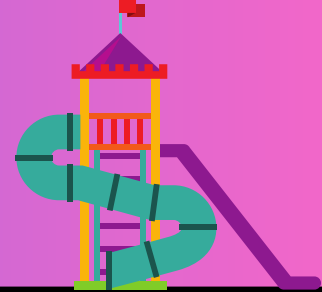


HAPPEN Play Availability FACT SHEET



The Research

The Happen Survey aimed to identify the relationship between play availability and the wellbeing of children and young people in South Wales (years 4-6), including their behavior, emotional health and autonomy.

34,177 pupils

Data from 2016-2023

20% of participants can play in all the places they would like to



39% can play in some of the places



28% can play in a few places



14% can play in hardly any



Key Findings

Gender and play availability

Boys were more likely to have access to all areas in which they would like to play in comparison to girls and those who preferred not to disclose their gender. This finding highlights the significance of gender bias within playground design.

Play availability and deprivation

The most deprived children and young people had access to only a few or hardly any places in which they would like to play. Those more affluent were able to play in some or all of the places.

Play availability, behavior and emotional wellbeing

Children and young people who were able to play in some or all of the places they would like to had better emotional and behavioural wellbeing. The children and young people who could play in a few or hardly any places reported feeling less happy and as though they had less autonomy in their lives.