



AUTUMN 2022 YOUTH VOICE REPORT

Beccles, Bungay, Halesworth & villages

In the Autumn term, we received a brilliant response from 11 to 16 year olds on lots of issues. The views and comments have been raised with the right people in the area.

Thank you to all who participated - and please keep sharing your opinions and solutions through Youth Voice! We really want to hear YOUR voice!



YOUR SAY ON LONELINESS AND MENTAL & PHYSICAL HEALTH

The Community Partnership asked for your thoughts on how to reduce loneliness & isolation & improve health. They will take on board points and ideas raised. Here are some of the ideas!

Loneliness and isolation:

- More clubs that everyone can access where you can meet new people with similar interests
- Funding more youth clubs
- Having some activities to do alone
- A fair where people can go with friends and make new friends whilst having fun
- In schools, look into deeper so that people can spot signs of loneliness & prevent it
- Community areas should be made more welcoming & safer
- "Reduce discrimination and make the local area safer for everyone"

Mental and physical health:

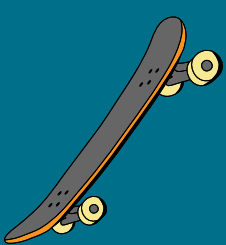
- More clubs - including different sports
- Install more gym equipment in open spaces & more football pitches
- More pools, tracks and fields etc and reduce prices for young people to access local gyms and pools
- More vegetables provided with school meals
- Provide coping mechanisms to help on body image & mental state
- More school support including counselling, mental health support groups & talks by professionals
- Garden/green areas
- "Make a nice calming trail"
- Make it easier to access services including getting appointments at the medical centre
- A calming app to help reduce anxiety & stress

IMPROVING OPEN SPACES LIKE BECCLES COMMON

Ideas put forward include:

- More activities
- More lighting at night - maybe increased police presence
- More bins
- More benches - e.g. "metal benches so they don't rot and break"
- More areas to hang out rather than to play
- Frequent maintenance
- More public events
- More interesting and colourful equipment as well as more floral life
- Clean-ups and litter picks

LOCAL NEWS



In October 2022, an event 'Food. Skate. Ball.' was held at Halesworth Skatepark to find out about what improvements young people want to the Town Park area. Over 80 young people attended and we are now working through what they said. Everyone had a great time - using the skatepark, sharing their ideas, playing basketball & enjoying a free burger and drink!