

The Sulgrave Club



**Junior Holiday Scheme
Summer 2024**

Structure

We ran the Sulgrave Junior Summer Holiday Scheme for three weeks, from Monday 29th July to Friday 16th August 2024. We were open five days a week, from 11.30am to 4.00pm, with places for 48 children each day. Parents were requested to book their children in for a week at a time, although in practice this did not always happen.

On Mondays to Thursdays 24 children stayed onsite engaging in a variety of activities and games including arts and crafts, cooking, quizzes and competitions, indoor football, and roller skating, while 24 children went on a local outing to Queensway Ice Skating, Acton Park Royal Ten Pin Bowling, Oxygen Acton Activity Park Trampolining, Chiswick Cinema, or the Adventure Playgrounds in either Holland Park or Ravenscourt Park. The children offsite returned in time to join the children onsite for a hot meal. On Fridays all the children remained onsite for a day of competitive Team Olympics.

Thanks to funding from the governments Holiday Activity and Food Fund, all the activities, outings and food were provided free of charge.

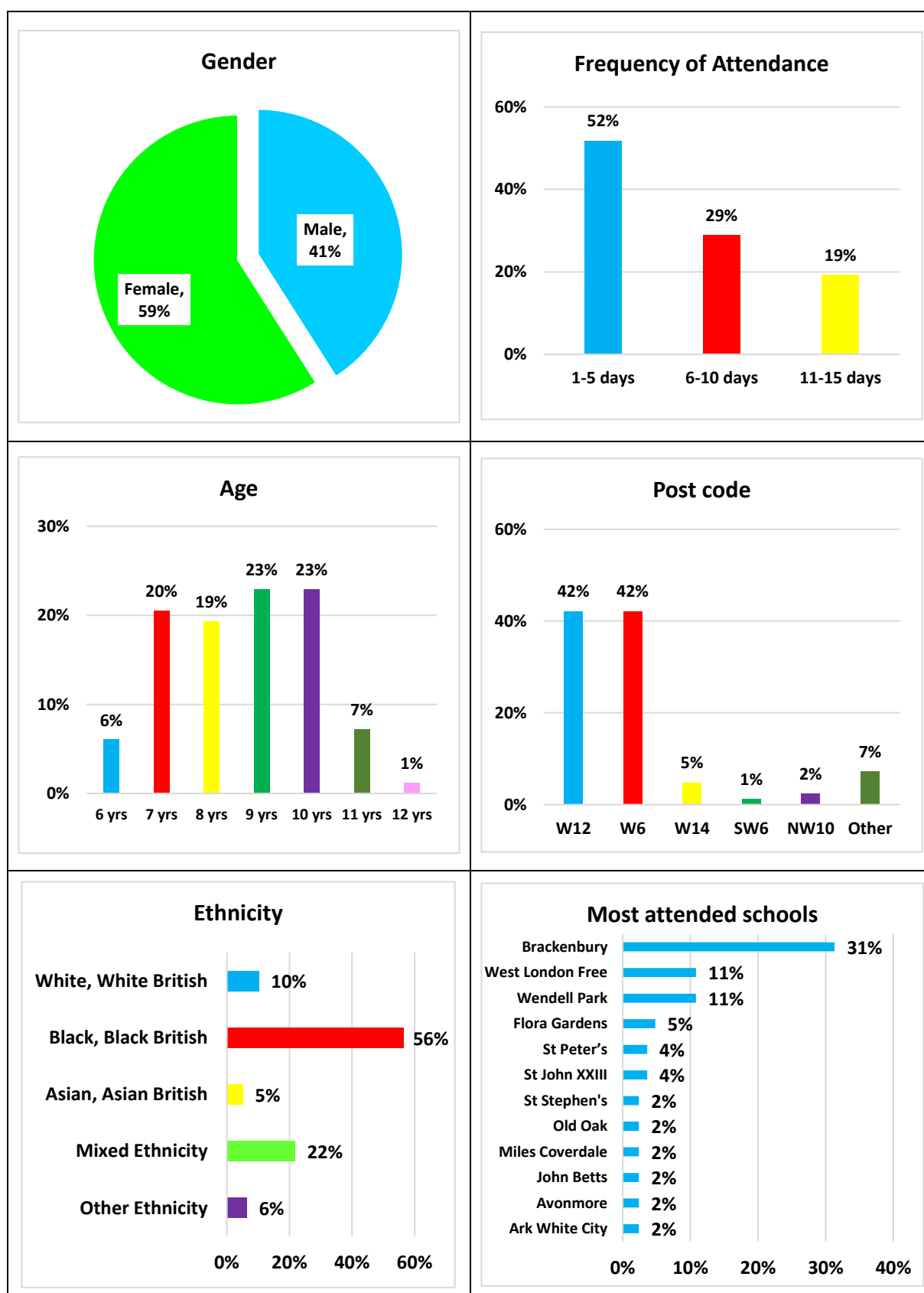


Attendance

A total of 83 unique children attended the holiday scheme: 50 attended Week 1 at an average of 41.6 per day; 50 attended Week 2 at an average of 39.8 per day; and 45 attended Week 3 at an average of 36.0 per day. An average of 39.1 children per day attended the 3-week scheme, equivalent to 82% of our capacity (48 places per day).

Breakdown

The 83 children who attended were broken down as follows:



Evaluation – children

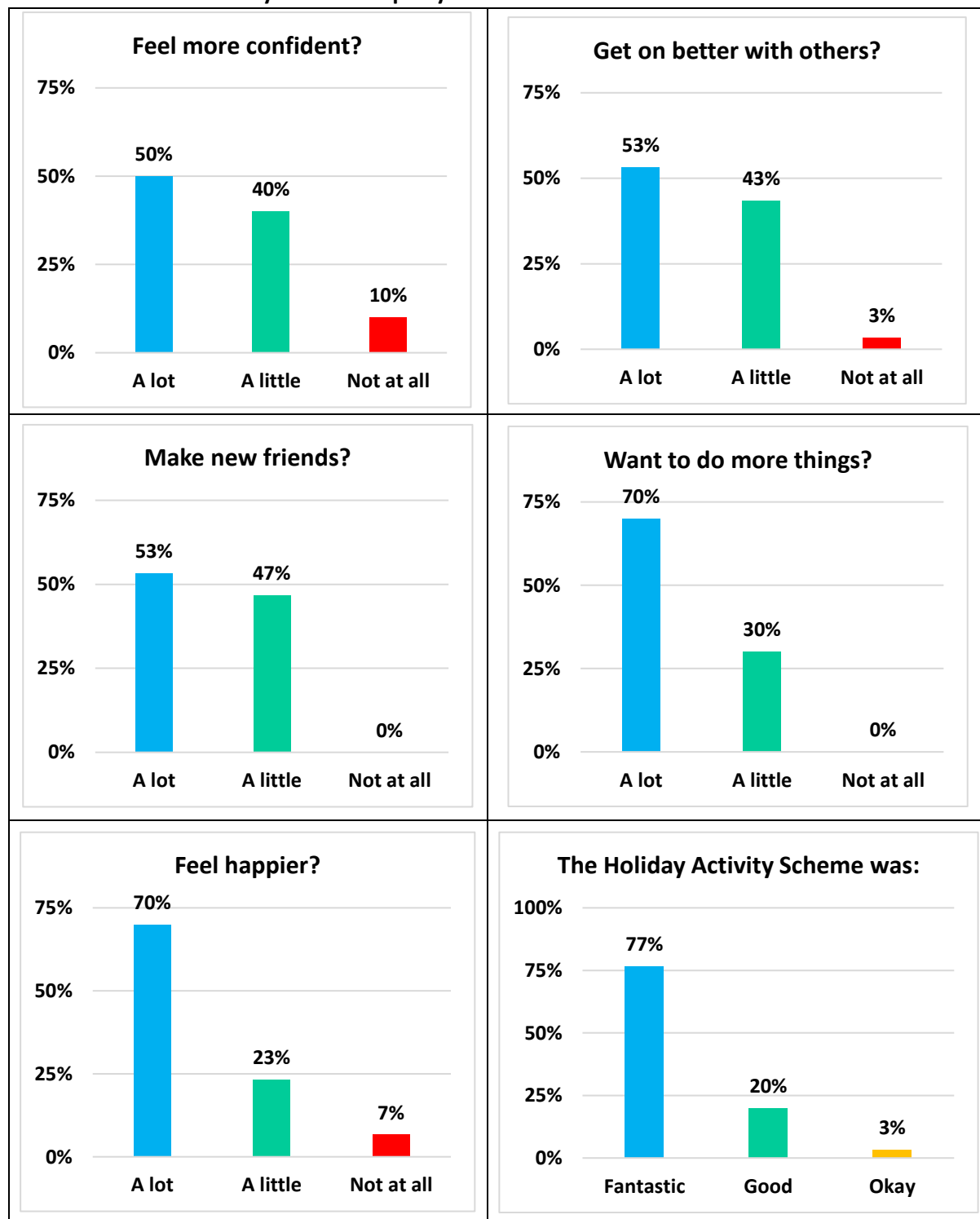
Evaluation forms were distributed on the final day of the holiday scheme and were completed by 33 children. 15 had attended all three weeks, 9 had attended two weeks, and 9 had attended the final week only.

Our targets for the children attending were:

- 70% would become more confident / independent/ resilient.
- 75% would get on better with other children / would make new friends.
- 80% would develop new interests / want to do new things.
- 90% would have lots of fun.

The children's responses indicate that we achieved our targets with 90% feeling more confident (50% a lot, 40% a little); 96% getting on better with others (53% a lot, 43% a little); 100% wanting to do more things (70% a lot, 30% a little); and 93% feeling happier (70% a lot, 23% a little). 77% of the children rated the holiday scheme as 'Fantastic', 20% as 'Good'. And 3% as 'Okay'.

How much has the Holiday Scheme helped you:





As part of the evaluation, we also asked the children to tell us why they came on the scheme, and what they had learnt through their participation.

I came on the Sulgrave Junior Holiday Activity Week because:

- Because Sulgrave is fun, and I like to play games.
 - Because the previous year was fun.
 - I enjoyed it so much last year, so I wanted to go again.
 - I knew it would be fun.
 - It is a fun activity that I have enjoyed before.
 - I want to enjoy my holiday, make new friends, made me feel confident, always try my best and more.
 - It was fun.
 - To have fun on trips.
 - To have fun.
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- Because it gave me something to do.
 - I didn't want to be bored in the summer.
 - I didn't want to stay home, and I wanted to go on trips.
 - I had nothing else to do.
 - I had nothing to do at home and it was extremely boring.
 - I was bored of being at home.
 - It gives me something to do during the summer and it is fun.
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- Because I wanted to try something new.
 - I pass Sulgrave a lot and I wanted to come and see what Sulgrave was.
 - I wanted to try something different.
 - To try something new.
 - I was told I had to go out every day.
 - My dad knew the manager and he suggested I come.

- My mum told me it was fun.
- My mum told me to.
- I can make more friends.
- I wanted to spend time with my friends.
- To see my friends and make new friends.
- I love ice skating and bowling.
- I wanted to learn ice skating.
- I got to win £5.00 and get a gold medal.



On the Sulgrave Junior Holiday Activity Scheme, I learnt:

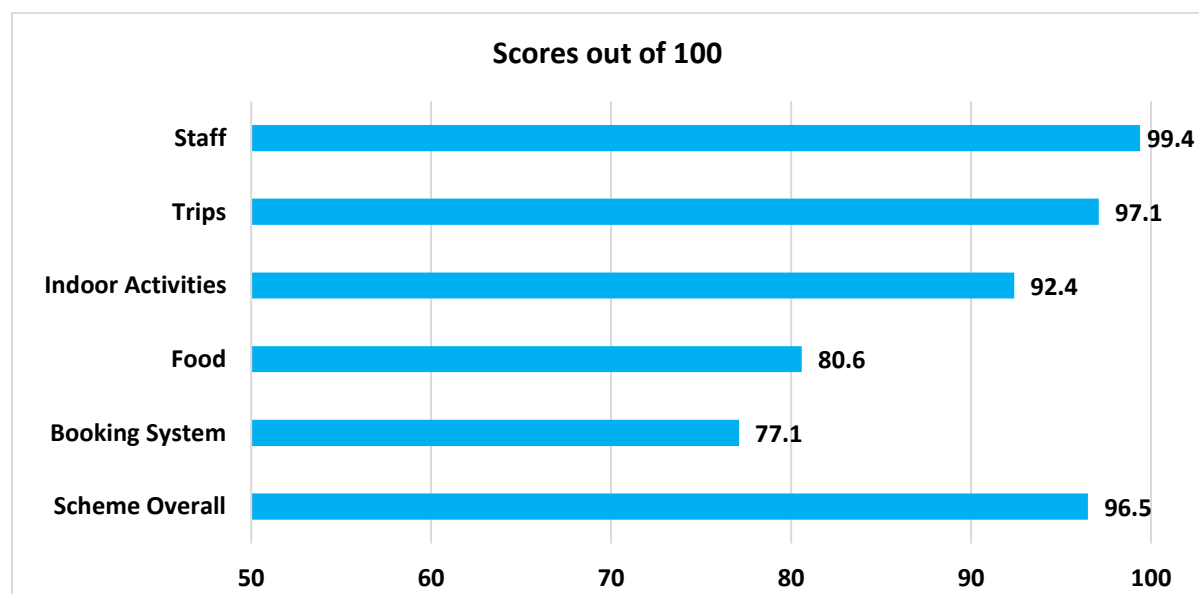
- How to ice skate, to do what I can, did a great job, and I learnt that losing doesn't count.
- How to ice skate and be more active.
- How to ice skate, bowling, and have more fun.
- I learnt how to ice skate even though I was scared.
- How to properly ice skate.
- How to ice skate and roller skating.
- How to ice skate. (x9)
- Roller skating.
- How to bowl.
- How to bowl correctly (strikes).
- How to play bowling.
- To be happy, excited, and kind.
- To be kind.
- To be kind and patient and to be friendly.

- To be a better team.
- To be a team.
- How to make new friends.
- How to make friends.
- To be independent and responsible.
- How to be more confident in myself and to try new things.
- I played a lot more sports and learnt how to play.
- How to run better.



Evaluation – Parents / Carers

A week after the scheme ended, we sent a survey by email to the children's parents and carers. This was completed by 17 parents, who gave a uniformly positive response to questions on the impact of the scheme, and high scores to most aspects of the scheme, only having some reservations on the food provided and the new booking system.



We also asked parents in what ways they or other members of their family benefited from their children's participation.

In what way did you or other members of your family benefit?

- Able to mix with other children; able to visit places; able to do activities they didn't do before; never felt bored or alone in the long summer holidays.
- As a single parent, it helped to keep my son busy for them few hours each day which was really helpful.
- My son is a shy individual, at the end of the 3 weeks, I can see changes in him - communicating more and not scared to make friends. He is so happy and that brings joy to the family. Due to work commitments, we were happy that he could attend Sulgrave. This has lessened the burden of finding fee-paying clubs in the summertime, that can be pricey, especially with more than one child.
- Give mum break from kids.
- I was able to relax knowing my daughter was out of the house for a few hours enjoying herself and not stuck on a device. I wouldn't be able to entertain her every day for three weeks.
- They learnt how to give time to others
- I am a full-time student
- I was able to continue working while she is having fun.
- I was able to still go to work
- It provided childcare whilst I was working, and it kept my child entertained.
- It supported me in ensuring my child was engaged in meaningful activities during the holidays and in some ways alleviated financial pressures during a period that tends to be very expensive.
- Was able to work knowing my child was looked after in a safe environment



Evaluation – staff and volunteers

And finally, we asked our staff and volunteers for their comments.

What worked well on the Junior Summer Holiday Activity weeks?

- The team's communication
- People were willing to adapt and take on responsibility when needed
- Smooth running of trips and games in club.
- The balance between going out on trips and staying in the club.
- Staff flexibility and willingness to lead.

What could be improved?

- Cooking
- The food was not consistent
- The food/portions sizes inconsistent
- Having children attend full week

What do you think the benefits for the children have been?

- Gotten to know new people
- Social skills. Meeting new children as well as staff. Confidence. Communication. Community.
- Meeting new people and experiencing new activities
- Spending time away from home life and engaging with other children of similar age.
- Some children were able to try new activities.

Have you noticed a positive change in any child in particular?

- Most children were new to the Club, so I don't know them well enough yet to see these changes.
- I feel that there was a large number of new children (most of them fitted in well), also not spending the whole each with everyone made it harder to notice positive changes.

What was your standout moment from the three weeks?

- Going to Holland Park (the kids enjoyed the zip line)
- Seeing how much fun the children were having
- Seeing children not give up when trying to ice skate
- Children gaining confidence when ice skating. Before trying, some were adamant they needed a penguin to support them. It was lovely to see them skate around the ice unaided.



Conclusions

We tried out a new programme structure this summer, with half the children going out on outings each day, and half staying in the centre playing competitive games. This worked well in terms of doubling the number of children who were able to benefit from the scheme but may have contributed to a higher number than usual of children not turning up because they knew they were not going on an outing the next day and did not want to stay in the Club.

With less funding available, we also had to reduce our opening hours from seven (10.00am-5.00pm) to four and a half a day (11.30am-4.00pm). This made the scheme financially viable and gave us just enough time to take children out locally and be back for everyone to enjoy a hot cooked meal. However, it did limit the range of outings we could offer which in turn may have exacerbated children's non-attendance, as those who were booked for all three weeks were scheduled to go on the same outings in the third week as in the first.

There were problems with the new single access, centralised booking system, which we have raised with the Holiday Activity Fund administrators, and problems with parents and carers using us as a drop-in service, even though they had booked their children in for the whole week. However, these are issues which can be addressed, and which did not affect the overall quality of the scheme we provided, nor the benefits for the children taking part.



“The summer scheme really had a major impact on why my daughter had such a wonderful summer holiday - no improvements necessary. Thank you so much!”