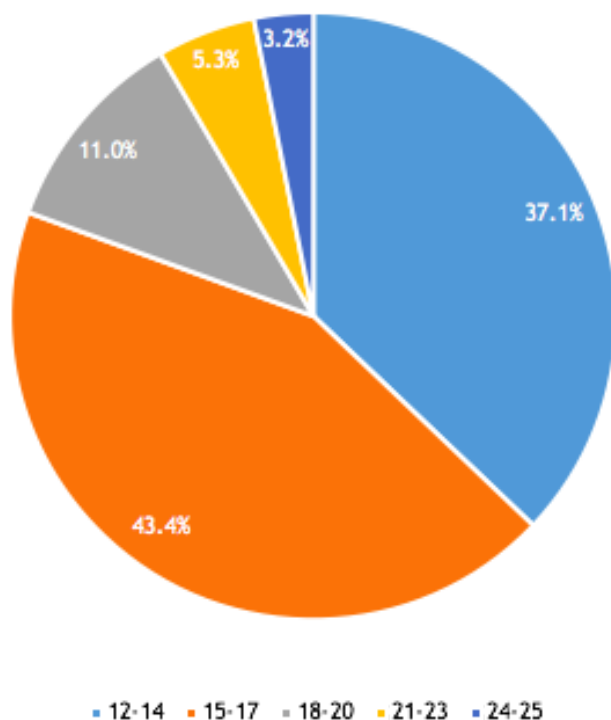
1. **Attainment gap:** The gap between grades achieved by disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged children and young people at all stages of education.
2. **Public bodies:** An organisation or agency that is funded by and reports back to a government but that acts independently of it.
3. **Additional Support Needs:** Someone who needs more, or different, support to what is generally provided in educational establishments to others their age e.g. dyslexia, autism, disabled young people.
4. **School budgetary decisions:** The decisions senior staff at schools make regarding how money is spent e.g. allocating funds for equipment, stationery, subjects and staff.
5. **Seldom-heard groups:** Refers to under-represented people who are less likely to be heard by decision-makers.
6. **The United Nations Convention on the Protection of Persons with Disabilities:** A charter that lays out the rights of disabled people and the ways in which they should be protected and treated in all aspects of society.
7. **Invisible disability:** A disability which may not be visible such as developmental disorders (e.g. autism), physical (e.g. diabetes) or mental condition (e.g. depression).
8. **Stigma:** A set of negative and often unfair beliefs that a society or group of people have about something.
9. **Legal gender:** A transgender person may wish to change the legal gender on their birth certificate because it does not match the gender they identify with. This change would happen by filling in a legal self-declaration form rather than the current process, which requires a psychiatric diagnosis.
10. **Non-binary:** an umbrella term that refers to a person who does not exclusively identify as either 'male' or 'female'. Currently a person who identifies as non-binary cannot legally change their gender to reflect this.
11. **Hate crime:** A crime committed against a person with a certain characteristic that is protected by law (e.g. gender, sexuality, disability, race, age, belief).
12. **Refugee:** Someone who has fled a foreign country for their safety.
13. **Asylum-seeker:** Someone who claims to be a refugee but whose claim is waiting to be evaluated.
14. **Immigrant:** Someone who comes to live permanently in a foreign country.

15. **Immigration detention:** The practice of holding people who are subject to immigration control in custody.
16. **Most at risk groups:** include young people who have chronic health conditions, face poverty, identify as LGBT, young carers and care experienced.
17. **Transitions Plan:** A plan co-created by a young person and their health team that plans their move from children's to adult services.
18. **Privatisation:** the transfer of assets/services from the public (government) sector to the private sector.
19. **Public health issue:** describes efforts to keep a whole community healthy e.g. vaccination programmes and healthy eating education.
20. **Gender Pay Gap:** The term used to describe the difference in pay between men and women in the same type of role.
21. **Zero-hour contract:** An agreement stating that an employer is not obligated to provide a worker with any minimum number of hours.
22. **Income support:** A model for providing all citizens with a given sum of money, regardless of their income or employment status (i.e. Universal Basic Income).
23. **Rehabilitative alternatives:** An alternative to prison for those convicted of a crime e.g. therapy, community service.
24. **Housing First:** gives anyone homeless their own safe home & then provides a support structure to help them keep their tenancy and re-integrate into society.
25. **State schools:** any school which is funded by the government.
26. **Armed forces young people:** Young people who have a parent/guardian in the armed force.
27. **Climate emergency:** A situation in which urgent action is required to prevent climate change and, as a result, avoid irreversible damage to the environment.
28. **Climate Justice:** A term used to describe global warming as an ethical and political issue.

Demographics

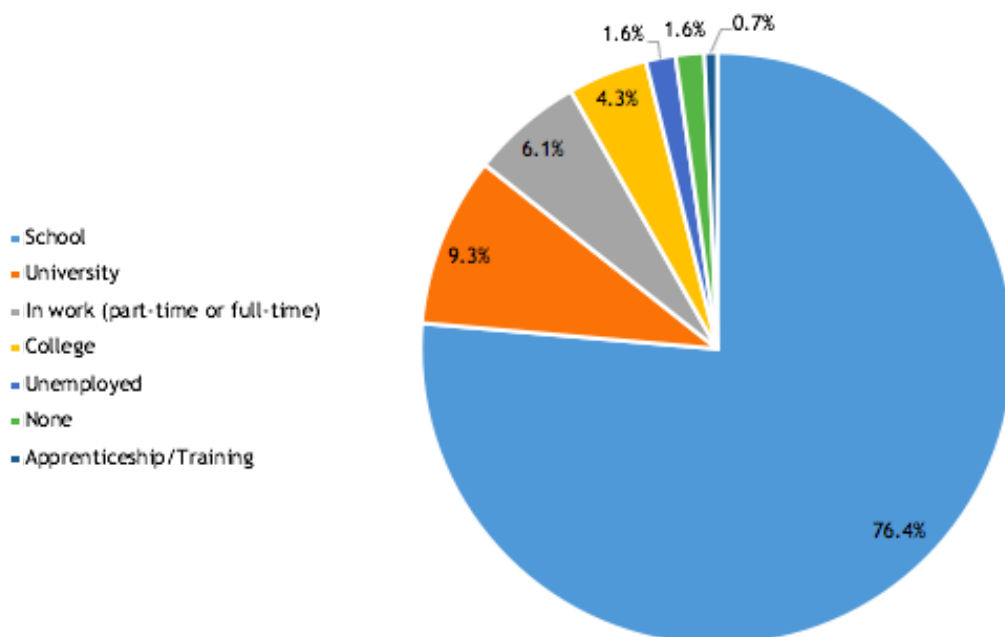
In total, 6137 young people took part in the survey 'From Scotland's Young People'. However, as questions within the demographics questions were optional, we have noted the number of responses we received for each question. Responses were received from every Local Authority, and from the eleven National Voluntary Organisations represented within SYP.

Age



This is based on the 4429 responses we received to this question.

Education



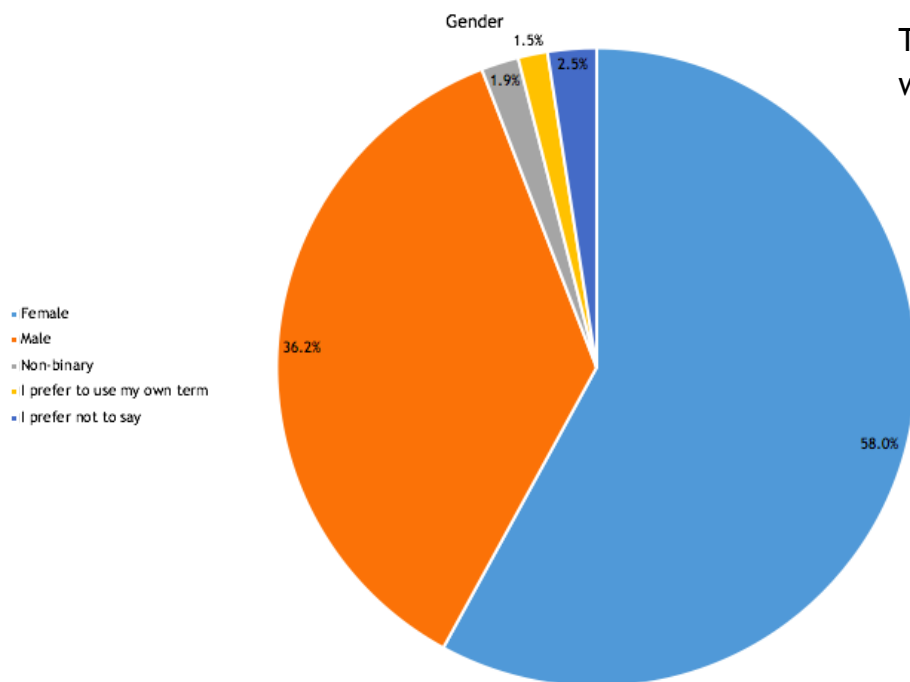
This is based on the 4437 responses we received to this question.

Ethnicity

Ethnicity	% (of those who responded to this question)
English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British	82.8%
Any other White background	4.5%
I prefer not to say	2.0%
Pakistani	1.7%
Any other Mixed / Multiple ethnic background	1.1%
White and Asian	1.0%
Arab	0.9%
African	0.9%
Indian	0.9%
Any other Asian background, please describe:	0.7%
Irish	0.7%
Any other ethnic background	0.6%
Chinese	0.6%
White and Black African	0.4%
Any other Black / African / Caribbean background	0.3%
Gypsy or Irish Traveller	0.2%
Bangladeshi	0.2%
White and Black Caribbean	0.2%
White English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British	0.1%
Caribbean	0.0%

This is based on the 4429 responses we received to this question.

Gender



This is based on the 4429 responses we received to this question.

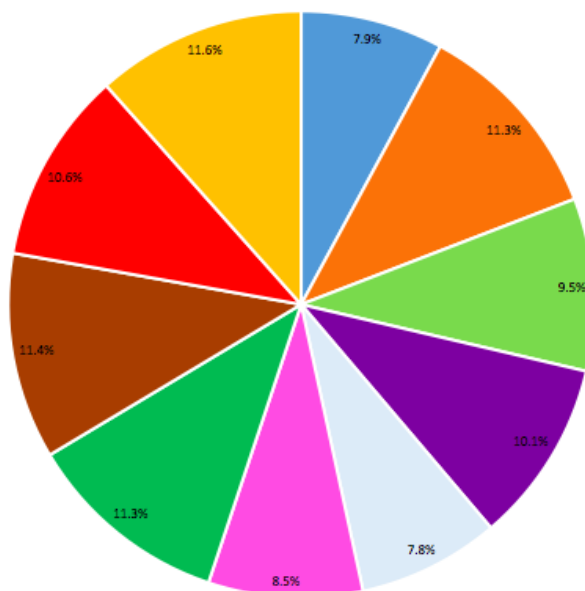
National Voluntary Organisation membership

National Voluntary Organisation	% (of those who responded to this question)
Girlguiding Scotland	17.3%
Scouts Scotland	12.4%
LGBT Youth Scotland	8.2%
Church of Scotland	7.8%
The Boys Brigade	6.7%
Who Cares? Scotland	5.1%
Carers Trust Scotland	4.7%
Scripture Union Scotland	4.2%
YMCA	3.0%
The Federation of Student Islamic Societies	1.3%
Haggeye (RNIB)	1.2%
Member of another organisation(s)	28.1%

Excluding those young people who preferred not to say, or who said they were not a member of an organisation, 1,483 young people told us they are a member of a youth organisation. Other organisations young people mentioned included local youth councils, military cadets and police volunteer groups, advocacy and political organisations, sports clubs, and youth clubs.

SIMD

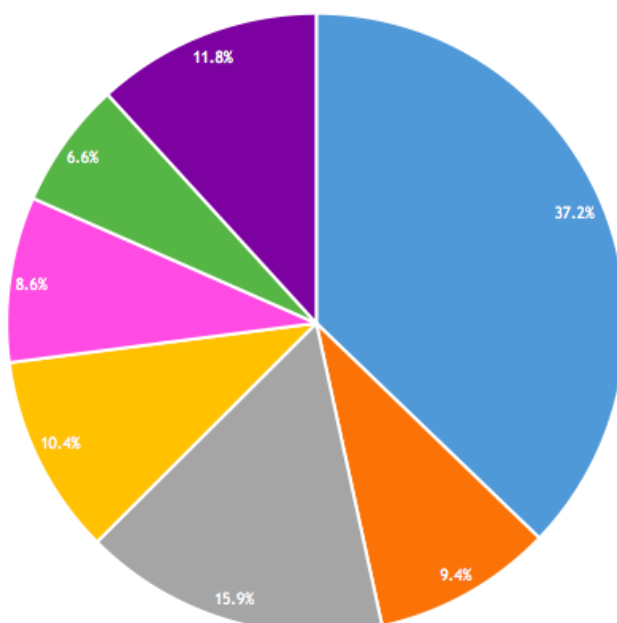
- Decile 1
- Decile 2
- Decile 3
- Decile 4
- Decile 5
- Decile 6
- Decile 7
- Decile 8
- Decile 9
- Decile 10



The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation breaks down Scotland into different areas depending on their level of deprivation. This pie chart was created by comparing valid respondent postcodes (3744) with the [Scottish Government's SIMD data](#). It records the percentage of respondents in each Decile of the SIMD scale (Decile 1 includes the most deprived areas of Scotland, Decile 10 is the least deprived areas of Scotland).

Regions

- Glasgow & Central Scotland
- Highlands & Islands
- Lothian
- Mid Scotland & Fife
- North East
- South Scotland
- West Scotland



This shows the geographical spread of the 4321 young people who responded to this question, in terms of SYP's regional groups. Whilst these are based on the Scottish Parliament's electoral regions, our regions may differ slightly. [Click here](#) to find out which region a local authority is in.