

What Young People with SEND Say Is Important to Them

Info from Focus Groups at Huntingdon Regional College &
Cambridge Regional College (2015)

and

Speak Out Council My Future Survey (2014)

60 young people aged 14 - 25



Being happy, confident and healthy

What young people said about this and what's important

- **Doing things I like**
- **Being with family and friends**
- **Going to Doctors**
- **Eating lots of apples!**
- **Walking**
- **Watching Wayne Rooney play football**
- **80% happy when thinking about the future**
- **Want to live close to where I live now**
- **Want to learn new things**

Having friends, family and a peer group

What young people said about this and what's important

- **I am a sister**
- **Like being part of a family**
- **Family are always there to help**
- **Time away from family is good**
- **Want parents to understand you are trying to give them a rest**
- **Having advice to handle personal family problems**
- **Wanting to move out one day**
- **Having choice to decorate room and having things in my room**
- **Having pets and playing with them - dog and fish**
- **Need to make friends**
- **Need help to make friends and learn how to get on with people**
- **Important to have a network**
- **Want to do things with other people**
- **Some want to do things with other people with disabilities sometimes, but not all the time**
- **Spending time with family is important**
- **Spending time with friends is important**

Being safe

What young people said about this and what's important

- **People always listening to you**
- **Having people around who can understand you**
- **More police everywhere**
- **More private toilets**
- **More traffic lights so people can cross the road**
- **Having someone to advise you when you feel unsafe**
- **Learning how to be safe everywhere**
- **More people need to know about being safe on the internet**
- **Don't drink dirty water**
- **Teachers need to know when students are annoying others**
- **Volunteer social workers should be more with disabled people**
- **Need to know about rights**

Doing well in all educational settings

What young people said about this and what's important

- **Having someone understand you**
- **To be with different groups more**
- **Don't like people talking about other people**
- **Don't like Maths!**
- **Want better classroom management**
- **More work experience**
- **Would like half days**
- **Need a bigger smoking area**
- **Didn't like school dinners**
- **Buttons to open the doors (for wheelchair access)**
- **To be listened to**
- **Want more trips**
- **Interesting lessons make things more memorable**
- **To 'get it'**
- **Want to learn things that are useful - money, cooking, looking after yourself**

- Mixture of liking and not liking school
- 25% said they want to go to college
- What to learn new things

Having a job and able to pursue interests

What young people said about this and what's important

- Help to write a CV
- How to be interviewed
- How to apply for a job
- How to find a job
- Work experience - really, really important
- Need someone to talk to at work about things that are difficult
- Think that the things that are difficult a college might also be difficult at work
- Worry about money and what would happen if have a job but loose it because of difficulties
- Want to talk about disability allowance at review meetings so know about it
- Don't want to feel pressure to take on too much at work
- Knowing what there is to do near by (not sure what there is)
- Having someone to go out with in the evenings
- Support to go out if you need it
- Not enough free time
- If can do things I want to do wont worry so much
- Want to go to the cinema
- Want to meet other people
- Like doing things with family
- Want to do things that I like doing
- 35% said they want to work
- Lots of ideas of things to do
 - Cinema
 - Boxing
 - Badminton
 - Shops,
 - Junction

- Bedazzle
- Kelsey Kerridge
- Gym
- singing club
- pub
- parties
- music
- DVDs
- Internet
- TV
- Eating take aways
- Going to the seaside

Being as independent as possible and supported to have choices

What young people said about this and what's important

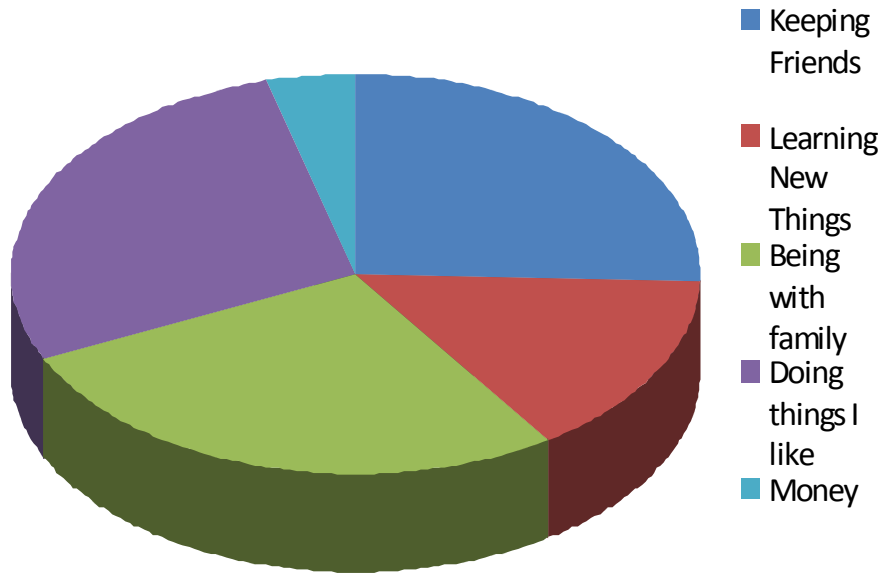
- Want to be listened to
- Want to choose what is in packed lunch
- Don't like mixed messages
- Don't like things changing once I've started something
- Want to make friends with who I want
- Want to visit the West Indies
- Want to make new friends
- Don't want to be forced to do things I don't want to do
- Want to make my own dinner - want help to use the oven
- Want to choose what to do in my free time
- Good to have independent travel skills so can go places
- You have your own opinions
- People should listen to your opinions
- Need to learn how to be independent and do things for your self like brushing your teeth and washing yourself
- Want to learn about looking after my own money
- Need to know about things to make decisions
- Like leaflets, posters, information packs and checklists
- Not everyone uses computers to find things out - too confusing
- But some people brilliant at it

- **90% had been asked what they wanted for the future and most could say what was most important to them**
- **But about 10% hadn't been asked about their future and didn't know how to find out about things**
- **20% had been asked where they wanted to live in the future**
- **80% hadn't been asked where they wanted to live in the future and wanted to know what the choices were**
- **80% said they rely on parents or teachers to tell them about the future**

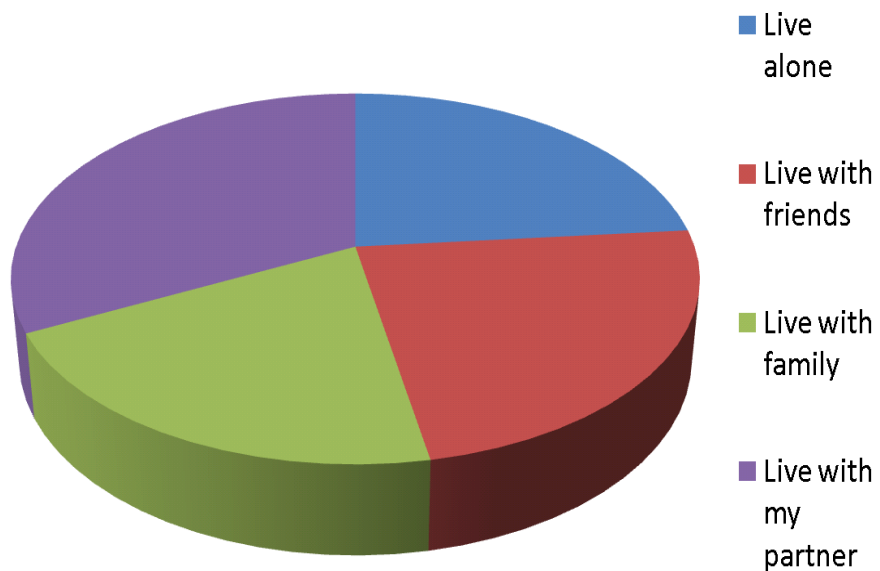
Information collated May 2015

What young people said was important to them

What is the most important thing?

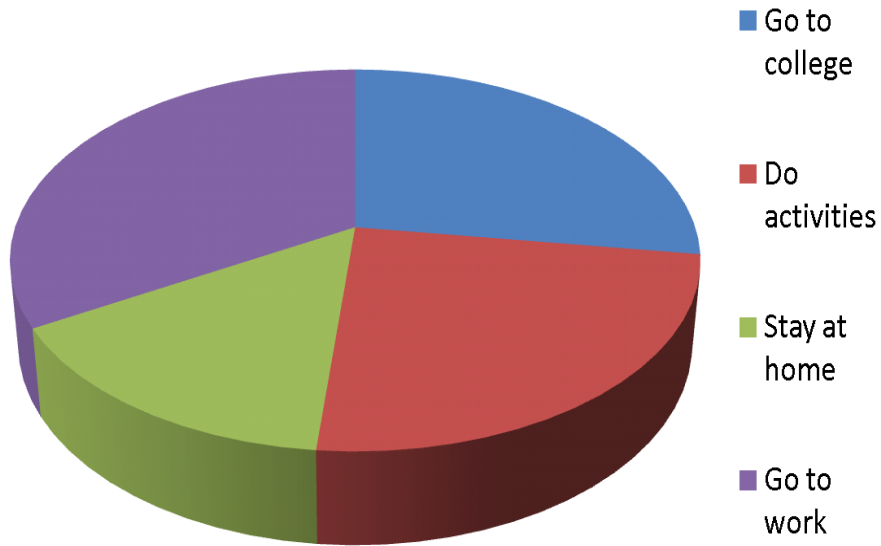


In My Future I would like to....



What young people said was important to them

In My Future I would like to....



What I want to continue doing...

