

# The Play of Children at Home and in Communities.

The Happen Survey explored the factors that children and young people believe influence their play at school and within the community.

The data is based on 1,200 responses from June 2024.

## Active Play at School.

Children were most enthusiastic towards play at school when it involved physical activity. The participants asked for:

- A shelter to play outside in all weather conditions.
- Outdoor lessons and more visits to the park.
- PE lessons three times a week. These PE lessons would include a variety of activities, such as trampolining, climbing, gymnastics, dance and skipping ropes.
- Taking part in Forrest Schools.
- Better and safer equipment for the yard.
- A variety of games to play during breaktimes, including sports day games all year round.
- Visits from external sport coaches.
- More sports clubs.

## The Impact of Pollution on Children's Play in Communities.

The responses indicated that children would be more likely to play in their communities if there was less pollution. This includes:

- Pollutants from cars
- Dog mess
- Litter and the remnants of cigarettes, vapes and drugs.

## Increased opportunities for play within communities.

When asked what could make them happier outside of school, children asked for:

- Areas to relax in and socialise with friends, especially for girls.
- Bike paths.
- A gym for children and young people.
- Low-cost sports club.
- Leisure Centres
- Green spaces
- More exciting and safer equipment in parks
- An area to play in during all weather conditions.