

Trowbridge through the eyes of a child survey results
The results of an online survey carried out in the summer of 2021 by Trowbridge Town Council on behalf of Trowbridge Wellbeing Partnership

Executive Summary

40 responses were rereviewed from a range of postcodes across the town. 45% were male and 55% female and the age range was from 1 to 14. Respondents were overwhelmingly White British with only 1 (2.5%) from White Other and no responses from BME families. 7.5% had some educational, mental, or physical disability.

Responses give a fascinating insight into the different experiences of children growing up in Trowbridge. Some revel in the activities their children can engage in, whilst others find little or nothing and lament the town's lack of bowling, a proper leisure centre etc. The feeling seems more prevalent as children get older and several respondents in question 15 cite the lack of facilities for teenagers as an issue.

Favourite things to do in Trowbridge including at home.

Parks and green spaces were the most popular with 43 mentions (some respondents mentioned several parks) followed by home play, creative activities, walking and organised sport. This is confirmed in responses to question 10 about favourite things to do and places to go in Trowbridge, where parks were mentioned 44 times followed by eating out (16) and the cinema (11). They also feature highly in response to question 14, What things do you like most about Trowbridge which benefit your child? Parks were mentioned 15 times and access to nature 6.

Typical weekday and weekend

31 respondents, 78% have children at school. Of these 55% take part in after school clubs or other organised activities. Some respondents provided a detailed description of their week which gives a real flavour of their lives. At weekends 60% take part in activities with friends and family, 58% spend time with friends and family and 48% take part in organised activities. Only 20% go on visits outside Trowbridge which are not family related.

The impact of the pandemic.

Respondents cited a range of things they had done before the pandemic. Swimming was mentioned 10 times and there is clearly some frustration about the perceived difficulty in booking lessons. It also appears in some of the things that are worrying children and young people. 58% of respondents replied to this question with friendship, the environment, covid and school being the main causes of worries.

Worst things to do in Trowbridge /Changes needed in the town.

In this section nearly a third of respondents expressed concerns about safety, antisocial behaviour, drinking, and drug taking in the parks and other specific locations. This was replicated in question 15, What changes would you like to see in Trowbridge to make it better for your child? The same percentage raised similar concerns about safety. A

significant number of residents feel that safety is an issue. Although this is a perception data shows that in 2021 Trowbridge had the highest number of violent crimes in Wiltshire and the second highest number of incidents of antisocial behaviour. The biggest need for change, however, was in providing more activities with 52.5% expressing this with a variety of specific suggestions.

Moving Forward

Question 16 was Thinking about your hopes for your child. How could you and others bring about these changes? This attract a wide range of interesting responses which have been reproduced in full have. The varied made them difficult to analyse. 13 respondents, 32.5%, gave their email address as being happy to be contacted. Copies of this report have now been sent to them.

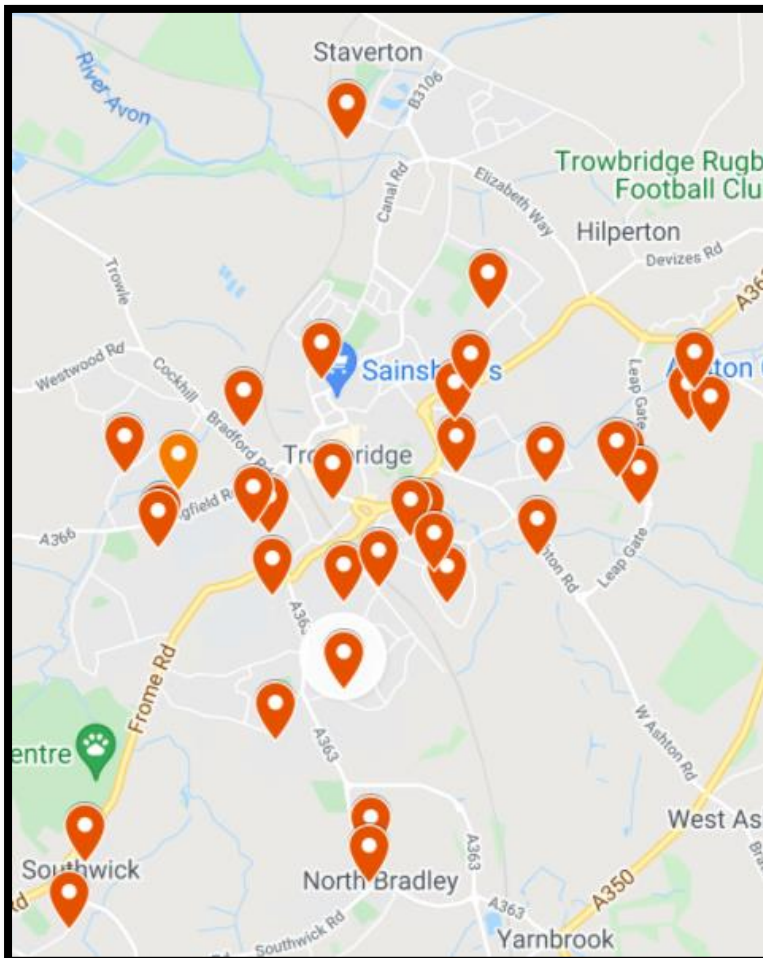
Results of the Survey

1. Postcodes

(Hungerford Avenue Parsonage Rd Brook Road Old Farm Road Wood Marsh, Inox Road were referred to by name rather than Post Code.)

BA140SB	BA14	BA149PG	BA140AN	Ba140SD	BA147WN	BA140RZ	BA147BQ	BA133JH
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
BA146FP	BA147BU	BA149QR	BA147LZ	BA149ES	BA147UD	BA140PA	BA147AJ	BA148LP
1	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	1
BA149DR	BA147HN	BA140NS	BA140QL	BA147AH	BA148WD	BA147XA	BA147SS	BA149ER
1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1
BA140LN	BA149TR	BA147WL	BA140AD	BA147WW	BA147JB	BA148JN	BA147WS	BA147SU
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
BA149AT								
1								

The map below gives the geographical location of respondents showing that none are from the most deprived areas of the town.



2. Gender

Male	18 (45%)	Female	22 (55%)
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3. Age

Age	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Number	4	2	1	2	4	5	2	3	0
%	10%	5%	2.5%	5%	10%	12.5%	5%	7.5%	0%
Age	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Number	6	3	3	3	2	0	0	0	0
%	15%	7.5%	7.5%	7.5%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%

4. Ethnicity

Category	Number
White English, Scottish, Welsh, Northern Irish, British	39 (97.5%)
White Other	1 (2.5%)

5. Disability

Yes	7 (17.5%)	No	33 (82.5%)
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- Learning difficulties and some physical challenges
- Autism 3
- Dyslexia 1
- Asthma and severe allergies 1
- Profoundly disabled epilepsy 1

6. Favourite things in Trowbridge including at home

Activity	Numbers	Comments
Parks	43	Parks (17), Town Park play area (6,) Town Park, Hilperton, Broadmead (2), Hope Nature Reserve (2), Southwick Country Park (2), Sensory Garden, Fairwood Lakes, Grove Park, Biss Meadow, gym equipment, zip wire, bike ramp at Studley Green, crazy golf, skate park (2), green spaces, the outdoors (2).
Home play	18	Reading (5), Lego (2), cars and planes, own garden (2), toys, alone.
Creative Activities	16	Drama (3), performing arts, drawing (3), crafts & arts (2), painting, clay modelling, origami, cooking (2), baking, online drama for those with SEN
Walking	15	River Biss, Dog walking, around Broadmead. Around town with friends, adventure trails

Sport	12	Rugby (4), basketball, Wildcats girls' football, cricket club, taekwondo, football (2), trampolining, Parkour
Eating out	11	Leykers, Shakeaway, kiosk in the park, milk bar at Brokers wood
Swimming	10	
Cycling	9	
Early Years	9	Baloos soft play (5), St John's Church (2), toddler groups (2)
Electronic	8	Gaming 5, Xbox, TV, facetime with friends.
Cinema	7	
Library	4	
Gardening	4	Allotment
Time with friends/family	4	
School	3	Maths, science
Museum	3	
Scouts etc	3	Scouts 2, Rainbows 1
Town Hall	1	

Other Comments

- Interested in wildlife
- Events
- More accessible play equipment
- Nothing
- Nothing outside home in Trowbridge either go to Bath or Wellow.
- Picnics daytrips

7. A typical weekday during the school term

At school (3 special)	31	
Childcare/nursery	5	
Home	4	
Travel to school	Walk	10
	Cycle	3
	Drive	4
	did not specify	14
Take part in clubs or activities	17 (55% of those at school)	
Spend time at home	15	
Meet friend go into town	4	

Responses

- School + Wildcats on Mondays, swimming lessons in Westbury Tuesdays, Beavers in Warminster Wednesdays
- Being with a few select friends and adults
- Go to school and sometimes attend after school clubs.
- Does not like mess or people being mean

- Cycles to and from school sometimes parents have already gone to work so big brother helps her get ready. Comes home via friends.
- Walks to school 10 minutes can be stressful because street is busy, parking outside the school. Likes to meet friends on the way.
- School can be stressful as teachers do not understand dyslexia. The behaviour of other children makes her sad.
- New teacher is encouraging. Helps her to overcome her fears.
- Get up, play Roblox, chat with friends, school, home, more Roblox, dinner, game of cards or go round to Grove Park or Drynham Lane with family
- School and after school sports
- Walks dog with brothers then walks to school. Comes home and plays with friends often in houses nearby. Likes going to the town park but dislikes the odd smells (Cannabis.) Dislikes the alley by the pub on the way out because there are always lots of drunk people smoking there whom he finds intimidating. Dislikes the number of people sitting around the edge of the park. Doesn't understand why they are there as the signs say no drinking. Doesn't understand why the police don't move them on. Hard to explain to a child who sees rules being broken. Enjoys going to the play area in the town park, the cinema and the duck pond. Hates that there is often human excrement in the underpass by the Land Rover garage and asks to walk into town a different way. Wonders why there is so much graffiti on the underpass. I also have a 12-year-old who is less concerned but has similar views especially about intimidation in the park. Both wonder why there are so many electric scooters when they are illegal.
- 3 days a week childcare with nan which he loves. Monday started going to the library. Wednesdays goes for a dog walk or cycle ride around d way we live. Other 2 days spends with his mum who takes him round to friends for play dates in houses or gardens or sometimes to a playground. On Fridays he attends a local mum and toddlers' group where he likes watching other children play. At home he plays with cars and reads books and do messy play in his den.
- Staying at home
- Mead Academy scooter there and back. After school Mondays with alternate grandparents. Other nights talks to friends of the way home phones if he wants to go one of them. 2 nights a week scouts and taekwondo, enjoys both. Recently gave up swimming lessons because he found them boring.
- Likes specialist school. Struggle with attainment. School is a mixed bag
- Twice a week at nursery. On non-workdays half a day at home and half a day out whatever the weather
- School, home, tea, bath, bed
- Wake, breakfast, dress, playground, lunch, play in the garden, teatime, bath time, bedtime. Every Friday go to garden play session at Studley Green children's centre.
- Get up, walk to school, football training 1 night, really loves football.

- Primary school breakfast and after school club 4/5 days a week. Drive to school and drop off nursery age, school 1.5 miles would walk but time constraints. After school socialises with peers of all age groups play dates.
- Daughter goes to Silverwood School. Live close. people know us and say hello. She is happy at school. There are no after school clubs.
- Walk in the forest and woods, goes to science sessions theatre in Frome, Corsham, Trowbridge.
- Drive to school then home to be with brothers for a routine of tea, bath and bed. It upsets my daughter that the town park is always so busy with older kids on the swings who get abusive when asked to move. We go to Radstock or elsewhere which is never an option after school.
- Empty.
- Driven to and from school, taken to Wellow to tend horse, tea, homework, bed.
- Walk to school. After school swimming once a week, playing out on the green with friends, tree-climbing, building dens. Loves teachers at school is encouraged by them and teachers at clubs. Loves being out in nature and spotting birds, bugs, animals. Is upset by litter and people being unkind to animals.
- Walk to school. Finds school difficult because of lack of support with dyslexia. Walk home. Complete homework. Speak to friends on the phone. Tea. Bed.
- Mostly filled with school. After school activities are mainly playing at home or watching TV. Occasionally go to the park or play in the garden. 2 younger siblings and we spend most of the time after school winding down and getting ready for bedtime. She gets great joy playing in the park and meeting other children to play with. She gets upset if plans go wrong e.g., if we go to the museum and its shut or she doesn't get a go on the swings because it's too busy.
- Nursery 3 days per week, 1 day with parent, 1 with grandparent. Mixture of driving and walking to nursery. After nursery quiet time with books or dolls then dinner followed by a play in the garden or walk to the park. On days at home with me she likes to be out and about as much as possible. Notice a change in her behaviour on days we can't get out
- Mon- Friday school. Monday and Friday chill out day. Tuesday swimming, Wed martial arts, Thurs Grandparents. He enjoys after school activities but wishes there was more big boy equipment in the parks.
- Stay at home with mum or dad while the other is at work. Go to toddler groups. Go for a walk to the park, visit the ducks, play park. Go to the shops if needed. Play at home.
- Walk the dog, breakfast club, school, home, play games, watch telly, see family. My child is a happy child who only gets upset when she feels she has done something wrong or upset someone unintentionally. I encourage her by talking everything through.
- Mornings are always difficult and full of anxiety about the day ahead attending school. We never know what mood we'll be presented with. It's a little like firefighting. There is a lot of negotiation to get to school with a lot of reassurance.

We currently have little idea of how the school day goes due to Covid and limited interactions with teachers. After school we may go swimming or into the hot tub, attending siblings' activities or just relaxing.

You Tube is massive part of their lives.

They split their time between mum and dad over the week. They are fairly healthy children, they receive encouragement from us as their parents, their maternal grandparents who speak regularly and close friends.

- Monday to Wednesday goes to maternal grandparents while mum and dad work. He loves visiting his nan's and they often go to the local park. He enjoys seeing other children and watching/following them play in the park or football etc on the field. On Thursday to Friday, he is with mum, and they often visit places like soft play and friend's houses who have children of a similar age.
- Go to school get a lift. Come home walks through the town centre. At home in the evening, using phone, homework, tv. Chats to friends on facetime.
- Up, breakfast, dressed, drive to school, collected from school, homework while I am still working. Quick walk if weather ok, then reading. Tv. Games while I cook tea. Chat while I am cooking and cleaning and having tea. Chill a while together till bed, tv, reading. A few nights picked up from school by grandparents so gets to mix with younger cousins and other adults.
- Drive to school, day in school, walk to town to meet parents stopping off in the park. Get picked up and drive home. Attend guides/gym. Teachers, guide leaders and sports coaches encourage independence and resilience.
- Get up, breakfast, off to secondary school. Used to walk, now cycles. Two days a week he goes to rugby training after school, one day he goes to his girlfriend's for dinner. The other evenings are spent doing homework/ revision. My son doesn't really get out to see friends as he feels there is nothing to do for their age group in Trowbridge and doesn't want to just hang around. I'm not keen on him hanging around either.
- Get up at 7. Leave at 8.10. Takes 20 minutes to get across town in the traffic. All day at school. Also takes 20 minutes to get home. He's either picked up by me or picked up by dad to go to his. Limited after school activities as we both work from home full time. Friday evenings he plays cricket with Dynamos in Trowbridge. He absolutely hates homework so there is a battle several evenings a week. Once a fortnight he has a friend over for tea until 7pm. He gets upset that he doesn't enjoy football and that's what most of the boys in his class want to play so he often feels left out.

8. Typical weekend

Taking part in organised activities	19 (48%)
Socialising with friends and family	23 (58%)
Activities with friends and family	24 (60%)
Visits outside Trowbridge	7 (17;5%)
Activities at home	8 (20%)

Responses

- Swimming 2
- Go to museums
- Not a lot because health issues keep parent confined to home
- Dog walking 3 (1 on Salisbury Plain)
- Socializing with family
- Spends time at grandmothers
- Skateboarding
- Learning the importance of achievement based on hard work
- Worry about speaking to new people or being in large crowds
- Read books, bike, play on x-box
- Saturday is a family day go to national Trust properties, on outdoor adventures have a meal with friends in or out.
- Sunday stagecoach in Westbury, pm board games, family meal
- Parents work alternate weekends. If home with Dad go geocaching if with mum catch up with friends. Walks in Southwick country park. Rugby training Sunday pm
- Go to places around Trowbridge, favourite places Hope Centre the parks are good places to ride bikes safely, walk dogs.
- See friends from school and play outside
- See grandparents who live close.
- Visit allotment
- Visit Town Park 1
- Play on computer with friends
- Walk cycle 2
- Visit B o A park and canal
- Drama club cycling
- Time with daddy Church Sunday morning
- Enjoys activities from Wiltshire outdoors
- Likes the crazy golf in the park but it's a bit shabby.
- Son goes into town but never on his own.
- Go to see friends either locally or out of the area. We also try to go further afield to give him different experiences, the beach, zoos camping etc. Most of the time at weekend is family time spent with mum and dad.
- Home with family
- Saturday food shopping with parents which he dislikes, happy if elder brother is home. Saturday afternoon family time. Trip out walking or cycling. Sunday morning Rugby Trowbridge RFC afternoon chills out with friends from rugby.
- A mixture of leisure, church and complete chill.
- Visiting friends and family, home for a rest, lunch, sports activities, more family visits.
- Playground, soft play, occasionally a cafe, the Weavers market.
- Alternate parents each weekend. Football matches 1 day.

- Saturday pm swimming lessons with puddle ducks. Rest of the weekend free for walks to the park. Library coffee shops. See friends and family go to play areas.
- We go for long walks we are fortunate to have an off the road buggy we wouldn't manage in her wheelchair. Some parts are difficult like the end of Green Lane where the track is very rough. Better paths in the woods would be good. We need changing places as well.
- Educational trips to Trowbridge Museum, Merlin Theatre, parks, Bristol. We are curious.
- Get out as much as possible visiting family and friends and doing things outdoors.
- Playing on PlayStation, at home where he is safe, days out, playing on our street, visiting friends.
- School Saturday morning, drive to Wellow to tend horse, out in Bath with friends, dinner, bed. Sunday rugby at BOA, tend horse at Wellow, homework, dinner, bed.
- Usually spends time at home watching TV or playing Minecraft. Might cycle to the park or drive to the woods Westbury White Horse. Might drive to other parks, BMX trail. Meet up with friends. Sometimes visits family or friends for the weekend or host them here. Parkour lessons in Trowbridge Sundays.
- Go out with family to Bradford for a walk. Visit White Horse at Westbury, or Devizes. Visit friends in Stroud.
- We play at home a lot and visit family in Bath and Devizes. Weekend activities are pretty simple. The parks, walks by the river, drives to other places like Westbury White Horse. If we're staying in Trowbridge, we like to get the bikes out. The Town Park is good for this or the paths around Broadmead estate. My child loves cycling, playing with other children and playing at home. Drawing and colouring in playing with her sisters. She is interested in nature and exploring local areas and attractions
- Saturdays with mum, Sundays mum and dad. Often go to the library on Saturdays followed by a treat at a local coffee shop. She is shy so can get overwhelmed by busy areas. After a nap we tend to go further afield than Trowbridge. On Sundays we tend to have family days out outside Trowbridge.
- Out most of the weekend- soft play, walks in the woods, seeing family. Mainly enjoys Longleat and National Trust places.
- Go and see friends and family to visit. Go out for daytrips.
- Attends drama clubs, goes out walking, sees family and friends. Spends time at home.
- Stagecoach Performing arts. Seeing family.
- Time is split between Trowbridge and Bath. Activities are still fairly limited because of Covid. We swim regularly at Woolley Grange and play using their facilities. The switch of activities can often bring anxiety to my son especially. We have to manage this well with down time which is very important to help them self-regulate.
- At the weekend it's family time, we normally do one day at a farm. soft play, aquarium, beach, somewhere outside Trowbridge. The other day we spend in the house or locally. Child likes being outdoors in all weathers.

- Walks to town meets friends, walks around shops. Horse riding lessons outside Trowbridge. Spends the rest of the time at home.
- Weekends are busy, sometimes I am on call. We have to stay home, but we are lucky to have a garden. We try and get outside for a walk or bake together every weekend, often we will find a movie to watch in the late afternoon around a few household chores and pets to look after. Occasionally we pop to town for some shopping. Or visit grandparents, but we spend a lot of time on our own.
- Face time with friends. Attending gym. Playing with friends in the park. Homework. Watching TV.
- My son spends his time doing homework, seeing his girlfriend or family time. He spends any other time on his x box.
- One day with dad one day with mum. Day with dad usually involves bike ride, walk in the park or woods. Day with mum usually involves going somewhere, bowling days out, seaside, out of town. He loves baking at home and especially days out. Hi TA in school does graffiti art in town and really inspires him to get arty and he loves art. Any workshops he can sign him up for I do. He did a Pokémon glass workshop in town with some school friends that he loved. He likes to try new things such as kayaking at Brokers Wood, climbing at cheddar, Go Aps, crazy golf. He loves spending time with his grampy.

9. Things your child liked to do before Covid that they would hope to continue afterwards

- Swimming 10 (We enjoyed doing lessons and fun swims, but this is more difficult now because sessions are booked up in advance.) She really enjoyed these. Had to stop because of circumstances and finances but are on the mailing list.
- Cinema 2
- Museums
- Hope Conte
- Drama club
- Attending birthday parties
- Lego was the main obsession
- Freer movement and travelling but found some joy in lockdown
- Meeting friends play dates 1 sleepovers meet friends 1 playdates with friends 1
- No 2
- Looking forward to camping with the scouts
- Not really our child is a foster child who arrived 9 months before Covid, so it was difficult to get him into anything.
- Beginners riding lessons
- Football training and matches 1, football club has stopped now doing martial arts instead
- Child too young to remember pre Covid clearly.
- Just visiting local attractions. We're still nervous of this. Many don't have changing places.

- Book club in Trowbridge library 1 We really missed the library 1.
- Lead a normal life without everyone being overcautious
- Events in the parks.1 Community activities especially in Trowbridge Park 1
- More variety of toddler groups.
- Seeing faces not behind a mask.
- We have gone back to doing then groups and friends we did before Covid/lockdown.
- Not sure
- Loved getting out more, visiting places, the cinema, swimming pool, also easier to meet family and friends. Used to trampoline but not able to get back to competitions yet.
- School trips
- Going to the beach
- Bowling
- More sports. There was a sports thing in Trowbridge town park we loved going to.
- I think we are quite relaxed, so we are doing more things that he used to do0 again now.

10. Favourite things to do or places to go in Trowbridge

Activity	Numbers	Comment
Parks	44	Town Park (12), Skate Park, Green Lane Woods (2), Hope Centre (4), Hilperton Park, Castle Mead Park, Paxcroft, Biss meadow (3), Southwick Country Park, Broadmead, zip wire (2), Sensory Garden
Eating out	16	Prezzo (2), Starbucks (2), Coffee No 1, Leykers, Hidden Chef, Greggs (2)
Cinema	11	
Library	6	
Swimming Pool	6	
Soft play	6	Baloos (4)
Museum	5	
Walking	2	
Town Hall	2	Christmas workshop, Pokémon glass workshop
Markets	2	Inox Mills market
Home	2	Ball play, cuddles
Rugby Club	1	Trowbridge rugby club
Drama	1	Online drama club

Other Comments

- Hilperton Park because there are no dogs there. Don't go to the town Park because there are too many not on leads.
- Crazy golf needs a makeover but 1 finds it too busy and they drive to Melksham, would like a water station as in Warminster 1 feels the park could be safer tend to go to smaller village parks

- School scarecrow trails
- Often have to go outside Trowbridge to find things to do because what is in Trowbridge is limited
- Not a lot for my son to do in Trowbridge
- Will not go out to meet friends in Trowbridge
- Sadly, get a drink and a cookie from Greggs.
- Not sure
- Visiting the poor selection of shops that aren't bookies
- Beat the street had limited appeal because they were too far apart.
- For his age it is limited we mainly go out of town.

11. Worst things to do or places to go in Trowbridge

Issue/Place	Numbers	Comment
Safety	13 (32.5%)	Castle Place car Park (3), both main parks, drug taking and drinking in the Town Park (4), Stallard's Park cigarette butts, path by the railway
Shopping	7 (17.5%)	Food shopping, boring shops, empty shops
Appearance	5 (12.5%)	Rubbish (4), broken buildings, weeds in the street
Lack of public toilets	1 (2.5%)	

Responses

- Getting haircut
- Loathes to see rubbish the duck pond has been really depressing
- The car park parks especially Castle Place the stairwells terrify her 2. Stair wells smell of urine had to lift daughter over a puddle of urine.
- Daughter worries about the homeless people she sees in the town park that they will not get food and shelter.
- None 2 Not sure 2 My daughter has not yet shown a dislike of anything 1
- The pond he is too young to express his feelings but if it was a nice area, I think he would like it.
- Repetition of some activities
- Going outside
- There is not enough for young people to do in Trowbridge. Fun things are a distance away.
- No CCTV so unstoppable vandals
- Stallard's Park grass too long for football
- Can't take her swimming as the pool is not accessible
- More accessible countryside
- Playground overcrowded with teenagers using bad language.
- Park too busy full of foreign people my daughter can't understand.
- Likes the skate park but would like easier ramps so he can practice.
- Trowbridge.
- Busy roads when on bikes.

- Not much to do in Trowbridge.
- Sometimes she's worried if we're walking and there's a lot of rubbish and it feels a bit dogy. I'm thinking of the riverside or by the train line which seems a bit neglected.
- Shires gets overwhelmed
- The main park and the one by the station. Could be a lot safer, undesirable behaviour from adults and older children.
- Park in the evening is intimidating with groups hanging about.
- Never really complained about any particular place.
- My son doesn't like visiting the town or the park as there are unsavoury people hanging around and it makes him feel unsafe. I don't really go out unless it's to do something like go to the cinema.
- Anywhere with rowdy teenagers.
- School
- Soft play is too young.

12. Is your child concerned or worried about anything at the moment?

Issue	Number	Comment
Responded with worries	23 (57.5%)	
Friendship	6 (15%)	
The environment	5 (12.5%)	Climate change, protecting nature
School	5 (12.5%)	Moving to secondary school (2)
The Pandemic	5 (12.5%)	Tired of restrictions
Future jobs	4 (10%)	
Animal welfare	2 (5%)	
Homeless people	1 (2.5%)	
Poorly people	1 (2.5%)	
Lack of toilets	1	
No/ not sure/ nothing	7	Too young (2)

Responses

- He is aware he is different, finds learning difficult and some things physically challenging
- School has been a challenge for those entering KS2 this year and were not allowed in school last year.
- Worries about more lock downs has not done a complete school year 1 Global pandemic and losing friends and family triggered by a recent loss 1
- Settling back into school making good friends
- Don't like outside house and garden
- Not a lot. Difficult for us because of Covid. Doesn't show much emotion really.
- School being closed again because of Covid and going into isolation. Losing social contacts.
- She is not verbal, but I worry about what comes after school.
- She is happy as a pig in shite.

- At 5 she isn't really worried about global issues or bigger things than her immediate world. However, the pandemic has certainly got her thinking and asking questions about things on a bigger scale.
- Getting too close to people. Touching things.
- Worries about friendship groups has begun.
- Where to start. A massive part of his autism is worrying about lots of things. This changes daily.
- Proper worrier, worries about health illness covid, has anxiety. Worries about getting lost etc.
- Ability to go out and see friends. Will lockdown ever end.
- Strange men following them.
- He is worried about his future. He feels disadvantaged because we are on benefits as a family due to my long-term illness. This impacts whether he can afford to do things like the cinema.
- He is off school this week as his class is isolating again due to a positive test. This upset him hugely, tears etc. He worries about friendships as all the boys in his class enjoy football and he doesn't. Family concerns. I think he worries about his dad moving house again soon and my nan being poorly.

13. What hopes and aspirations does your child have for the future?

- Get a good job and drive
- To be fit and healthy so our child has the opportunity to do the best they can at school.
- Wants to be a mermaid don't know how to break it to her
- Play with Lego all day
- Worried about covid effects on school and friends
- Wants to learn to surf and live by the sea
- Wants to go swimming.
- Want to run her own business be her own boss.
- To go on to Brownies, have sleepovers, go camping
- Looking forward to secondary school. 2
- Wants to work in wildlife conservation.
- Become really good at Parkour and swimming in rivers and the sea.
- Wants to be a teacher
- He is too young to express his views, but I think he would like to grow up somewhere that is safer where he can learn, new skills, do new activities and get a good job. A place that is safe to go out and meet friends.
- None
- Being happy.
- Learn to paddle board
- Too young to have any aspirations. Maybe a chef
- Today she wants to, pilot a helicopter
- Wants to be a professional footballer

- Better parks, see friends more, more fun places and activities.
- To be happy and included in the local community.
- He wants to be a scientist and chef.
- A formula one driver.
- Hoping for A levels and rugby.
- To finish school and work with animals 1 WORK WITH ANIMALS 1
- She hopes to do swimming lessons and go to clubs with other children outside of school. She; s interested in singing dancing and sports.
- Not sure 2
- She's too young to say.
- My child wants to help and support people and animals.
- I think he would want to live in a safe community which he can explore and engage with different members of the community.
- Wants to be a zookeeper is working really hard to achieve this dream.
- Get good valuable qualifications. Have a cleaner town with a more diverse and engaged population.
- Seeing people have more pride on their local environment looking after their streets, outdoor spaces and buildings.
- He wants to do rugby when he leaves school in some sort of way.
- He would like to go to university to become an architect,

14. What are the things you like about Trowbridge that benefit your child?

Activity	Numbers	Comment
Parks & playgrounds	15	Town Park 3, park expansion, Biss Meadow, open spaces close to home 5, skate park.
Lots of activities	7	Active Trowbridge (2), holiday club, scouts, number of clubs to choose from, Rugby club, leisure centre,
Access to Nature	6	Country air, river, canal,
Sense of community	6	Fantastic community feel, very friendly and accepting town, diversity of community, multi-cultural
Good transport links	5	Other places to visit
Proximity to amenities	5	
Museum	4	a beautiful space, accessible to all, great space for learning, good it is updated
Swimming pool	4	
Schools	3	Walwyn Court
Cinema	3	
Library	2	excellent resource with steady supply of books
Children's Centre	1	

Soft play	1	
Restaurants	1	

Other Comments

- Better swimming facilities
- Parks are the only thing that benefits me
- Lots of green spaces in Broadmead where we live so children can play safely.
- Lucky to live close to schools, shops and open spaces
- Has found the school community of mums really supportive and has made good friends.
- How close we are to amenities like the railway station and other towns to visit.
- Like where we're living. I would be nice to have more activities e.g., bowling,
- Not a lot. The town is run down and lots of places are closed.
- The opportunities we have in this town versus other towns.
- Can't think of anything.
- Good facilities for the size of the town
- We live close to amenities schools, nurseries, swimming pool
- We don't tend to socialise much in town. We do use the swimming pool and might go for a meal out occasionally.
- My child gets to meet people from different backgrounds.
- I like that there is lots to do, but it's not really busy like a city.

15. What would you like to change about Trowbridge to make it better for your child?

Issue/Place	Numbers
More activities/facilities	21 (52.5%)
Safety & anti-social behaviour	13 (32,5%)
School & education	8 (20%)
Better maintenance of facilities	4 (10%)
Cycle paths to link areas	3 (7.5%)
More and better toilets	2 (5%)

Responses

- Less antisocial behaviour more care and respect for the community 3 parks and antisocial behaviour 1
- Better educational outcomes, a planet that isn't screwed up, better opportunities for women, freedom of movement across the globe
- Better secondary schools we will probably move to get her into school in BOA
- More SEN clubs
- Tackling root causes of poverty and deprivation. More civic pride not just for commercial areas. Less fast-food joints credible services for young people, support for rough sleepers and support for the venerable part of our society.
- My daughter is really keen on climbing but there is no facility in Trowbridge have to go to Swindon or Bristol.

- Greater range of activities bowling, roller skating, ice-skating. Trowbridge is supposed to be the county town should have more activities.
- More investment in the activities in the town centre.
- I have concerns about anti-social behaviour and safety in general. We avoid going into town after 6pm
- Better secondary school a grammar school
- More activities to do with a toddler on a rainy day.
- Feel safer in the town centre in the evening/ early evening 1 safety on the streets
- Less housing
- Secondary school on Paxcroft side of town
- Youth club, bowling, crazy golf. Things we can do as a family without travelling
- Bigger swimming pool
- Cleaner
- Less cars more pedestrianisation
- Investment in green spaces
- More shops fewer flats
- More in the town centre less on the outskirts
- Real investment in the town to create better jobs for future generations
- More child focused activities more safety. 2
- Broader range of stimulus
- More regular maintenance of parks 1 park safety play equipment supervised
- Drugs
- Library children sessions restarted.
- Better use of empty shops – pop up
- More accessibility.
- Keeping her school in the town.
- More clubs for children with different interests with low prices.
- Have more than one park in the town.
- People be a little more understanding of autism.
- More activities a swimming pool with children's groups, bowling a craft centre
- Raze it to the ground, get rid of the Lib Dem council, white elephant Doric Park, provide sports facilities for residents not used by outside groups and funded by the residents. The list is endless.
- I would like improved cycle lanes from Broadmead. It is difficult to get into town safely on a bike. This could easily be rectified with a decent cycle route. More activities for teenagers to do as they get older. Springfield in Corsham which was designed by the community is a great example of a park with facilities for all ages. If something like that could be created at Stallard's skate park it would be fantastic. A decent pool or even a leisure centre with a climbing wall and pool. An outdoor pool like the one at Shepton Mallet. A splashpad in the park.

- Better school support for all children e.g., for mental health and in the range of affordable extracurricular clubs and activities (or better advertised). More sports teams to join Stallard's Park is very under used.
- The main road through Trowbridge and near the school need better speed control, walking to school along a 30mph road is not ideal (many cars exceed the speed limit) better cycle paths would be great.
- The paths beside the train line and riverside are very neglected and often dangerous with broken glass and dog poo.
- Public toilets are very lacking (very child unfriendly in the Shires, nowhere to park a buggy and no loo in the baby change. Castle Place similar situation and sinks are always too high for handwashing.)
- Nothing.
- A safer environment- far too much unsociable behaviour makes us feel concerned about our child's safety. The secondary schools in our town apart from St Augustine's do not have a great reputation. This concerns us for the future when we look for a school place for our child. It would be great to hear good news about the schools and feel that there is a good option in our local town rather than feeling we have to look for a place in a school outside our catchment area.
- New leisure centre. Community activities for children up to teenagers.
- More cycle paths and green spaces to link up.
- The upkeep of local neighbourhood parks and green spaces.
- More activities in town that can be done independently
- Would like to see more things for teenagers to do, 10 pin bowling, more swimming sessions, places to hang out with friends.
- Stop the centre from dying. Having visited the towns of Frome and Devizes those towns feel engaged with the population. There is a range of businesses and shops providing a wide range of employment. Their town centres are always busy. It feels as if the population mix is not as broad in Trowbridge and that there is a significant concentration of people on lower incomes. We need better facilities a pool, bowling alley, sporting venues. There needs to be more deterrent to antisocial behaviour with more police patrols around the town.
- Make it safer and to have somewhere for older teens to go that is safe.
- More opportunities would be great. Somewhere to be creative. Things we can do as a family climbing walls, bowling etc. In the library more events aimed at his age not just little ones. Also, more policy on antisocial teenagers they frighten me the most.

16. How could you and others make the changes happen?

- Organise litter picks
- Using the services. Engage the community maybe volunteer myself.
- Don't know
- Attract bigger names to development spaces.
- A secondary school on the Castle Mead / Hilperton side of town

- A piece of land to grow fruit and veg, have community activities to develop the sense of community in the Castle Mead area.
- Investment by businesses. Good use of FHSTF
- It's hard to see how you can change the actions and behaviours of others. It does not feel like a safe town.
- More patrols and regulations placed on communal areas.
- Get Town Council to invest in the youth. Youth for Christ are fantastic but need more funding.
- Vote for the right party
- Vote green
- Don't vote Tory.
- Support local businesses in the town centre
- Look after community spaces better
- Invest invest invest. 1 More investment in community projects 1
- Provide feedback via surveys
- Support providers of new events and services.
- We will continue to fight to keep a special school in the town.
- Expressing their demands
- Constantly making things better for my daughter always strict on routines.
- Asking for volunteers to run children's groups and have fun and forget about the world for a minute.
- Open a leisure centre in the town.
- Move out of Trowbridge.
- Writing to the Council. Responding to surveys getting actively involved at the point of consultation.
- Working together community having a voice. Steering groups. Charity events. marketing Educating communities.
- As a community we need to be better guardians of our green space, but we can't do this without support from the council e.g., better bin provision CCTV etc. I think a lot of things I've raised are down to the council honestly.
- Nothing
- More police presence in our local community areas and tougher penalties for those who commit antisocial behaviour. More marketing of the safety and success of our local secondary schools rather than the bad news stories you hear.
- Relies on people setting up groups that appeal to people. Not sure what they should be as they are not for me.
- Work together as a community.
- We already do litter picks we would like to see more of the neighbourhoods' team engaging with residents to improve areas around the town together. This will help the residents take back ownership and give them a greater sense of space and the impact they have on the town.
- Don't know

- A Trowbridge events manager someone in charge of sourcing workshops and putting on events.