

Findings

Satisfaction with care (Questionnaires 1-3)

A total of 1703 surveys relating to the out-of-home-care system were returned. Findings reported in this chapter focus largely on those generated by Questionnaire 1 developed for older children and young people. Findings from Questionnaires 2 and 3 are presented as a point of comparison when the similarity of questionnaire items permits. For the purposes of this report:

- *Questionnaire 1* participants (those aged from around nine to 18 years of age) are referred to as young people
- *Questionnaire 2* participants (those aged from around five to eight years of age) are referred to as children
- *Questionnaire 3* participants (those aged from around 0 to four years of age) are referred to as young children.

Demographic information

Background information

The first section of each questionnaire included questions on background information relating to each young child, child and young person in out-of-home care. Table 1 provides a summary of background information from all those who participated in the survey (Questionnaires 1, 2 and 3).

As the table shows, the age range of young people was 4 years and 2 months to 18 years, with an average age of 13 years and 3 months.⁶ The ages of children ranged from 2 years and 6 months to 17 years and 11 months, with an average age of 8 years and 6 months. Young children's ages ranged from 1 month to 16 years and 2 months. The average age of these young children was 3 years and 10 months. Across each of the three groups boys and girls were fairly evenly represented.

As expected, the highest representation of surveys came from the most populated Department of Child Safety zones in the state - Logan and Brisbane West, Brisbane South and the Gold Coast, Brisbane North and the Sunshine Coast, and Ipswich and Western zone. Across all three participant groups, the lowest survey representation came from the Far Northern zone.

The majority of participants were Caucasian Australians. Children and young people of Aboriginal and Torres Straight Islander descent made up between 19.1% and 27.7% of all participants, the highest representation being among young children. Nearly all participants were born in Australia and the primary language spoken at home was English.

In terms of the type of out-of-home care placement currently experienced by children and young people, foster care was by far the most common. The second most common type of placement was relative care. Reports of being in residential care were highest (8.2%) among young people.

⁶ Although each of the five questionnaires was nominally identified as being suitable for a particular age group, this was a guide only and the questionnaire most suitable to each child's ability level was used. This accounts for why the range of ages provided in the tally of responses for each questionnaire includes children with ages outside the suggested age group level for that questionnaire. This information applies across all results but it is particularly relevant to keep in mind when looking at tables discussing ages, lengths of time and means.

Table 1 Background information

Item	Young people Age 9-18 years N = 728	Children Age 5-8 years N = 424	Young children/ Age 0-4 years N = 551
Age in years + months – range⁷ mean	4yrs 2mths-18yrs 13yrs 3mths	2yrs 6mths-17yrs 11mths 8yrs 6mths	1mth-16yrs 2mths 3yrs 10mths
Sex (%):			
Male	50.8	48.5	52.9
Female	49.2	51.5	47.1
Zones (%):			
Far Northern	5.4	7.6	5.6
Northern	8.2	8.1	8.5
Central	16.2	11.5	11.7
Ipswich and Western	19.4	20.8	22.6
Brisbane Nth and Sunshine Coast	16.0	17.4	22.3
Brisbane Sth and Gold Coast	14.2	14.2	14.1
Logan and Brisbane West	20.5	20.5	15.2
Indigenous status (%):			
Caucasian Australian	74.3	67.3	65.5
Aboriginal (A)	19.1	26.0	27.7
Torres Strait Islander (TSI)	1.8	1.5	1.7
Both A and TSI	1.8	1.8	.9
Other	3.1	3.5	4.2
Country of birth (%):			
Australia	98.0	98.3	99.8
Other	2.0	1.7	.2
Language at home (%):			
English	99.4	100	100
Other	.6	0	0
Type of care (%):			
Foster care	69.2	74.6	76.5
Relative care	19.5	23.2	21.7
Specialist foster care	1.7	.2	1.5
Residential care	8.2	2.0	.4
Supported independent living	1.4	0	NOT ASKED

Frequency and nature of disabilities

Information from participants established the frequency and nature of disabilities⁸ among children and young people in care. As can be seen in Table 2, the frequency of disabilities among all three groups was high. This was particularly apparent among the young children, 27.2% of whom reported some kind of disability.

Table 2 Rates of disability

	Young people	Children	Young children
Have a disability	20.8%	22.5%	27.2%

⁷ See the *Design of Survey* section and footnote 6 for an explanation of variances outside nominal age range.

⁸ The reporting of having a disability represents the child or young person's perception of a disability. This does not necessarily reflect the disabilities classified by Disability Services Queensland.

In relation to disabilities, the most commonly reported across all three groups were learning, behavioural or developmental disorders such as ADHD, Autism, Asperger's Syndrome and Dyslexia. A wide range of other disabilities were also reported, including Foetal Alcohol Syndrome, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, Cerebral Palsy and Epilepsy.

Prevalence of ADHD medication

The three groups of participants were asked if they were currently taking medication for ADHD to try to gauge its prevalence. As can be seen in Table 3, a substantial proportion of young people and children reported that they were taking medication.

Table 3 Prevalence of ADHD medication

	Young people	Children	Young children
Taking medication for ADHD	15.6%	14.1%	6.0%

Of those taking medication, most said they were prescribed Methylphenidates such as Ritalin and Concerta. Dexamphetamine was also commonly noted. Antipsychotic medications such as Risperdal and Zyprexa were also cited, while some mentioned taking a combination of up to three medications for their ADHD.

Placement information

Several questions focused on the placements of each child and young person in care.

No definition of placement was provided in the survey, and it is possible children and young people could be counting respite care in their responses. Information on these questions, including length of current placement, age at commencement of care, total number of placements, and years of care are presented in the tables below. Comparative information is also presented.

Length of current placement

As Table 4 indicates, the average length of the current placement was highest among young people. Placement lengths for this group averaged four years and one month and ranged from birth to 18 years. Average placement lengths were considerably less for the younger groups. The high maximum of 13 years for the third group is likely to be explained by the small number of children and young people who, due to developmental delay or disability, had carers complete surveys on their behalf. These children and young people have typically been in out-of-home care for some time.

Table 4 Length of current placement (range and mean scores)

	Young people	Children	Young children
Range	0-18 yrs	1mth-11yrs	0-13yrs
Mean	4yrs 1mth	2yrs 11mths	1yr 9mths

The distribution of placement lengths for the three groups is presented in Table 5.

Table 5 Length of current placement (frequency distribution)

Length of current placement in years	Young People (9-18)	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent	Children (5-8)	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent	Young children (0-4)	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
<1	202	29.3	29.3	109	27.9	27.9	183	34.0	34.0
1	112	16.3	45.6	74	18.9	46.8	158	29.3	63.3
2	77	11.2	56.7	46	11.8	58.6	93	17.3	80.5
3	44	6.4	63.1	45	11.5	70.1	42	7.8	88.3
4	31	4.5	67.6	33	8.4	78.5	28	5.2	93.5
5	30	4.4	72.0	21	5.4	83.9	7	1.3	94.8
6	21	3.0	75.0	20	5.1	89.0	7	1.3	96.1
7	24	3.5	78.5	15	3.8	92.8	5	0.9	97.0
8	22	3.2	81.7	14	3.6	96.4	3	0.6	97.6
9	22	3.2	84.9	6	1.5	98.0	5	0.9	98.5
10	17	2.5	87.4	6	1.5	99.5	3	0.6	99.1
11	21	3.0	90.4	2	0.5	100.0	2	0.4	99.4
12	19	2.8	93.2				2	0.4	99.8
13	17	2.5	95.6				1	0.2	100.0
14	9	1.3	97.0						
15	8	1.2	98.1						
16	9	1.3	99.4						
17	3	0.4	99.9						
18	1	0.1	100.0						
Total	689	100.0		391	100.0		539	100.0	

Age at commencement of care

Table 6 shows although there was substantial variation in the three groups regarding the age at which care commenced, across all groups, care began as early as birth. However, mean scores indicate that for most participants, care started much later than this. Young people, for instance, went into care at an average age of six years and nine months, while children averaged four years and 10 months. On the other hand, reports from carers indicated that younger children commenced care at an average age of less than two years-of-age.

Table 6 Age in years at commencement of care (range and mean scores)

	Young people	Children	Young children
Range	0-16yrs 11mths	0-16yrs 1mth	0-15yrs
Mean	6yrs 9mths	4yrs 10mths	1yr 9mths

The distribution of ages at commencement of care for the three groups can be seen below in Table 7.

Table 7 Age in years at commencement of care (frequency distribution)

Age in years	Young people (9-18)	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent	Children (5-8)	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent	Young children (0-4)	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
0	74	11.3	11.3	40	11.6	11.6	266	50.7	50.7
1	49	7.5	18.8	29	8.4	20.0	91	17.3	68.0
2	41	6.3	25.0	27	7.8	27.8	55	10.5	78.5
3	51	7.8	32.8	40	11.6	39.4	43	8.2	86.7
4	40	6.1	38.9	39	11.3	50.7	30	5.7	92.4
5	34	5.2	44.1	38	11.0	61.7	14	2.7	95.0
6	46	7.0	51.1	39	11.3	73.0	4	0.8	95.8
7	33	5.0	56.2	40	11.6	84.6	7	1.3	97.1
8	45	6.9	63.1	20	5.8	90.4	1	0.2	97.3
9	41	6.3	69.3	11	3.2	93.6	2	0.4	97.7
10	43	6.6	75.9	4	1.2	94.8	0	0	97.7
11	34	5.2	81.1	10	2.9	97.7	5	1.0	98.7
12	38	5.8	86.9	3	0.9	98.6	3	0.6	99.2
13	33	5.0	91.9	2	0.6	99.1	3	0.6	99.8
14	34	5.2	97.1	0	0	99.1	0	0	99.8
15	12	1.8	98.9	2	0.6	99.7	1	0.2	100.0
16	6	0.9	99.8	1	0.3	100.0			
18	1	0.2	100.0						
Total	655	100.0		345	100.0		525	100.0	

Total placements

Responses from the three groups show the number of placements increases with age. For instance, Table 8 shows young people had averaged almost four placements at the time they were surveyed, while children averaged two and a half. Table 8 also shows the large range in the number of placements, with some children and young people in each age group experiencing a large number of placements. For example, three young people said they had had 50 placements. The proportion of each age group from oldest to youngest who had experienced more than two⁹ placements was 46.9%, 32.1%, and 16.3%.

As no definition was provided of what a placement was, it is possible children and young people could be including respite care in their count.

Table 8 Total number of placements as reported by the participants (range and mean scores)

	Young people	Children	Young children
Range	0-50	0-36	0-48
Mean	3.7	2.5	1.7

⁹ The Productivity Commission in its *Report on Government Services 2006* identified that 'Stability of placement is an indicator of governments' objective to provide high quality services that meet the needs of recipients on the basis of relative need and available resources. This indicator is defined as the number of placements that a child has during a period of continuous out-of-home care. A low number of child placements (one or two) per period of care is desirable, but must be balanced against other placement quality indicators, such as placements in compliance with the Aboriginal Child Placement Principle, local placements and placements with siblings. Children may have multiple placements for good reasons, (for example, an initial placement followed by a longer term placement) or it may be desirable to change placements to achieve better child-family compatibility. It is not desirable for a child to stay in an unsatisfactory or unsupportive placement. Also, older children are more likely to have multiple placements as they move towards independence and voluntarily seek alternate placements... p. 15.9.

The distribution of placement numbers for the three groups is presented in Table 9.

Table 9 Total number of placements as reported by the participants (frequency distribution)

Total number of placements	Young people	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent	Children	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent	Young children	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
0	9	1.4	1.4	6	1.6	1.6	8	1.6	1.6
1	187	28.6	30.0	144	39.1	40.8	275	54.0	55.6
2	151	23.1	53.1	100	27.2	67.9	143	28.1	83.7
3	91	13.9	67.1	59	16.0	84.0	53	10.4	94.1
4	58	8.9	76.0	17	4.6	88.6	17	3.3	97.4
5	56	8.6	84.5	18	4.9	93.5	8	1.6	99.0
6	30	4.6	89.1	8	2.2	95.7	1	0.2	99.2
7	9	1.4	90.5	4	1.1	96.7	2	0.4	99.6
8	13	2.0	92.5	1	0.3	97.0	0	0	99.6
9	2	0.3	92.8	3	0.8	97.8	1	0.2	99.8
10	13	2.0	94.8	1	0.3	98.1			
11	1	0.2	94.9	1	0.3	98.4			
12	7	1.1	96.0	0	0	98.4			
13	3	0.5	96.5	2	0.5	98.9			
14	3	0.5	96.9	0	0	98.9			
15	5	0.8	97.7	1	0.3	99.2			
17	1	0.2	97.9	0	0	99.2			
18	0	0	97.9	1	0.3	99.5			
20	3	0.5	98.3	1	0.3	99.7			
21	1	0.2	98.5						
22	2	0.3	98.8						
25	3	0.5	99.2						
30	1	0.2	99.4						
32	1	0.2	99.5						
36				1	0.3	100.0			
48							1	0.2	100.0
50	3	0.5	100.0						
Total	653	100.0		368	100.0		509	100.0	

Total length of time in care

In relation to total time in care, score ranges shown in Table 10 indicate wide variation in each of the groups. For instance, some young people had been in care for less than one month, while others had been in care for up to 18 years. The average length of time that young people had been in care was six years 10 months. Children, had averaged four years in care, although as the range suggests, some had been in care for as long as 14 years 7 months.

Table 10 Total length (in years and months) of care (range and mean scores)

	Young people	Children	Young children
Range	0-18yrs	1mth-14yrs 7mths	1mth-14yrs 11mths
Mean	6yrs 10mths	4yrs	2yrs 4mths

The distribution of length of care for the three groups is presented in Table 11.

Table 11 Total length of care in years (frequency distribution)

Length of time in care in years	Young people	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent	Children	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent	Young children	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
0	45	7.0	7.0	35	10.8	10.8	126	25.1	25.1
1	63	9.8	16.8	51	15.8	26.6	151	30.1	55.3
2	62	9.7	26.5	43	13.3	39.9	95	19.0	74.3
3	52	8.1	34.6	44	13.6	53.6	48	9.6	83.8
4	33	5.1	39.8	33	10.2	63.8	31	6.2	90.0
5	40	6.2	46.0	28	8.7	72.4	13	2.6	92.6
6	33	5.1	51.2	21	6.5	78.9	10	2.0	94.6
7	45	7.0	58.2	29	9.0	87.9	6	1.2	95.8
8	32	5.0	63.2	24	7.4	95.4	4	0.8	96.6
9	31	4.8	68.0	5	1.5	96.9	7	1.4	98.0
10	51	8.0	76.0	7	2.2	99.1	1	0.2	98.2
11	32	5.0	81.0	1	0.3	99.4	4	0.8	99.0
12	30	4.7	85.6	0	0	99.4	0	0	99.0
13	36	5.6	91.3	1	0.3	99.7	3	0.6	99.6
14	17	2.7	93.9	1	0.3	100.0	2	0.4	100.0
15	17	2.7	96.6						
16	13	2.0	98.6						
17	8	1.2	99.8						
18	1	0.2	100.0						
Total	641	100.0		323	100.0		501	100.0	

Reunification

Children and young people were asked how many times they had been placed back home. Although mean scores shown in Table 12 indicate that most had not been returned home, the score ranges suggest that some had experienced many reunifications, with 13.4% of young people, 6.4% of children, and 1.2% of young children having experienced more than one reunification breakdown. Some children reported being placed back home as many as 20 times, while one young person reported being placed back home as many as 15 times. Reports from carers on behalf of young children or those with a disability indicated reunifications for this group occurred less frequently.

Table 12 Number of reunifications (range and mean scores)

	Young people	Children	Young children
Range	0-15	0-20	0-2
Mean	.69	.46	.12

The distribution of reunifications for the three groups is presented in Table 13.

Table 13 Number of reunifications (frequency distribution)

Times placed back home	Young people	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent	Children	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent	Young children	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
0	455	72.0	72.0	275	79.9	79.9	431	88.9	88.9
1	92	14.6	86.6	47	13.7	93.6	48	9.9	98.8
2	32	5.1	91.6	11	3.2	96.8	6	1.2	100.0
3	23	3.6	95.3	4	1.2	98.0			
4	11	1.7	97.0	1	0.3	98.3			
5	4	0.6	97.6	2	0.6	98.8			
6	1	0.2	97.8						
7	2	0.3	98.1						
8	2	0.3	98.4						
9	3	0.5	98.9						
10	2	0.3	99.2	1	0.3	99.1			
11	1	0.2	99.4						
12	2	0.3	99.7	1	0.3	99.4			
14	1	0.2	99.8						
15	1	0.2	100.0						
20				2	0.6	100.0			
Total	632	100.0		344	100.0		485	100.0	

School attendance

Children and young people were also asked a range of questions about school, including whether they attend school and, if so, which year level they were enrolled in, how many schools they have attended, if they have ever been kept back a year at school, and if they have, how many times.

Table 14 shows that over 90% of respondents attend school. Further analyses revealed that 59.1% of the young people are enrolled in Years 7-11. Table 14 also shows that, on average, young people have attended more than four schools. While most have attended up to five schools, many young people reported having attended up to 10 schools and some up to 23 schools. One young person reported attending 50 schools.

Table 14 School attendance

	Young people	Children
Attend school	91.2%	92.5%
Mean number of schools attended	4.1	2.3
Repeated a year at school	31.9%	24.9%
Mean number of times held back	1.1	1.0

We also asked young people if they had ever repeated a year at school. As seen in Table 14, almost one third (31.9%) indicated that they had and, of these, most (87.9%) reported repeating a year only once. The remaining young people had repeated a year up to four times.

Table 14 also shows that 92.5% of children in out-of-home care attend school. At the time of the survey, over two-thirds (68.5%) of these children were enrolled in Years 1 to 6. Like the young people, many of the children had attended more than one school, with many having attended three to five

schools. Two children reported having already attended 20 schools. When asked if they had ever been kept back a year at school, one quarter (24.9%) reported that they had. Most (89.6%) of these children had been kept back a year once.

Perceptions of current placement

The second section of the questionnaire asked children and young people a range of questions about their current placement. Responses from young people are discussed first. Where the similarity of survey items enables comparison across the groups, findings from children and young children are also reported.

Feelings of safety

Young people were asked if they feel safe in their current placement. As Table 15 shows, 97.7% of young people do feel safe, while a small, but not insignificant, percentage indicated that they feel unsafe.¹⁰ Similar responses were found for children. Some of these responses included not feeling safe because of more generic fears such as not liking the dark or the town they live in.

Table 15 Feelings of safety

Young people		Children	
Yes	No	Yes	No
97.7%	2.3%	97.6%	2.4%

Children and young people were also invited to comment on why they feel safe or unsafe in their current placement. These comments appear in the Appendix to this report.

Examples of comments from those who explained why they do feel safe include:

No one harasses me here. No one annoys me here. I don't get bullied, don't get pushed and shoved.

I love my current placement and feel safer than I did when I was with my Mum.

I feel safe here and know every one at school and around town.

Examples of comments from those who explained why they do not feel safe include:

Because when the carers go home, we don't know who's coming.

I worry that Mum and Dad might come to get me.

Perceptions of carer

A number of questions focused on young people's perceptions of their carer. They were asked, for instance, whether or not their carer understands them, cares what is best for them and treats them well. Table 16 shows that the vast majority of young people feel their carer cares about what is best for them and treats them well. However, the table shows there was slightly less consensus among young people that their carer understands them.

Table 16 Perceptions of carer

	Young people	
	Agree	Disagree
Carer understands you	95.0%	5.0%
Carer cares about what is best for you	98.2%	1.8%
Carer treats you well	98.9%	1.1%

¹⁰ The Commission has a legislated responsibility to notify the appropriate authority should it receive information about a child who may be in need of protection under the *Child Protection Act 1999* or who may be the victim of a criminal offence. In cases where a survey respondent indicated they did not feel safe, their response was attended to in consultation with the Department of Child Safety. Children and young people were told when giving consent to the survey that anonymity would be guaranteed except where they identified that they or someone else was at risk. In those circumstances they were told the Commission "may have to tell someone to keep you safe".

Many young people chose to comment on why their carer understands or does not understand them. A full list of these comments is provided in Appendix 1. Examples of comments from two young people who thought their carer understood them were:

They give me time to talk to them about stuff.
She understands how I feel and she knows my needs and wants.

On the other hand, two of the young people who did not feel that their carer understood them had the following to say:

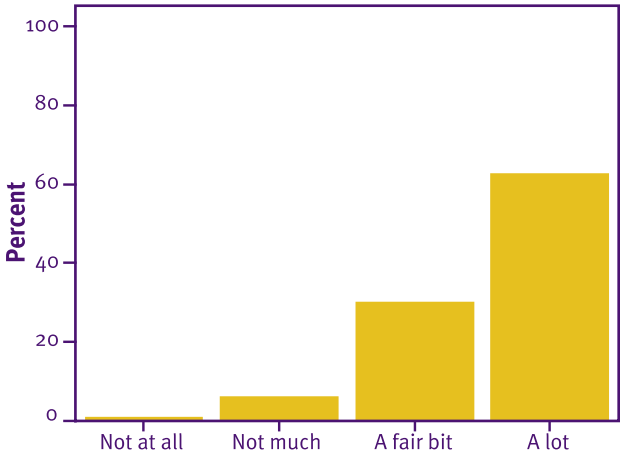
I think they can't understand because they haven't experienced it and just refer me to a textbook.
Not listened to. They don't understand why I do the things I do.

Another question in this section asked young people to indicate the extent to which they believe that their carer listens to them.

As can be seen in Figure 1, almost two-thirds (62.9%) of young people felt their carer listens to them a lot.

A further 30.1% reported that their carer listens to them a fair bit. Seven per cent of young people indicated that their carer didn't listen much or at all.

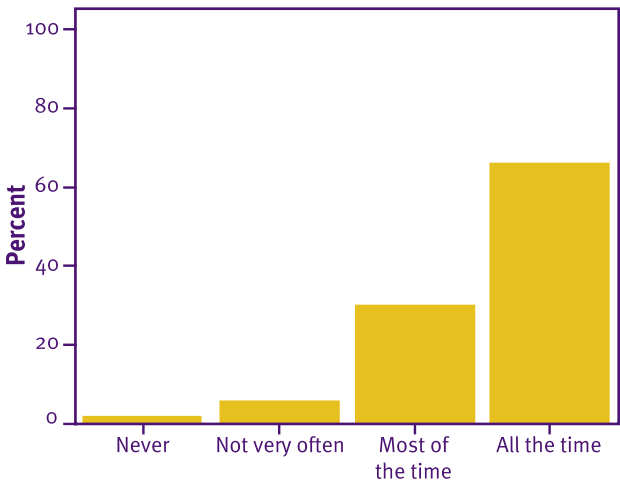
Figure 1
Carer listens to you (young people)



Young people were also asked about the extent to which their carer treats them the same as other children or young people who live with them. Figure 2 shows that almost two thirds (64.8%) of the young people felt they are treated the same as others all the time. A further 28.1% believed this to be the case most of the time. Around 7% reported that they were never, or not very often, treated the same as others not in care.

Children were also asked if their carer listens to them, is nice to them and treats them the same as other children who lived with them. Analyses of responses revealed that the majority of children in this group believed their carer does listen to them (97.0%), is nice to them (99.3%) and treats them the same as other children living with them (89.9%).

Figure 2
Treated the same as other children living with you (young people)



To gauge the size of the households or residential care facilities in which the children and young people live, they were asked how many other children and young people live with them. Table 17 shows the combined responses from children and young people. As can be seen, there is wide variation in the size of households and facilities in which children and young people live. More than half live with five or more other children and young people, while one in ten live in households or facilities of between 10 and 18 children and young people.

Table 17 Number of other young people and children who live here

Number of children and young people who live here	Summed frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative percent
0	21	0.5	0.5
1	135	3.0	3.5
2	195	8.7	12.3
3	201	13.5	25.8
4	161	14.4	40.2
5	121	13.5	53.7
6	98	13.2	66.9
7	81	12.7	79.6
8	58	10.4	90
9	24	4.8	94.8
10	9	2	96.8
11	9	2.2	99
13	1	0.3	99.3
14	1	0.3	99.6
18	1	0.3	100
Total	1116		

Other aspects of placement

Table 18 shows a number of other issues that children and young people were asked about in relation to their current placement. Both groups were asked to respond 'yes' or 'no' to these questions. In relation to household rules and discipline, the table shows most children and young people consider the rules and discipline to be reasonable and agree that their possessions are treated with respect.

Two further questions focused on satisfaction with some of the physical aspects of where they lived – the cleanliness and the amount of space. The table suggests that young people were more satisfied with the cleanliness of their place of residence than the amount of space they had. Children appeared slightly less satisfied than the young people with some aspect of their placement.

Table 18 Other aspects of placement

	Young people		Children	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Rules & discipline reasonable	94.7%	5.3%	92.4%	7.6%
Possessions treated with respect	94.0%	6.0%	93.2%	6.8%
Have enough space	92.5%	7.5%	92.9%	7.1%
Place is clean enough	94.9%	1.9%	96.8%	3.2%

Happiness with placement

Another question asked young people to rate their level of happiness with their current placement from one (really unhappy) to 10 (really happy). As can be seen in Figure 3, ratings ranged from a minimum of 0 to a maximum of (an enthusiastic) 11. The high mean score of 8.63 indicates that most young people are very happy with their placement.

Responses from children about their happiness revealed similar findings. When asked if they were happy or not, 97.1% commented that they were happy, while 2.9% commented that they were not happy.

Open-ended questions gave young people the opportunity to comment further on two aspects of their current care arrangement – the best thing about their current placement and what would make their placement better.

In terms of the best thing about the current placement, many again made reference to feeling safe. For instance, one young person commented:

It is safe, I have food and a loving Mum and Dad,” while one of the children stated, “I am always safe and there is enough food and I don’t have to worry about being kicked out.

While another young person’s comments about their placement were:

Rewarded for being me,” and, “I get to sleep on the top bunk.

Many commented further on what they would like to see improved or changed to make their placement better. Analysis of young people’s comments revealed eight primary themes or categories of responses. These themes and examples of comments typifying each of the themes are listed below in order of popularity. A full list of all themes and comments can be found in the Appendix.

Changes/additions to house

A bigger house would be good, because we are all bigger now, and there isn’t much space for everyone.

Yard could do with a bit of grass.

Possessions/pets

Would like to get more pocket money.

Would like a dog.

Better relationships within family

Have one of my brothers start to help and being part of this family and not always trying to be hard to get along with.

That we get help with anger management and depression and healthy relationships.

Own bedroom/privacy

A tidier bedroom partner. More privacy.

More room. Separate space for other people to be.

Another child in placement

A kid my own age.

Have a girl in care around my age living at our house.

Figure 3
Happiness with current placement
(young people)

