

The Sulgrave Club



**Junior Holiday Scheme
Summer 2025**

Introduction

The Sulgrave Junior Summer Holiday Scheme ran during the first three weeks of the summer holidays, from Wednesday 23rd July to Thursday 7th August 2025. The scheme was open from 11.30am to 4.00pm each day, Wednesday to Friday in Week 1, Monday to Thursday in Weeks 2 and 3. There were places for 52 children in school years 3 to 6 each day, and every child who attended was offered a packed lunch.

On the first day, all the children stayed on-site. Every day thereafter, half the children would stay on-site, and half the children would go off-site. On-site activities included Tee-shirt printing, arts & crafts, football, basketball, dodgeball, roller skating, food-based quizzes and competitions, and 'Team Olympics'. Off-site activities included Kayaking, Ice Skating, Ten Pin Bowling, Litter Picking, Trampolining, and trips to Mind Sports Centre, where children were introduced to a wide variety of card and board games.

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

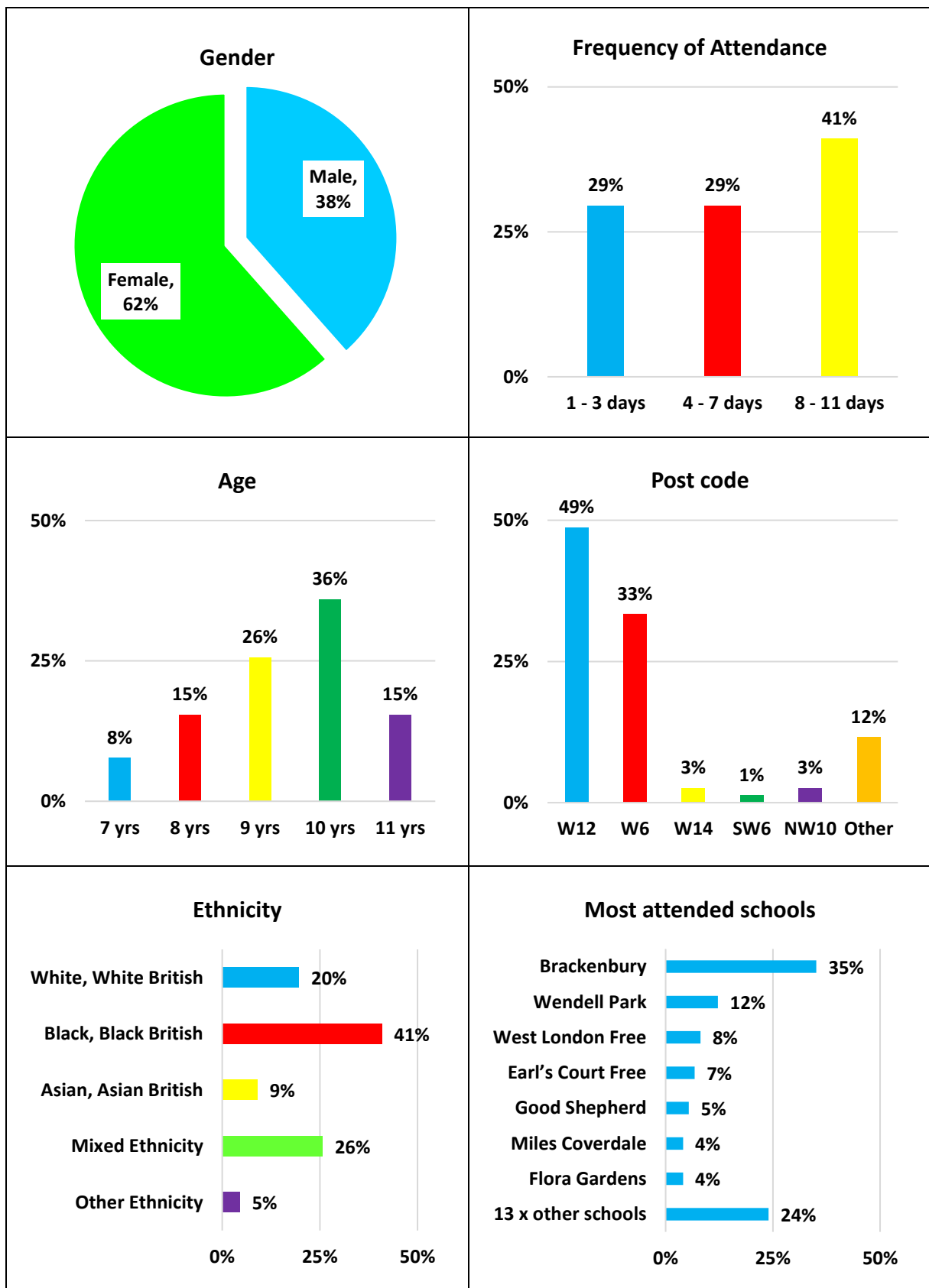


Attendance

In total, 78 different children attended the holiday scheme an average of 46 per day, an 88% take-up of available places. 59 children attended in Week 1 at an average of 48 per day; 56 in Week 2 at an average of 44 per day; and 56 in Week 3 at an average of 46 per day.

Breakdown

A breakdown of the 78 children who attended follows:



Evaluation – children

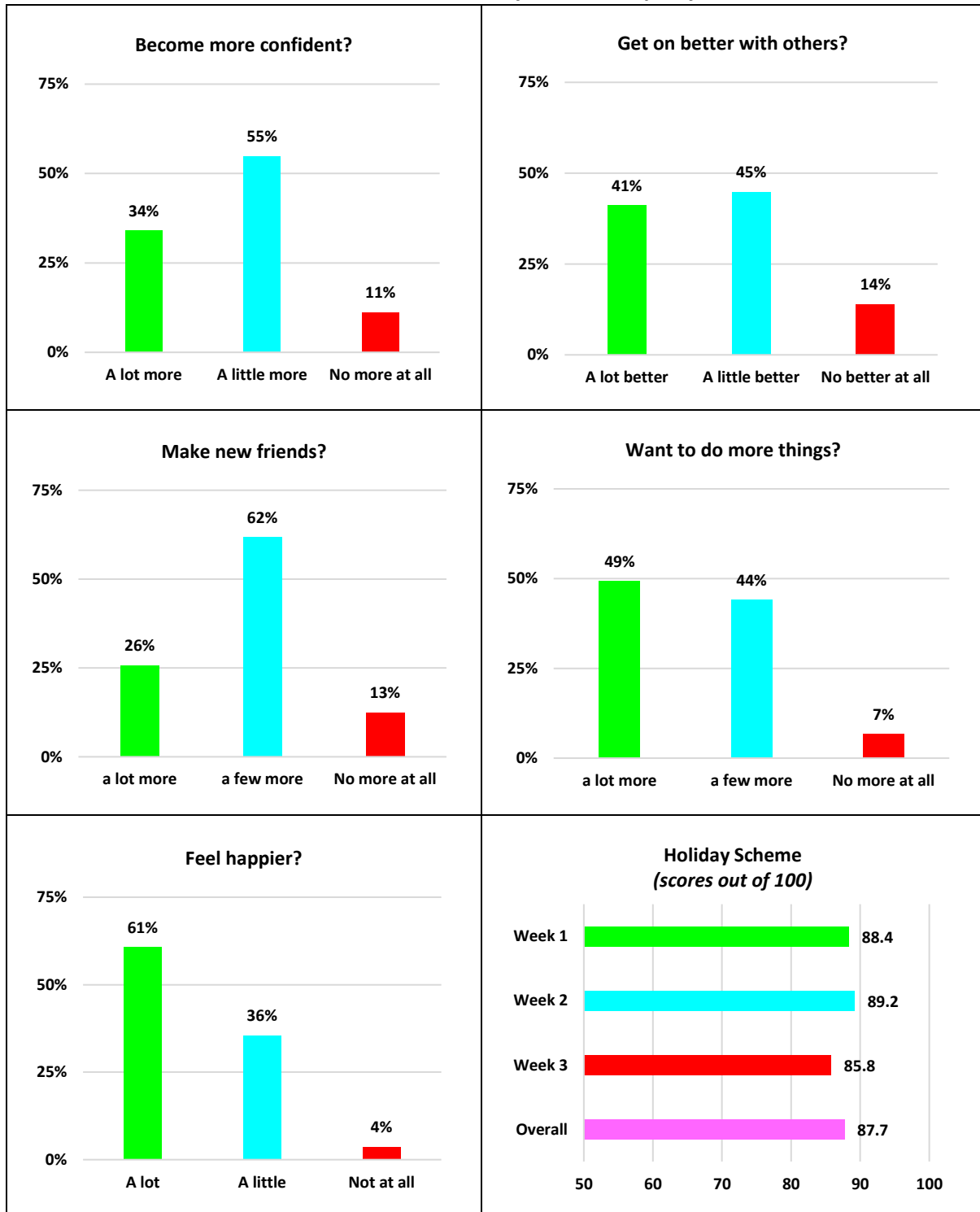
Evaluation questionnaires were distributed to the children at the end of each week. 136 forms were completed. Our aims for the children attending the Holiday Scheme were:

- 70% would become more confident.

- 75% would get on better with other children.
- 75% would make new friends.
- 80% would want to do new things.
- 90% would feel happier.

The returned questionnaires showed strong positive outcomes across the board. Children reported improvements in confidence, friendships, motivation, and happiness, with all our targets exceeded, as the charts below show.

How much has the Holiday Scheme helped you:



Key Takeaways:

- The strongest outcome for the children was feeling happier (97% overall vs. 90% target).
- Almost half the children (49%) felt "a lot" more motivated to try new things (93% overall vs 80% target).
- Even where the impact appeared low – e.g. 'making new friends' – there was still a positive overall impact (88% vs 75% target).
- Very few children chose "Not at all" in response to any question, highlighting the broad success of the scheme.



As part of the evaluation, we also asked the children to tell us:

What they learnt on the Holiday Activity Scheme?

From new sports and games to important social skills, children told us about the wide range of things they learnt during the Scheme. Many discovered new activities like dodgeball and chess, while others gained confidence, teamwork, and leadership skills. One child summed this up: *"(I learnt) to be fair, leadership, and teamwork."* A couple of children said that they had learnt nothing, but most highlighted personal growth and enjoyment.

What they would be doing if they weren't at Sulgrave?

Most children said they would be bored at home, playing video games, or watching TV. Some mentioned being with family or going to another club, but many felt they would miss out on fun experiences. As one child explained: *"(I would be) so bored because it's so fun here, doing activities that I can't do at home."* The scheme provides valuable structure and stimulation that children feel they would otherwise lack.

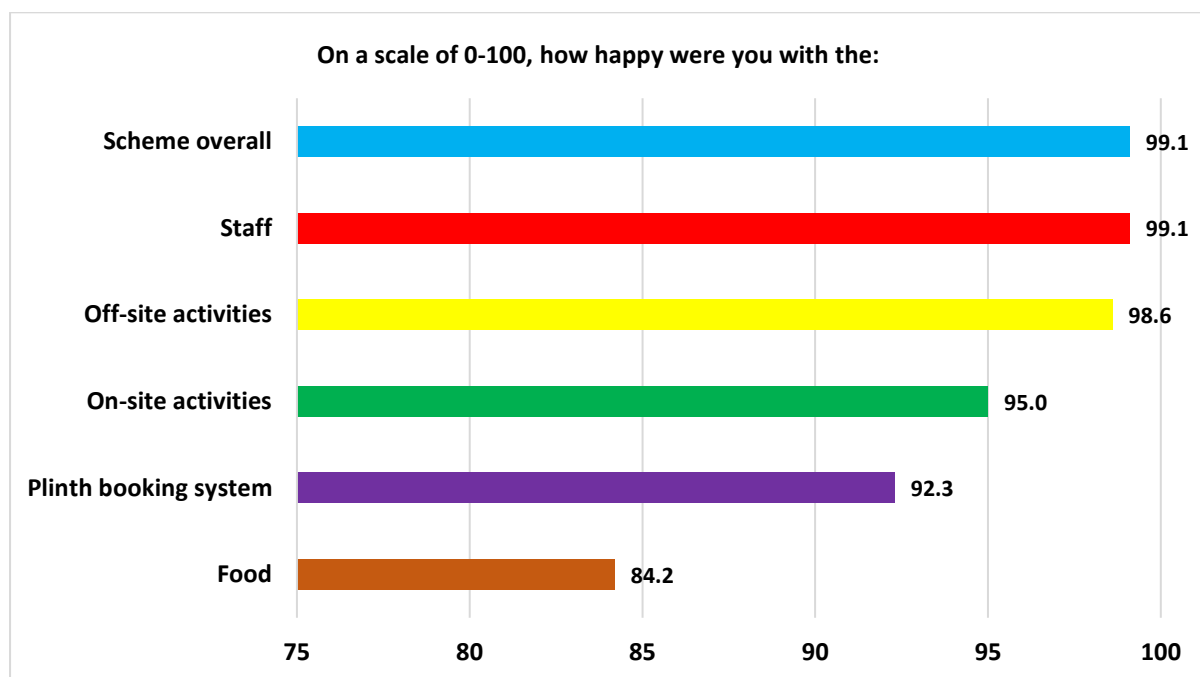
Why they like coming on the Holiday Activity Scheme

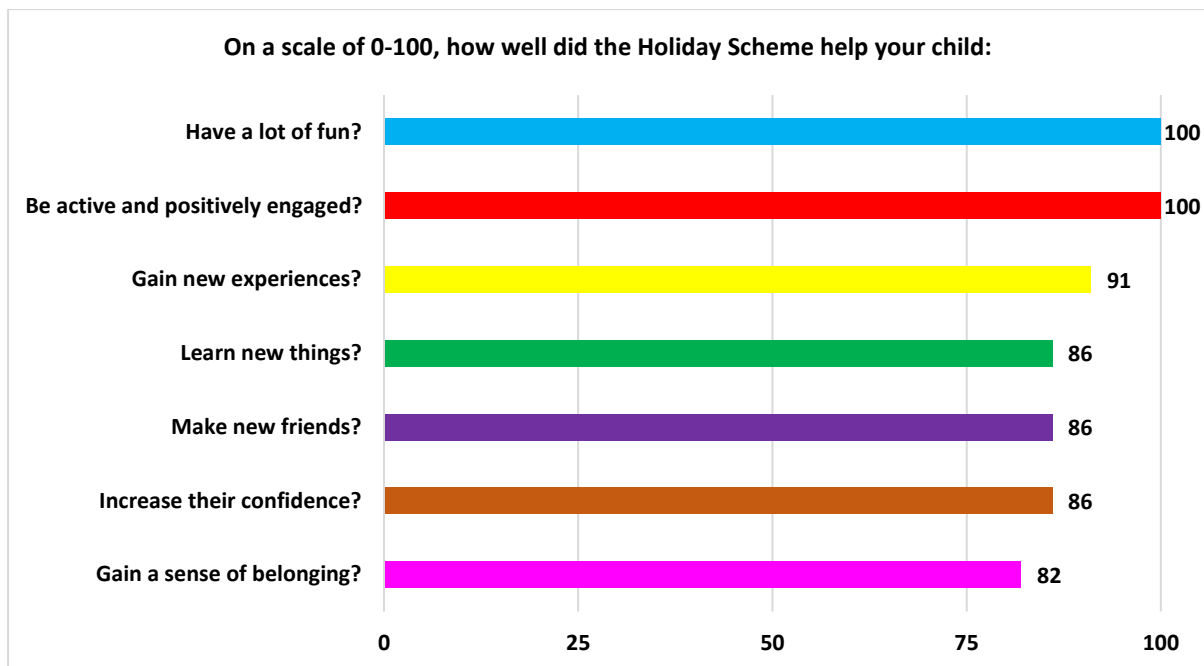
The children's answers focused on fun, friendship, and the variety of activities on offer. Many enjoyed the chance to try new things, especially kayaking and new sports, while others valued the opportunity to make friends and gain in confidence. One child captured the general feeling when saying: *"The activities we got to do were insanely fun and I have been able to make so many new friends."*



Evaluation – Parents / Carers

At the end of the Scheme, we also sent an online survey to the children's parents and carers. This was completed by 22 parents and carers of 27 children. They gave high scores on most aspects of the scheme and uniformly positive responses to questions about the benefits of the Scheme for their children.





On-site activities

Parents were very positive about the on-site activities, noting that children had fun and appreciated the variety offered. Many mentioned that their children *“really enjoyed the activities,”* and several highlighted the wide choice of games. However, some concerns were raised about inclusivity and repetition, such as the same children winning rewards repeatedly: *“Stop giving £5 to winning team. Most of the time(the) same children win.”*

Off-site activities

Feedback on the off-site activities was equally positive, with trips being described as well-organized, fun, and challenging. Activities like kayaking were especially appreciated for providing new experiences and sparking interest in ongoing participation. One parent noted, *“My son was so happy that he got to try new activities like kayaking and now wants to join.”* A few trips, such as litter picking, were noted as less exciting, but parents recognized their value in teaching responsibility.

Plinth booking system

The Plinth booking system received generally favorable comments, with parents finding it accessible and straightforward. Some suggestions focused on improving clarity and centralization, especially regarding our Senior Holiday Scheme: *“I was not aware that the Y7 and above was available. One centralised platform for all bookings should be used.”*

Staff

Parents were overwhelmingly complimentary about the staff, praising their enthusiasm, support, and communication. Several mentioned that staff positively influenced children’s moods and experiences, with one parent writing, *“One day, my son had a bad day. I told the staff. Next day he had positive day thanks to staff support.”* Suggestions for minor improvements included more engagement with parents at drop-off and pick-up times and more visible enthusiasm throughout the day.

Food

The food provided received mixed feedback. While choices were generally sufficient, some children were picky or preferred different options, and sandwiches were less popular than last year’s hot lunches. One comment reflected this sentiment: *“The hot lunches were always a plus, the sandwiches just didn’t hit the same spot.”*

Benefits

Finally, parents highlighted significant benefits for both children and families. Children enjoyed maintaining routines, socializing, and engaging in new experiences, while parents appreciated the time they gained to work, rest, or manage household tasks knowing their children were safe and happy. One parent summarized this well: *"We had time to work in between the drop off and pick up. We knew that our children were safe, engaged in sports / outings and well cared for by a wonderful, experienced team."*



Conclusion

The Sulgrave Junior Holiday Activity Scheme gave children the chance to learn new skills, discover hidden talents, and grow in confidence. Many children spoke about learning new games such as mini bridge and dodgeball, while others discovered personal strengths in sports and teamwork. One child reflected, *"(I learnt) that a lot of things depend on the rest of your team and how to be a good sport."* These opportunities involve not only physical activity but also encourage resilience, fairness, and leadership.

The scheme also provided important social benefits, offering children the chance to make new friends, improve their teamwork, and become more confident in group settings. For some, it was about learning to be kind and supportive, while for others it was about finding the courage to be more confident and outgoing. As one child put it, *"It makes me happy and (I) make more friends so that's why I like it."* The social environment helped children feel included and valued, building positive relationships that they would not have developed elsewhere.

Parents and children alike highlighted how the scheme offered exciting and varied activities, both on-site and off-site. From kayaking and trips to the Mind Sports Centre, to team games and fun challenges, there was a wide range to suit different interests. One parent noted the *"great variety of activities were fun and challenging,"* while a child added, *"The activities we got to do were insanely fun and I have been able to make so many new friends."* This variety kept children engaged and excited while ensuring they could have experiences they might not have had access to otherwise.

Finally, the scheme delivered clear benefits for families by providing structure, routine, and peace of mind for parents and carers. They valued the opportunity to work, rest, or spend time with younger siblings, knowing their children were safe, active, well cared for, and having a lot of fun: *"My son really enjoyed the trips and kept asking why the activities weren't longer!"*

