

REAL Independent Schools Summer School Programme Report 2021

Outline of the Summer School programme

The bulk of our summer school programme took place for the ten days between Monday 16th August and Friday 27th August. However, due to the specific needs of three of our learners, their programmes took place for up to ten days over the duration of the Summer break. The reasons for these differences were to support transition into FE placements or give support and consistency at a time that was very difficult for them.

Twenty six learners expressed an interest in the programme and accepted places. Of these, four withdrew or did not attend due to other commitments. All of our learners have SEND and 95% of them had an EHCP.

Learners of all ages were offered a place. Of the 22 who did attend, one was in keystage 2, nine were in key stage 3, four were in keystage 4 and eight within keystage 5.

The main reasons for attendance at our programme were to support transition into other establishments from our setting, support transition into our school from other settings and to give our learners positive social and academic experiences.

What did our Summer School Offer?

Our summer programme offered a variety of activities. These included but were not limited to:

- Vocational opportunities in the area of construction. Mechanics, catering, digital media, land based studies and music
- 1:1 trips to museums, parks, art galleries and other places of interest
- Small group social skills and team building activities
- Sporting and outdoor adventurous activities
- Academic activities for consolidation and catch up

Staffing for our Summer School

The summer school was organised and managed by two senior leaders, the Head of Schools and Project Development Manager /DPO. Staffing was provided through our schools and vocational education specialists, affording both an educational and activity focused opportunity for the learners. Safeguarding cover was provided by 3 qualified Safeguarding leads, including the Head of Schools and Head of Safeguarding.

Additional specialist staffing was required for specific young people, for example an interpreter was required for one learner to support access to activities. .

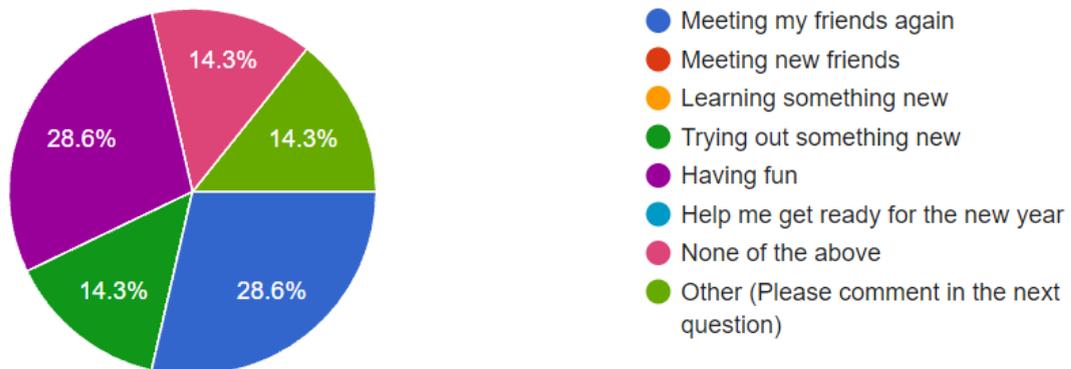
How much did our summer school cost?

The overall costs for the summer school was £14,947 this covered Programme and Specialist Staffing, Activities, Consumable Items/Equipment, travel, venue hire, management and administrative costs. A more specific breakdown of costs is available where appropriate.

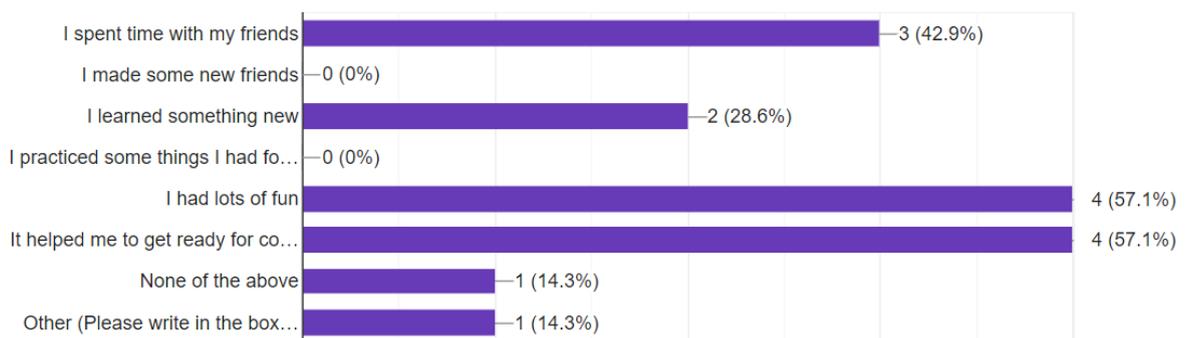
Feedback from our Learners.

The DFE questionnaire was not found to be appropriate for the needs of our learners. As a result of this, we decided to produce our own feedback form. Results are shown below:

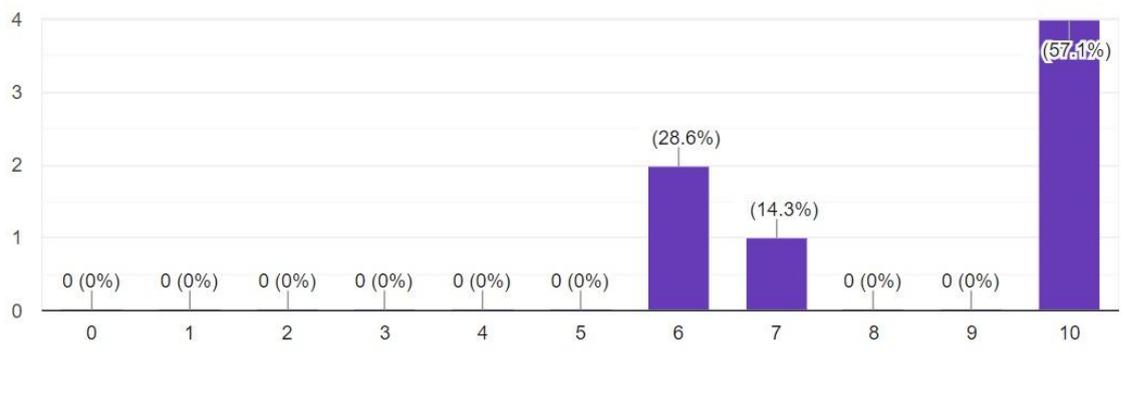
Before Summer school started, what were you looking forward to?"



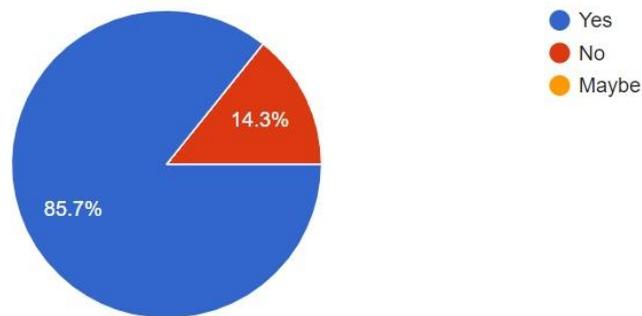
After attending the summer programme, which of the following applied to you?



On a scale of 0 to 10, how much did you enjoy the summer programme?



If the summer programme became available again next year, would you attend?



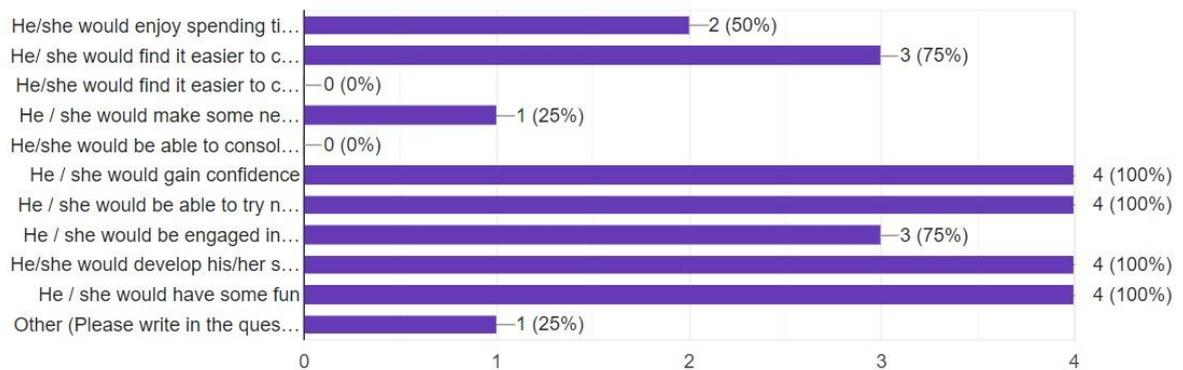
If the summer programme became available again next year, what would you like to spend time doing?

Dital art
 Geo caching
 all the activities that were on offer in 2021
 Cooking
 Adventure, sport and Horticulture
 being with teachers and friends.
 Go to relevant Art exhibitions

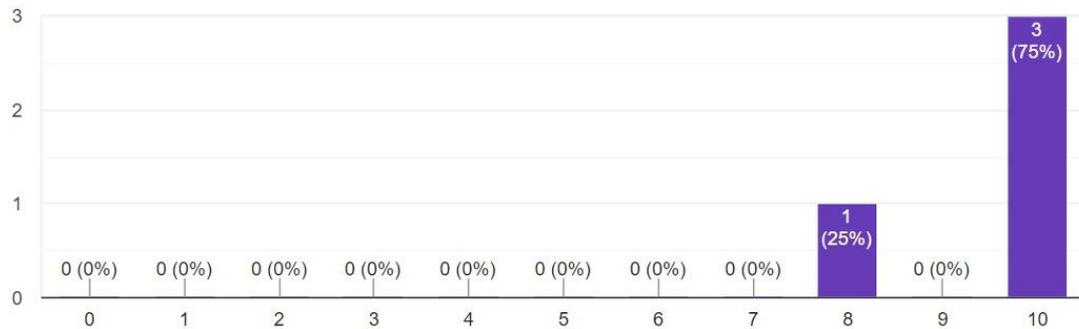
Feedback from our Parents

We asked our parents for feedback with regards to the programme. See responses below:

Before the Summer programme started, how did you hope it would help your child?



On a scale of 0 to 10, how happy are you with the Summer programme your child was offered?



What do you think went really well?

3 responses

Gave [redacted] lots of confidence and experiences in practical subjects he loved doing the mechanics day and still talks about it now

The sessions were clearly outlined, including days/times/venues and activities so my daughter knew what to expect. The staff member who supported my daughter also provides learning sessions and so was aware of her individual needs. Communication and consistency was excellent, enabling my daughter to have a voice, be positively engaged and remove barriers to her accessing summer school

All the activities were well received

Is there anything we could have done better?

N/a

A little more notice of the days he was going to attend

Additional sessions would have been very welcome

I struggled with the transport side of things, this was identified and I was given support via the staff and Nikki Purcell

Would you want your child to be included if there was a Summer programme again next summer?



If there was a summer programme next year, what sort of things would you like your child to be able to do?

More practical experience

Anything that made them happy

Swimming, den building, gardening projects

Maybe Horse Riding, Cycling, Woodland Walks / Nature Walks. [redacted] love to be outdoors and particularly loves animals and nature.

Do you have anything else you would like to say about the summer programme?

Brilliant experience [redacted] really enjoyed it

A huge thank you to [redacted] who employed amazing strategies to enable my daughter to engage and achieve. The impact the summer programme had was incredibly positive. She gained new skills, a sense of pride and a huge boost to her self esteem. [redacted] the activities had a very positive impact and was great support during the summer break. Thank you for making this provision available to us

I was blown away by the range of activities REAL offered [redacted] the staff were all super supportive and I really felt she was gaining confidence and learning how to interact with people appropriately.

[redacted] It made such a difference I can't thank everyone enough. I really wanted [redacted] to experience as many of the activities she could whatever the cost to me. Thanks everyone!

Would we run a Summer School programme again?

We would consider doing a Summer school programme again if funding could be sourced. The benefits to those learners who attended made this a worthwhile programme.