

Background

This report, which has been produced by Working Group (WG) 4 of the Early Years and Childcare Partnership (EYCP), provides the results of a year long survey to all stakeholders involved in the play of school age children in Jersey. The consultation was carried out by WG 4, as part of meeting its responsibilities for Objective Four of the EYCP Strategic Plan 2009 -12.

Objective Four in the Strategic Plan has two strands of responsibility. The first is to produce a quality framework for school age care, and the second is to make recommendations for a Play Strategy for children in Jersey.

The report found in this document, which contains information from the four consultations carried out between October 2009 and December 2010, will inform the second strand of responsibility.

Four stakeholder groups were consulted during this period and these were:

- Primary school children
- Children in Year 7, which is the first year in secondary school
- Parents of school age children
- Professionals working with school age children

The report is divided into four parts, with each part providing information from the four surveys.

Each survey was constructed, data analysed and the final report produced, on the instructions of the Working Group, by the Lead of the Coordinating Team and Administrator for the EYCP who support all work of the Partnership.

More information about the current work of the EYCP and its Working Groups can be found on www.gov.je/EarlyYearsChildcarePartnership

Members of Working Group 4

At the time of writing this report Working Group 4 is made up of individuals from organisations represented on the EYCP who have a special interest in the task of the group, or who have expertise to offer to its work.

Members of Working Group 4 are:

Chair until July 2011: Belinda Lewis - who has a breadth of knowledge and experience in all aspects of school age care and the voluntary sector in Jersey, and who became Vice Chair of the EYCP in June 2011

Chair from July 2011: Alison Goguelin - who is a Registration and Development Officer at Childcare Registration ESC, with responsibility for registration of school age care

Linda McKenzie - who is the representative for the Primary Heads Association, and is head teacher of a primary school, and member of a Committee for a play care provision

Jennie Marriot – who is Chair of the Jersey Association of Child Carers

Mark Renouf - who is deputy Youth Officer of the Youth Service in Jersey

Tina Lamar-Taylor – who is Chair of the Jersey Association of Playworkers (JAP) and manager of a playcare provision

Mechele Miller - who is a member of JAP and manager of a playcare provision

Brenda Confrey – who is of Chair of Parents for Children

Jim Westwater- who is a member of JAP and the owner of Activity Clubs and After School provisions

Angela Jones - who is a member of JAP and a Play Therapist at Jersey General Hospital

Ruth Livesey - who is Chair of the Play Safety Forum for Jersey

Summary, Conclusions and Next Steps

1. Of the four stakeholder groups consulted the largest response rate was from primary school children and the smallest was from professionals. A little more girls than boys responded to both children's surveys, and in the professional group most respondents were above thirty years of age, and were employed in the regulated childcare sector. Nearly all parents who responded to the survey had children of primary school age, and the majority of children and parents live in St Helier and its surrounding parishes. In most surveys the dominant ethnic background of respondents was Jersey or the British Isles.

2. Primary age children expressed the fun and enjoyment they get out of play in most of their responses. Their most favourite place of play is home, so they can be with their friends and family and are able to have their own play things and belongings. Older children like being with their friends outdoors best, which takes precedence over being at home. However, they don't mention the fun of play as much as their younger counterparts. For both groups of children having play opportunities where they can be with, and make, new friends is the most important of all their choices about play.

Both groups of children like playing in the outdoors environment because it gives them a sense of freedom and space. However, the younger children prefer an adult nearby when playing outdoors as they have a number of fears, and the adult makes them feel safe. The fears are mainly about other children who bully them; especially teenagers, and too many fast moving cars on the roads and estates where they live.

Older children would like more facilities appropriate to their age group with dedicated access to them, and the younger children would like this too. Some children believe more play facilities are needed in the east of the island.

Children in each age group go to a number of clubs, a range of sport, organised or paid for activities, and the cost incurred is a burden to some parents. Some older children have busy lives outside of school, going to many different organised activities and for some this means they have little time with their friends and family, or for freely chosen play.

3. The majority of parents understand the value of play, and are satisfied with the range of play facilities provided for their children in the Island. However, they recognise that play for children in Jersey today is different from when they were a child. This is mainly because there is less opportunity to freely access and create play, due to concerns about environmental hazards, and changing attitudes to play in the local community. Many parents are fraught with

concern about their children getting to and from their places of play because there is too much traffic for the structure of roadways and walkways in Jersey. They deal with their concerns by supervising their children's play and mainly transporting them to play spaces in a car.

Some parents consider play could be made better for children in Jersey if more opportunities are made for them to access the natural environment, such as in the open countryside, whereas others believe this should be through more organised and paid for activities.

Although increasing traffic is a phenomena found in other parts of the world, account needs to be taken of the impact of this in an island with a small land mass. Not only could it be toxic in terms of children's play because of resultant restrictions on freedom and choice, but issues of health due to high lead levels from traffic emissions.

4. Professionals place the same importance on play as parents and children do, and value the same play opportunities, but see the adult's role in play in a slightly different way. Although both parents and professionals believe that children's safety is the prime concern, professionals see the adult as the facilitator not controller and director of children's play, so they are able to be in control of their own play choices and creativity.

Account needs to be taken of the views expressed by many researchers, that whilst structured and adult led play opportunities can go some way to allaying parents and children's concerns about environmental hazards, this control could be a major impediment to the value of play, and how it makes children feel good.

5. The natural environment in Jersey, with ready access to the sea, beaches, rocks and woodland spaces means that children have access to many rich play opportunities. These are valued highly by all stakeholders, because they provide opportunities for children to face and overcome many challenges, and take risks while doing so.

Although Jersey is environmentally rich, the adult's tolerance of children's play is not in the same abundance, according to parent's memories of childhood. Similarly, the spirit of neighbourhood, community and acceptance of children playing outdoors, compounded with fears about traffic, is reducing the opportunity for children to play in their local environment. Evidence from stakeholders suggests that many children in Jersey participate in a number of structured play opportunities and clubs, such as sport or a range of paid for sessions.

Whilst these experiences can play an important part in children's overall development, account needs to be taken of research findings that suggest unpredictable and challenging

environments, of their own making, are more beneficial to the overall well being of children. Too much structure and direction from adults can lead to children becoming risk averse, which can result in little opportunities for developing this important skill.

A cultural mapping of play opportunities for children in Jersey would not only help determine the spread and balance of play facilities in the Island, but the degree of equity in access to them. This information could also determine if children could be disadvantaged due to the burden of cost to parents, because of the emphasis given to paid for and organised activities in Jersey culture.

6. A number of issues have been highlighted by stakeholders in their responses about children's play, but many of these cannot be resolved without political intervention and subsequent policy. In comparison to other jurisdictions in the world, there is a notable absence of government policy about children's play in Jersey; instead a strong culture of entrepreneurial response to perceived play needs seems to exist.

The information found in this report will be used to propose a 'Play Strategy for Jersey' which will contain recommendations that politicians may choose to endorse.

Part One

Consultation with Primary Age Children

1. Introduction

The first consultation carried out in this year long survey was with children attending States primary schools in Jersey. Whilst it was not intended to exclude children in private schools, this decision was made on practical grounds, because of the difficulties involved in the distribution of questionnaires used in the survey. Due to the age of children involved, it was decided to use a paper rather than an online questionnaire as some may need help from their teachers in completing them.

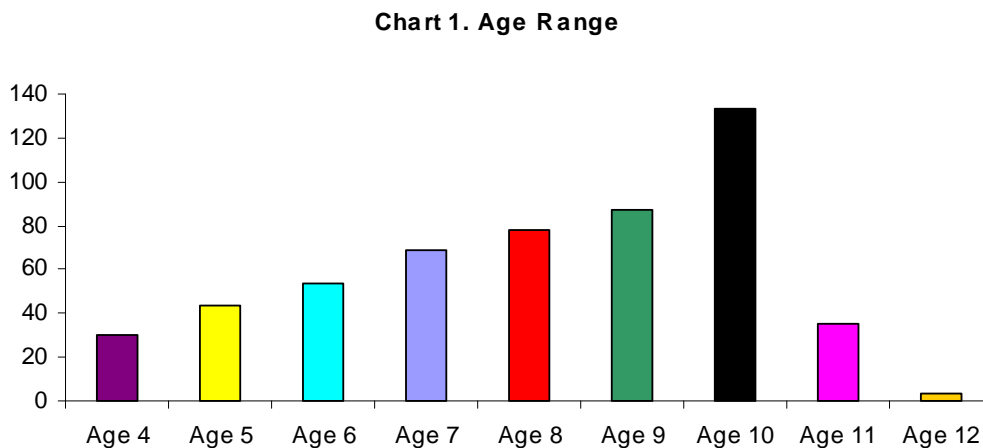
With support from staff at the Department for Education Sport and Culture (ESC) four thousand four hundred and four questionnaires were delivered to States primary schools in the Island. Once received by the school the teacher in each class took responsibility for circulation to children, and helping children complete them.

Again with the help of teachers, one thousand and four completed questionnaires were returned to the offices of Childcare Registration, where the work of the EYCP is supported, at the beginning of December 2009.

1:1 Profile of children

Children were asked a number of questions about themselves in order to obtain a profile of those who responded to the survey. These covered their age and gender, where they lived, if they have any special needs that stops them enjoying play and if they went to an out of school group.

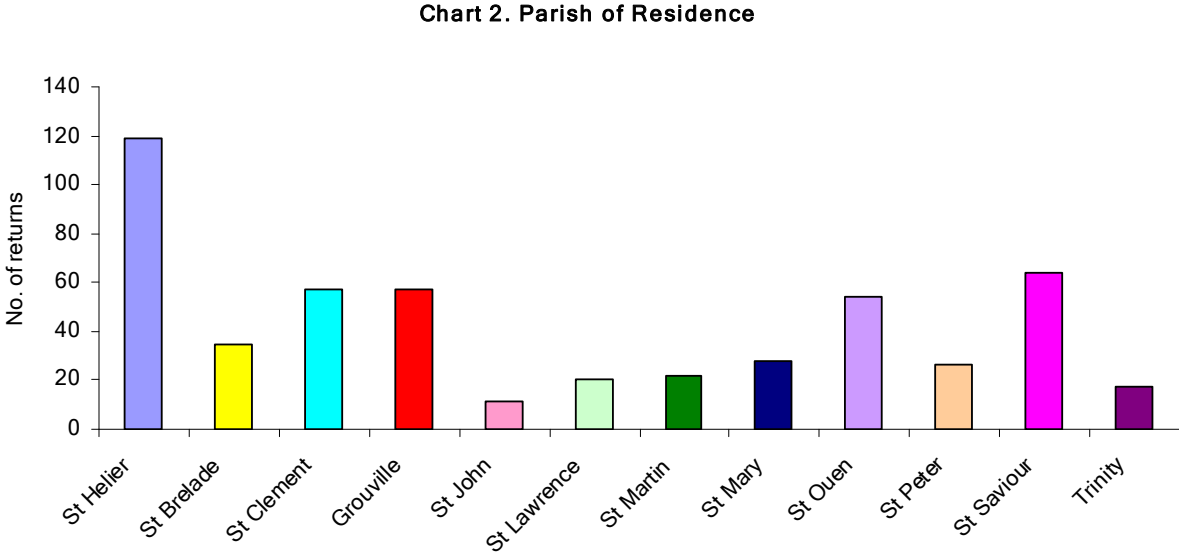
Chart 1 below gives a profile of the age range of the children who responded to the survey.



As Chart 1 shows, more children between the ages of five and ten responded to the survey, and this includes some in their first year of secondary school.

In terms of gender, three hundred and six girls and two hundred and sixty nine boys were included in this number, showing a slight difference in gender balance.

In order to determine representation in the overall responses, children were asked which Parish they lived in, and this is the profile shown in Chart 2 below.



As Chart 2 shows, the views of children from all twelve parishes in the Island are fairly represented, and the spread is similar to the population found in each, in particular the most densely populated Parish of St Helier and its adjoining St Saviour. The parishes in the east of the Island, St Clement and Grouville, were also well represented.

1:2 Children with a special need

When asked if they had a special need that stops them from enjoying play, nineteen children stated they did, and five hundred and twenty eight said they did not. A variety of interpretations were given about what the term special needs meant to children, and these are given in Box 1 on the following page.

Box 1. Children's special need

Special need	
<i>That nobody wants to play with me</i>	<i>Wheelchair</i>
<i>Because sometimes we all fight</i>	<i>Cerebral Palsy</i>
<i>If you are on the street and you live far away, and you need to go to the toilet and you're friend doesn't let you use theirs and you have to run to your house</i>	<i>If a dog runs through the gate, because I have a fear of dogs</i>
<i>My homework, my project</i>	<i>I am a special needs little boy but still love playing and learning to interact with other children, but find it hard when I want to play football, so need help from an adult, as I have difficulty communicating</i>
<i>On the Autistic spectrum</i>	<i>Getting bullied (2)</i>
<i>Sometimes I argue with friends</i>	<i>The right side of my body is disabled</i>
<i>My heart condition</i>	<i>People make fun of me for a few things</i>
<i>My mum</i>	<i>Mild learning difficulty so doesn't go out without an adult</i>
<i>I have cerebral palsy, and use a Kaye walker</i>	
<i>My mum doesn't let me go certain places</i>	
<i>It's when people say unkind things and have private talks</i>	

1:3 Groups attended out of school

Children were asked to provide information on any groups they attended out of school. In view of the amount of information generated in response to this question, it has been organised into categories under the title of Box 2, and each category has been allocated a heading.

The number in brackets against some of the items indicates the number of same responses.

Box 2. Groups attended out of school

a) Playcare/After School	b) Activity Clubs	c) Holiday Activity
<i>Ace of Clubs (10)</i> <i>Centre Point (7)</i> <i>St Mary's Kid's Club (9)</i> <i>School Club</i>	<i>Holiday Play</i> <i>Holiday Club</i>	<i>Sports Bug (3)</i> <i>Mont Nicolle Play Scheme</i> <i>Summer School</i>

d) Uniformed/Religious	e) Youth Club
<i>Beavers (3)</i> <i>Badgers</i> <i>Brownies (11)</i> <i>Guides</i> <i>Christian Club (Fridays)</i> <i>Cubs</i> <i>Girl Guides</i> <i>Salvation Army</i> <i>Scout</i>	<i>Gorey Youth Club (11)</i> <i>Grand Vaux Youth Club</i> <i>St John's Youth Club (2)</i> <i>Youth Club (5)</i> <i>St Peters Youth Club (4)</i> <i>Salvation Army Youth Club</i> <i>St Mary's Youth Club</i> <i>St Ouen's Youth Club</i> <i>Maufant Youth Club</i>

f) Dancing/Singing/Drama Music/Culture	g) Sport/Leisure
<i>Hip hip club (3)</i> <i>Street dancing</i> <i>Ballet (2)</i> <i>Cannon O'Rafferty School of Irish Dancing (2)</i> <i>Dancing and Choir</i> <i>Dancing</i>	<i>After school football (Rouge Bouillon)</i> <i>House football</i> <i>Football club (10)</i> <i>St Paul's football club</i> <i>Horse riding club (2)</i> <i>Netball (8)</i>

<i>Tap</i> <i>Cartier ballet, tap and modern</i> <i>Stage fright</i> <i>Song SOS</i> <i>Miss Lucy Ballet</i> <i>Jersey Academy Dancing School</i> <i>Carousel School of Dancing</i> <i>Portuguese Club</i> <i>Guitar</i> <i>Piano</i>	<i>ID Elite Football club (2)</i> <i>Golf Club</i> <i>Tae kwon doe (2)</i> <i>Trampolining (2)</i> <i>Springfield Football/Basketball club (2)</i> <i>Skateboarding</i> <i>Tennis (3)</i> <i>Gymnastics (5)</i> <i>Regent Group</i> <i>Grouville FC under 12's</i> <i>Multi Sports</i> <i>Netball (2)</i> <i>Fort Regent Trampoline Club</i> <i>Running Club</i> <i>Cycling Club</i> <i>Mountain Biking Club</i> <i>Triathlon Club</i> <i>Advisa Running Club</i> <i>Badminton</i> <i>Jersey Wanderers FC</i> <i>Langford After School Club</i> <i>Rozel Rovers</i> <i>St Martin's Football Club</i> <i>Chris Jones Football</i> <i>Aquasplash (4)</i> <i>Jersey Etail Synchronized swimming</i> <i>Swimming (3)</i> <i>Swimming Club (3)</i>
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As shown in the different parts of Box 1, the most frequently attended out of school groups are the after school and holiday activities, with combined uniformed and Youth Clubs closely behind. As seen in section g, it is apparent that the most popular leisure/sport activity is football.

When asked a question about whether there were play staff where they played, four hundred and eighty children said there were, and four hundred and eleven said there were not.

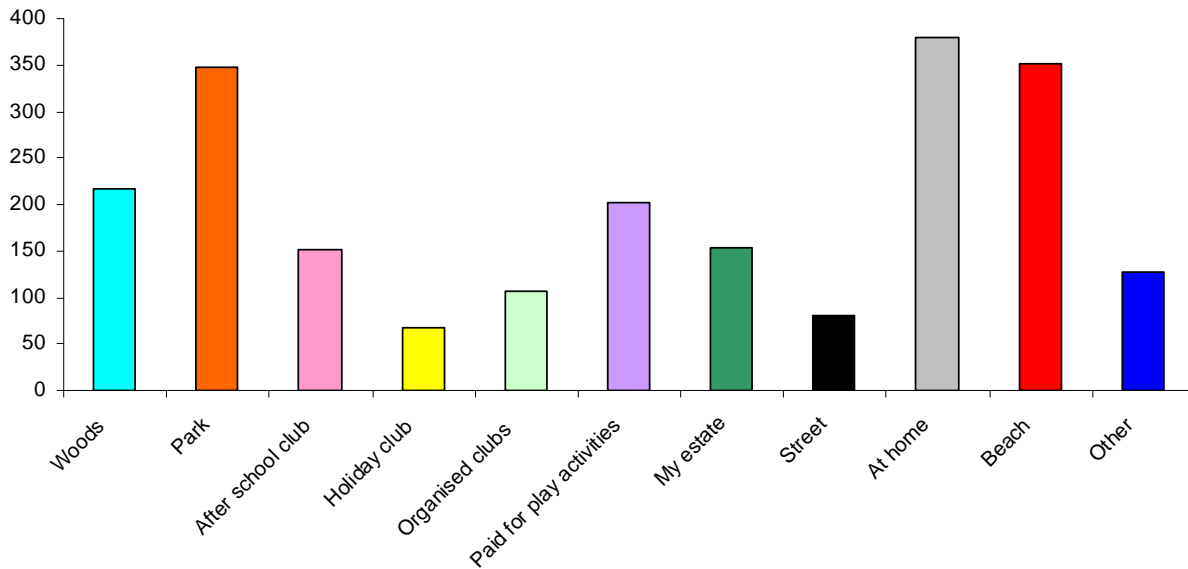
2. Children's Views on Play

Children were asked a number of questions about the places they play. This included where they like to play, whether they feel safe when they play, and what would make play better for them.

2:1 Where children like to play

In order to obtain information about where they liked to play, children were given a list of ten options to choose from, and Chart 3 on the next page provides details on their responses to this list.

Chart 3. Where children like to play



As Chart 3 shows, the most popular place of play for primary age children is their home, with the outdoor facilities of the beach, park and woods being other popular choices.

2:2 Why children like their places of play

When asked why they liked playing in their chosen place of play, children gave many reasons for this. The responses have been organised into the different categories in Box 3 below and the pages that follow. The decision about where to place children's comments into the categories in Box 3, and all other Boxes in this report, were made on the basis of what was believed to be the key message in the response.

Box 3. Why children enjoy playing at their place of play

a) Freedom and Space	
<i>Because there is space</i>	<i>Because it is fun and there is plenty space to play and different things to play with</i>
<i>Because it's outside, and there's lots of space</i>	<i>Because I like to play outside</i>
<i>Woods - Space to play</i>	<i>I like playing in these places because they are big and have lots of space</i>
<i>Because there is lots of space to run around (3)</i>	<i>There is loads of room to run about</i>
<i>I like adventure games</i>	<i>I like playing in these places because they are outside in the fresh air</i>
<i>I like fresh air</i>	<i>Because I only like being out doors</i>
<i>Because there is a lot of room</i>	<i>Hide and seek. I can explore. I like nature</i>
<i>Because there's lots of space and I can play on my bike with my friends</i>	<i>Places that are good for cycling. My friends live there. Trees to climb and places to explore</i>
<i>I feel free</i>	<i>Because it is nice to get out of the house and get fresh air</i>
<i>There are loads of toys for me to play with (3)</i>	<i>Because it has lots of room to play football</i>
<i>The woods because there is lots of space where you can play</i>	
<i>It's fun and there is lots of space</i>	
<i>I like playing there because it has big open spaces</i>	

<p>Continued :Freedom and Space</p> <p><i>I like playing football there</i></p> <p><i>Because there's a lot of space to run around in</i></p> <p><i>I play on the beach because it is close to home and there is a lot of space to play</i></p> <p><i>Because its fun and you get fresh air</i></p> <p><i>I like playing there because I can play with my friends and it's a big open space</i></p> <p><i>Because I feel free</i></p> <p><i>I like being outside, lots of space to run around</i></p>	<p><i>Because I feel free outside</i></p> <p><i>I like playing with these because we can do things we can't do at school</i></p> <p><i>I like playing outside</i></p> <p><i>I like playing there because I have lots of freedom</i></p> <p><i>We can run around and make things, we can play games</i></p> <p><i>There is loads of space</i></p> <p><i>Fun, lots of space and entertaining</i></p>
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<p>b) Feeling Safe</p> <p><i>Because I feel safe there and I have lots of fun</i></p> <p><i>I feel safe and I'm with my brother and sister</i></p> <p><i>I like to play there because it is safe, and there are a lot of things to play</i></p> <p><i>Because I like inviting friends over and because I feel safe</i></p> <p><i>I know it's safe (2)</i></p> <p><i>Because its fun and we feel safe and meet new children</i></p> <p><i>Because there is not anywhere else safe to play</i></p> <p><i>Because it is safe and fun</i></p> <p><i>Fun, fitness, feel safe, going somewhere different and with friends, doing things I can't do at home</i></p> <p><i>It's safe where I live on the estate</i></p> <p><i>Because I can't hurt myself</i></p> <p><i>I like playing in the park, estate and at home because I feel safe and I can go with my friends</i></p> <p><i>Because I feel safe with my friends and my family</i></p> <p><i>Because I know it's safe</i></p> <p><i>Because it's safe</i></p> <p><i>Because I make lots of friends and have fun. I can't go outside on my street because there are too many cars and my mum is worried about me</i></p> <p><i>We like playing outside somewhere safe, with café and toilet facilities</i></p> <p><i>Because you get a safe place and great parks</i></p> <p><i>Because it's safe</i></p> <p><i>At home because it is safe</i></p>

Within the many references to being safe in their places of play, is frequent mention about being near home or with friends and family, so these seem to be linked together in children's feelings of safety.

<p>c) Friends and relatives</p> <p><i>Because I can meet a lot of my friends there</i></p> <p><i>Because all my friends live there and I like playing with them</i></p> <p><i>Because it is fun and makes me happy</i></p> <p><i>Because I like playing with my friends (3)</i></p> <p><i>At home and on the beach because my little brother is there</i></p>
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Continued: Friends and relatives

In the park because I like going out with my friends

On the beach because I can meet lots of new people

On my Nan's estate because most of my cousins and friends live there

At the beach because I can play with my dog

Because you can meet new people and its fun

In these places because all of my friends can gather there, because it is close to all our homes

Because I can go to my friends and play, then go to loads of places

Because I really like my friends and I like my after school club

Playing with my brother because he is really fun

Because my friend has Sing Star

Because I like making new friends and you always make new friends in clubs

Because you don't have many people telling you what you can and can't do

I am with my friends and it feels wild

Because it's really fun, and I get to play with my friends

Because my friends and family are there

I can see my friends

In the playground I get to play with my friends

Because my friends are there (3)

Because they are all fun places to go. Also, you can meet people you like

Because I can play with new friends

School- because I make new friends

Because I have friends to play with

I love playing with my buddies around the school and playing footie

I do old play with my friends

Because I have friends there and it is easy to ring on their door

Because it is fun and amusing and you can make new friends

It's fun. I like playing with my brother and friends inside and outside

Because I have friends to play

Because I go with dad and get golf balls because there is a golf course next to my house

I have a lot of fun playing with my brother he calls me names which I like whilst we are playing, but I don't mind

Because I can see my friends

Because I like trampolines and my friends and with my brother

Because I have children to play with

I can see my friends

I like hiding in the trees and playing football with my mates it's fun

I like playing with other children

I like playing with my friend because then I have someone to play with. Sometimes I don't get to do what I want and my friends come out

I like going on my dads' boat with him

Because all my friends play there

It is fun playing with friends

I like playing on my estate because I have lots of friends there

Because you are free to do what you want with friends

I like playing there because I am with friends and family

Continued: Friends and relatives

Because I like playing with my friends and having fun

Because there are loads of kids there that go to different schools to me and we can play loads of things together

I like playing there because I like going in caves and going boogie boarding and also taking a friend and playing with our rubber ducks

Because I see all my friends and playing

I like playing there because all my friends are there

Because I've got lots of friends

It's fun and love meeting other kids

Because I like to play with my brother

Because I have fun with my friends

Because I always meet my friends

I can play with my friends (5)

Because I play with my friends and make new ones and go out and do activities

Because my friends live there and they don't go to Mont Nicolle

It is cool and fun because I can play with my parents and friends

I like playing with my friend

Because it's where loads of my friends are

I like playing with my friends and on my bike I like listening to music on my phone

I like playing here because I have nice friends

Because when I am at home I get to be with my family

We can play with our mums and dads

Because I see my friends at football club

Because I've got lots of friendly friends that live next to me

You get to meet with friends and play and there's a lot to do. There are also lots of activities to do and play so you don't get bored

Because my friends are there

I like playing there because all my friends normally play in the same place I do

Because I have really good friends there

Because it is good to get fresh air and meeting with my friends

I like playing with other children

Because it's fun with my friends

Because my friends are there

Friend's houses I like to play with my friends

Because I have lots of friends

Nice environments most of them good for playing with friends

Because my best friends from school live there

All my friends play out I get along with most people

Where my friends are

d) Organised/Paid for Activities

Play activities because I can play fun games and get fresh air

On the swings, the slide and the Jungle-Jim

Clubs - use up lots of energy

At clubs because everyone is funny

I like climbing

After-school club

Paid for activities- so I can learn, beach-surfing

In Turkey I liked swimming, and I ran about

I like going on the swings and the climbing frame and the bouncy castle. Things that go up and down

I play with the logs and the saws. I play on the climbing frame and the swings

There are lots of rides

You can use maps

Because you always learn at least one thing on the trip

I enjoy activities and sport

I like going to clubs

Because it is like an adventure park

I like playing at after school clubs because you can go for trips

Go Karting because I like skidding in the Go Kart

Because I like playing football at the club

I play football there

Because I like sport

I like the Amazin Maze and riding on the Go Karts

It's fun to play with friends and Go Karting and Crazy Golf

I like mini golf and adventure activities

Because I like playing golf because it's fun

Because it's a place where there is lots of nature, and you can explore, and it's nice to see the animals

Because I like the animals that I see

Amazin' Maze - because we like to look at the animals

Horse riding because you can jump and get rosettes

There are lots of scary animals

I like seeing pheasants and ducks and tractors. I like to play football

It's because I like going to Living Legend

I enjoy playing at school football club

There is a club at St. Martin where they play sports like football and hockey. I go to Centre Parcs and play crazy golf

I like going on the go-kart and the golf

Mini Chef and ice skating

I like it because I like go-karts

At the driving range with my dad, and football, because it's nice to do

After school club- because my friends go

Because it has a climbing wall, 2 pool tables, a bar, gym room, an air hockey table, play-station, a football pitch, a kitchen so we can cook, a plasma T.V and a basketball pitch

I like playing at my after school club because it is gymnastics and I like it a lot

Zoo- climbing frame and children's' play area and indoor room with big animal puzzles

I like it at dancing club because I meet my friends

continued: Organised/ paid for activities

Aqua Splash- because I like going down the slides

Cinema- because I like to watch the films

Cinema- because you can eat sweets while you watch

Cinema, because it's a nice treat

Fort Regent- because I like going down the big slide (2)

Holiday club- because we play lots of fun games

Beavers- because it's fun, and I'm looking forward to the sleepover

Swimming lessons at the Aquasplash, because after the lessons I get to go on the flumes and slides

Fort Regent, because it has a big climbing frame and lots of activities to do

I like to play at Brownies

Going swimming

Aqua Splash- because there are rides

You get toys at the kid's zone

Irish dancing its fun

Swimming because I like swimming under water

At Fort Regent because I like climbing

At Beavers we go to different places

Gym because you get to do cartwheels and forward flips on the bar

I like playing at Fort Regent because it has lots of places to climb

Because I like to bounce

I like after school club it is about science and I like it

Because I have lots of toys to play with

I like playing at after school club because there are lots of different things to do

I have lots of energy and love jumping on the trampoline and being a member of my special gymnastics club

I love to play with my friends at Youth Club

I like after school clubs because I can see some of my friends there

I like playing at after school club because you can play for a team and have fun. Paid for activities because you can do different things that may be better

Organised clubs because it's organized and I know the people who are there. They are all my friends

Holiday club because my friends are there and it's fun

You can fall about and it's nice and soft. It's fun! I really do love the ball pool

Because I like art at after school club

I love all after school clubs because you can make new friends and enemies that you can spy on

I like after school clubs because I like playing and meeting other people

After school clubs have your friends and no work

I like to play at after school clubs because my friends are there

School- because I like doing maths

At school we have football pitches

I like playing in the back playground at school

School is really fun

Because at school all of my friends are there and we have a brilliant laugh

e) Sport/Activities

I like to do football because I know some football skills and I like playing with my friends

Because I can play football

I like to play football (2)

Because I can play with balls

I like playing cricket at the beach and at home

So I can play football

Because we play fun games like tennis

Because I learn to be a goalkeeper

I like street dancing at Les Quennevais sports field

I like to play football

Because I can play lots of football

Because I can climb trees, do lots of sports and go in the sea

Outdoors sports

It's fun on slides, in swimming pools, exploring and playing hide and seek

I like splashing and diving

f) Street/Estate

Because on the street you can play lots of cool games

On my street because there is lots of room

In the street because I can play with my friends

On my estate because my friends are there and they are friendly

On my estate because there are loads of children and a big field

On my estate because I love bringing out my bouncy ball

I like my estate because I see my friends

I like playing on my bike in my estate (3)

On the green in my estate because I like playing football there

I like being with my friends, on my estate we are not allowed to play ball games we got told off, this is really unfair

In the street because I can ride my bike up and down the lane

Because I have lots of friends on my estate and I like playing games with them

Because it is fun, especially on my estate on my bike

Because it's got climbing frame and lots of room to play football and on my bike, it got enough room on my estate

Because I have loads of friends on my estate and I like playing on stuff at the park

Go- carting is my favourite thing and I play on it in my estate

Because I can play football with my friends

Because there is a lot of fun and entertaining stuff to do

I like playing on my estate because I love to run about there

Because I like playing with my friends and at my estate

Because I can play with my best friend on my estate but there's not much to do

Because it has three parks and good friends

Because we can make ramps

Because I have friends in my estate and everything I need is in my house

Continued: Street/Estate

I like playing on my estate because I know lots of people. I like doing activities away from home.

I like playing at home and on the streets because there is lots to do and it's just fun

My estate it's fun playing with my friends

Because I can do stunts and show them off and meet new people

When saying why they like their chosen play spaces, it is evident that nearly all primary age children have a strong desire to be in the company of friends, family, pets and other children, regardless of the context of their play. The organised and paid for activities, which are popular, also have a mention of opportunities for friendship, as does playing on the street/estate, which could be linked with children's most preferred play location of home.

g) Woods/Open Land		
<i>I like playing climbing in the trees in the woods because I can</i>	<i>In the woods because I like stepping on the stones</i>	<i>Because I like exploring</i>
<i>I like swinging on the ropes that hang from trees, splashing around the streams and walking on the stepping-stones. Running around, cycling</i>	<i>At the woods there are swings</i>	<i>Woods - because the woods are fun</i>
<i>Because I like climbing the trees</i>	<i>Woods- I like getting muddy</i>	<i>The woods- because I enjoy it</i>
<i>Because we play on a tree</i>	<i>Woods- there are puddles and trees</i>	<i>It is adventurous and very, very dark and mysterious</i>
<i>There are lots of things to do, like climbing in the woods</i>	<i>Woods- there is a lot of space; rocks, trees and nature. I can meet my friends there also</i>	<i>I love the space and the nature I prefer to play outside</i>
<i>Because there are lots of things to climb</i>	<i>Because there are places to hide</i>	<i>The woods are calm</i>
<i>I like playing in the woods because there are lots of trees that I can climb and mud</i>	<i>Because the amount of adventures you can do are brill</i>	<i>I like playing in the woods because it is very relaxing</i>
<i>Woods- because I like to climb the trees</i>	<i>Because its better when you playing army games and hiding games</i>	<i>I like playing at the woods because I feel safe</i>
<i>Woods because I can climb trees</i>	<i>Because its fun and you get to make dens</i>	<i>In the woods you get to let your imagination loose and create lots of stuff</i>
<i>Because I like climbing trees</i>	<i>Make dens</i>	<i>I enjoy playing at the woods because I think everyone can run free and it's a nice area</i>
<i>I like playing in the woods because you can run through the trees, climb the trees and having the freedom of outdoors</i>	<i>I like playing in the woods as I like getting dirty</i>	<i>I like playing in the woods because it is full of nature and it is full of history and it's great fun</i>
<i>Because I love climbing trees</i>	<i>In the woods because I get to hide and camouflage in leaves and I like it when we put mud on our faces, and climb trees</i>	<i>In the woods I like building and I have a special place to go</i>
<i>I like playing in the woods because you can climb trees and be hunters</i>	<i>Woods because there are lakes, logs and stepping stones to play on</i>	<i>Woods I can take my puppy for walks</i>
<i>I like playing on trees and fields</i>	<i>Woods because I like playing hide and seek</i>	<i>The woods</i>
<i>When I am in the woods I can climb trees</i>	<i>I like playing in the woods because you can climb and explore</i>	<i>Woods because you can hide</i>
<i>Because you get muddy</i>	<i>Because I love exploring and getting dirty</i>	<i>At Jersey common, because we can play football and it's very quiet most of the time</i>
<i>In the woods I am camouflaged</i>	<i>I like to play in the woods because it's really cool</i>	<i>I like finding toadstools/fungi. I like climbing. I like going on nature trails at St. Catherine's woods, Queen's Valley and Val de la Mare</i>
<i>Because at the woods you can get dirty</i>	<i>Because you can sharpen sticks, make dens, make dams, make bridges and make tree houses</i>	

<p>Continued: Woods/Open Land</p> <p><i>In the woods because it's muddy, and you can play lots of games</i></p> <p><i>Because there are lots of places to hide</i></p> <p><i>Exciting and lots of interesting things like mushrooms, birds eggs, bridge</i></p>	<p><i>I like playing in the woods because I can make bases and I can spy on people</i></p> <p><i>Because I like to run and walk in the woods</i></p> <p><i>Woods because there's lots of nuts</i></p>	<p><i>Because you can play hide and seek and forty- forty</i></p> <p><i>Because playing in plants is fun for adventures and games like hide and seek</i></p> <p><i>I like playing in the woods because I can make dens</i></p>
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<p>h) Beach</p>	
<p><i>I like playing on the beach because I like splashing in the water</i></p> <p><i>Lots of places to run, many waves to jump, sand and water play!</i></p> <p><i>At the beach there is swimming (2)</i></p> <p><i>Because you can make sandcastles and go for a swim</i></p> <p><i>On the beach because I like going in the sea</i></p> <p><i>I like going on the beach because I go in my boat and go fishing</i></p> <p><i>In the sea when it's warm</i></p> <p><i>Beach- I like swimming and sandcastles</i></p> <p><i>I like playing in the water</i></p> <p><i>I like going in the water (2)</i></p> <p><i>It has waves. And I like the sun</i></p> <p><i>Because I like playing with waves</i></p> <p><i>Because I like going in the sea in my swimming costume</i></p> <p><i>Because I like playing in the sea and the rock pools</i></p> <p><i>I love play on the beach because I love catching some big waves</i></p> <p><i>I like playing on the beach because you can swim and play in the sand</i></p> <p><i>I like playing at the beach because I like fishing and making sand sculptures</i></p> <p><i>I like playing at the beach because I get to go surfing and play in the water</i></p> <p><i>I like playing at the beach especially swimming in the sea</i></p> <p><i>I like playing on the beach because my friends are there</i></p> <p><i>I like running around on the beach with my dog</i></p> <p><i>At the beach I can walk my new puppy</i></p> <p><i>Because I can play with my dog. Also, I love to play on the rocks at low tide</i></p> <p><i>Because of my friends, and you can swim on the beach when it's hot</i></p> <p><i>The beach has soft sand and I love going in the sea with my mummy</i></p> <p><i>The beach is really fun because when my mum walks my dog I go and play in Gorey sand park</i></p> <p><i>Because I can play with dog and climb the rocks</i></p> <p><i>I like playing there because you can build sand castles and play with your family</i></p>	<p><i>Because you can climb rocks</i></p> <p><i>Exploring, sand castles and find special shells</i></p> <p><i>I like crabs and jelly fish</i></p> <p><i>I like playing in the rock pools and digging holes in the sand</i></p> <p><i>Beach - because it has stones that I can throw in the water</i></p> <p><i>Because I've got a surfboard and I go surfing</i></p> <p><i>It has sand and play areas</i></p> <p><i>The beach- because we go on the playground first</i></p> <p><i>Because I like to go rock climbing</i></p> <p><i>I like to play in the sand</i></p> <p><i>At the beach because I can make sand castles</i></p> <p><i>I like to play at the beach best because I can play whatever I want</i></p> <p><i>Because you find lots of sea shells</i></p> <p><i>We like playing football and beach ball games</i></p> <p><i>The beach I can make sand castles</i></p> <p><i>I like playing there because I like the sand and I like making sandcastles</i></p> <p><i>I can explore rocks in my kayak</i></p> <p><i>Because it is fun and you can make sand castles or you can go on a climbing frame if it's there</i></p> <p><i>I like playing there because I love climbing, swimming, exploring and playing</i></p> <p><i>Because I love playing in the sand</i></p> <p><i>On the beach I like to collect shells</i></p> <p><i>Because on the beach you can go rock climbing</i></p> <p><i>The beach because I like the sea and the park because of all the things there</i></p> <p><i>At the beach because it is fun and sunny</i></p> <p><i>On the beach because its fun and you feel free</i></p> <p><i>Because it's like being free and I love playing in the water</i></p> <p><i>At the beach because it is fun. It is sandy and got things to play on</i></p> <p><i>I like playing at the beach because you can explore</i></p> <p><i>Because I live there and the beach is fun</i></p> <p><i>I love going to the beach but I get sad when there is rubbish on the sand and in the sea</i></p> <p><i>It's nice and comfy because you can do what you want and you can't hurt yourself on the sand</i></p>

<p>Continued: Beach</p> <p><i>I like playing with my friends, I like playing at the beach because I like swimming and making sand castles</i></p> <p><i>Because I take my dog and we have fun</i></p> <p><i>I like the beach because everyone can play there</i></p> <p><i>I like playing on the beach because I love swimming</i></p> <p><i>I like playing at the beach because the waters cold</i></p> <p><i>I like the beach because I like going in the sea</i></p> <p><i>When I'm on the beach I can go in the sea</i></p> <p><i>Beach – like playing on the beach as it is outside</i></p> <p><i>At the beach because you can swim in the sea and make sand castles</i></p> <p><i>Because I can swim</i></p> <p><i>You can swim there</i></p> <p><i>Everyone likes the beach</i></p>	<p><i>Beach because I like exploring</i></p> <p><i>The beach is fun for playing in the sea</i></p> <p><i>Because it is nice and sunny</i></p> <p><i>Because there's water, sea and shells and I like to make castles</i></p> <p><i>Because it is sunny and I like the sea and playing in the sand</i></p> <p><i>Beach because you can swim</i></p> <p><i>Beach I like paddling my feet</i></p> <p><i>When I am at the beach I like playing in the sea</i></p> <p><i>I like the sea</i></p>
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<p>i) Park</p>		
<p><i>I like playing there because I like the slide</i></p> <p><i>In the park because some have football pitches and big slides</i></p> <p><i>Park- because there are swings</i></p> <p><i>Because there are swings</i></p> <p><i>At the park you can play on the swings</i></p> <p><i>Because there is equipment I can play on</i></p> <p><i>Because there are climbing frames</i></p> <p><i>Swings on the park</i></p> <p><i>Because on the park I get to go on the swing</i></p> <p><i>Because there are swings</i></p> <p><i>At the park</i></p> <p><i>At the park- because I like playing on the swings</i></p> <p><i>Park- because it has a fireman's' pole</i></p> <p><i>Like to play on the swings and the slide</i></p> <p><i>Because I like going on the climbing frame</i></p> <p><i>We like playing hide and seek at the park</i></p> <p><i>Because I like the slide and the swings</i></p> <p><i>Because I like the beach park and swimming in the sea</i></p> <p><i>I like the slide and getting an ice cream</i></p> <p><i>Because it has swings and I like getting an ice cream</i></p>	<p><i>At the park to play football with my mates</i></p> <p><i>In the park because I can make new friends</i></p> <p><i>Because there is a park there and I have my friends to play with</i></p> <p><i>Because all of my friends are normally there and there is equipment at the park</i></p> <p><i>Playing on the swings with daddy</i></p> <p><i>On the park because I can run, ride on the slide and meet with children</i></p> <p><i>I like playing in the park, because it has swings and other children to play with</i></p> <p><i>Because it has a climbing frame and other children to play with</i></p> <p><i>Because I like swings, the slide and the water</i></p> <p><i>The park has swings</i></p> <p><i>Park- it's big</i></p> <p><i>Because of the slides and the swings (2)</i></p> <p><i>At home- Park- I can use my Kaye walker to get about and go up some of the slides myself</i></p> <p><i>Park because there is slides and swings to play on</i></p> <p><i>I like playing on the slides and roundabout at the elephant park</i></p> <p><i>I like playing in the park because of the slide</i></p>	<p><i>Its fun on the park, I like the swings</i></p> <p><i>Because it is fun, on the big slide when you go all the way to the bottom</i></p> <p><i>It is fun and enjoyable playing in places like the park with climbing frame</i></p> <p><i>I like playing in the park because you can chill out</i></p> <p><i>It's fun the paddling pool</i></p> <p><i>Park it's fun playing on the swings</i></p> <p><i>I like the park but it's for smaller ages</i></p> <p><i>Park- it's my favourite place</i></p> <p><i>I like being at the park</i></p> <p><i>I like playing in the park because it has trees and it has things to play and kids and it's beautiful</i></p> <p><i>Because I can run</i></p> <p><i>Park because there's lots of things that I like to play with</i></p> <p><i>I like to play at the park because there are lots to do</i></p> <p><i>Park because you can swing</i></p> <p><i>I like playing in the park because you can play it, hid and seek, and 40 40</i></p> <p><i>I like the Elephant Park, and sliding down his trunk</i></p> <p><i>I like going on the swings and the rings you flip on frames and there are even swings</i></p> <p><i>I like playing at the park because I like the monkey bars</i></p> <p><i>Because there are slides and climbing</i></p>

From the many comments found in the preceding three categories of Box 3, it is clear that younger children in Jersey value and use the natural environment in the Island. Whether this be playing or swimming in the water, exploring the rocks on the beach, the challenges of climbing trees, getting dirty or hiding in the woods, playing on equipment or having ice cream treats at the park.

In the remaining categories of Box 3 which follow, children give more detailed information on the reasons why they like playing at home, and the pleasure of play.

k) Home/Technology	
<i>I like playing in my house because there are lots of toys and games</i>	<i>I like to play with my Wii and on the laptop</i>
<i>I like playing at home because I can play with my toys (17)</i>	<i>Because I love playing on my play station</i>
<i>Because all my favourite toys are there</i>	<i>I like playing at home because I play on my play station 2</i>
<i>I like playing at home because I have lots of different things to play with</i>	<i>I like playing games on my DS because it is fun</i>
<i>Because there are lots of toys to play with in my room</i>	<i>I like playing at home on the Wii because there are really fun games to play, and it is good exercise for me</i>
<i>Colouring at home</i>	<i>I like playing on my x-box 360 and playing with my football club</i>
<i>At home I get to play with all my toys</i>	<i>Because I have a Wii</i>
<i>Home- I've got what I need 'toys'</i>	<i>Cause I have my DS</i>
<i>Because that's where I have all my toys</i>	<i>It is fun, and sometimes I see my friends</i>
<i>At home because I have all the toys that I want to play with</i>	<i>At home- because I like playing on the Wii fit</i>
<i>I like playing at home because of the space</i>	<i>I like to play on the Wii at home</i>
<i>I like playing in my house because I have loads of Lego men and hundreds of Lego models</i>	<i>I like playing at home because it is really fun playing on the Wii or on the computer</i>
<i>At home - because I like to play with my fire engines</i>	<i>I like playing at home best because I like playing on my playstation and go out on my estate</i>
<i>Home- when I'm tired I can go up to bed</i>	<i>I like to play in my room, computer etc.</i>
<i>Because we have a choice of different things to do</i>	<i>Because I've got twenty toys, I like my computer</i>
<i>Because I have lots of brilliant toys</i>	<i>Home has a computer and ps3</i>
<i>Because I like playing with my car box</i>	<i>Because I play on the Wii and Playstation at home</i>
<i>It's my favourite bedroom, where my toys are</i>	<i>At home – because I have the Disney Channel</i>
<i>At home, because I like playing with my toys</i>	<i>At home- because we can play with toys and watch T.V</i>
<i>I like playing at my house because it has toys</i>	<i>I like playing at home because it is fun, and I like watching T.V</i>
<i>Playing 'Airports'/'Air displays' with Lego</i>	<i>I like playing Lego and on the computer</i>
<i>Playing racing cars</i>	<i>My bedroom is kind of scary now because it's Ben 10</i>
<i>I like playing with new car</i>	<i>Because it is fun my toys are there. Because you can play all around</i>
<i>Because I like my trampoline and all my toys</i>	<i>You get your own things to play with. Holiday clubs have different things to play with</i>
<i>Because I like playing everywhere that's why I like playing in my house</i>	<i>I like playing there because you can make games up</i>
<i>I like playing at home because it has everything to play with</i>	

<p>Continued: Home/Technology</p> <p><i>Because at home I can make things and out-side I can slip</i></p> <p><i>Because most of my toys and games are there</i></p> <p><i>I like playing at home with all my dolls and toys</i></p> <p><i>Because when at home I can play with my toys</i></p> <p><i>I can choose what I want to play with (3)</i></p> <p><i>Because there's lots of things to play with like the things I can do there</i></p> <p><i>It makes me feel happy because it's my house</i></p> <p><i>At home because my friends come over to my house (2)</i></p> <p><i>I like playing at home because my friend comes to my house and we play lots of games</i></p> <p><i>I get to play my games at home. I think it's nice to be alone</i></p> <p><i>I like playing at home because I have all my toys, and I have my big sister, who plays with me</i></p> <p><i>I like playing at my house because I can play with my brother</i></p> <p><i>I like playing at home because I like walking my dog on my estate and playing with my friend next door</i></p> <p><i>I enjoy playing at home because I have my brother</i></p> <p><i>Playing with toys with my daddy and mummy</i></p> <p><i>Because I like squirting my brother with the hose</i></p> <p><i>Because I've got a dog at home</i></p> <p><i>Because I can play with my friends at home and share my toys</i></p> <p><i>I like playing with my cat at home</i></p> <p><i>Because I like playing with my mummy</i></p> <p><i>I like playing with my cat</i></p> <p><i>At home because it has all my things and outside because I have my friends</i></p> <p><i>The reason I like playing there because some of my friends are there</i></p> <p><i>Because I like playing with my sister and our toys</i></p> <p><i>I like playing at home because I'm with my family</i></p> <p><i>I like playing there because I can play with my dog, and computer and I read</i></p> <p><i>Because at home I can play ps3 and play with my friends</i></p> <p><i>At home because I like playing with my sister</i></p> <p><i>Can run around my sister can't get me</i></p> <p><i>Because its fun and I can make new friends but at home I've got a big garden and I play with my bike</i></p>	<p><i>I like playing with my guinea pig</i></p> <p><i>Because I can watch Sponge Bob and play with my gerbils/desert rats</i></p> <p><i>Because at home I could talk to my sister and parents</i></p> <p><i>At home I like to play with my brothers</i></p> <p><i>At home because I have a netball post and I like playing</i></p> <p><i>Because I have a pool, slides, and other things to play on</i></p> <p><i>It's nice and fun. I like staying at home</i></p> <p><i>I like playing here because it is fun, and you can play with your toys</i></p> <p><i>I love my house, I play on equipment and I get muddy</i></p> <p><i>Because we have food at home</i></p> <p><i>I like playing with my scooter</i></p> <p><i>At home, because it's a big place where I can play hide and seek</i></p> <p><i>At home because the beach is close to my house</i></p> <p><i>Because I like to play army's in my back yard</i></p> <p><i>Because anyone can come play with me and I can't get lost and swings, slide, sand castles, water, watch cartoons and play with dolls</i></p> <p><i>Because it is really fun in my garden</i></p> <p><i>Because I can play and run at the same time</i></p> <p><i>Because I like driving, I like playing at home with my toys and I like the climbing frame at the park</i></p> <p><i>Because it's nice surroundings and I feel comfortable. It's enjoyable</i></p> <p><i>I like my house because I have a big garden</i></p> <p><i>We have a wonderful garden with a big climbing frame and loads of toys</i></p> <p><i>On the grass because there is lots of room to play my favourite game hide and seek</i></p> <p><i>At home I like playing in my garden</i></p> <p><i>Because it is safe and I have all my toys</i></p> <p><i>There are a lot of hiding places in my house</i></p> <p><i>I like being active so I like being on the trampoline. I just like playing at home</i></p> <p><i>I like playing in the tree of my pony's field because I've got my den there! I like playing at home because I can do lots of things</i></p> <p><i>Because my best friends live next to it</i></p>
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When looking at the reason children give about why they like playing at home, it is clear that having their own toys and opportunities to play with them is important, as is having their parents, siblings and pets around when doing so. Not having to share items after a day at school is another message, as is having control over their own environment through the choices they are able to make, even at the simplest level of going to bed.

I) Fun and Engagement	
<i>Because my best friends are there</i>	<i>Because there is more adventure</i>
<i>Because my friends go with me. We have a really good, fun afternoon</i>	<i>I love playing (3)</i>
<i>Because it has a friendly environment and is fun</i>	<i>I also like playing at the beach because it is a big space to run around in</i>
<i>Because it is fun and you can play on a bench with a friend</i>	<i>I like playing there because it's quite fun. I like playing on the things and there's lots of stuff there</i>
<i>Because its fun and you have someone to play with</i>	<i>You can be adventurous (2)</i>
<i>Because everyone who goes there is very nice and I enjoy doing it</i>	<i>I like playing at all these different places because there're so many different things you can do. If you're at a club, there are different activities</i>
<i>Because it is fun playing with my friends</i>	<i>Doing different activities</i>
<i>Because my friends are with me</i>	<i>Because I like doing new things all the time</i>
<i>I like playing with my friends</i>	<i>Because it is fun and plenty to do like swings and slides trampoline and fields</i>
<i>Because all of my friends play there and we come up with games</i>	<i>Because there are loads of hiding places</i>
<i>Because I am with my friends and I'm having fun</i>	<i>I like it because it's an adventurous place</i>
<i>To have fun and play with my friends</i>	<i>There are loads of things to play on</i>
<i>It is a place to enjoy there that you can play games with your friends and family to enjoy</i>	<i>Because I like finding out things</i>
<i>Because it's a fun new place where you can play with your friends</i>	<i>Because I love to explore</i>
<i>Because it's really fun and I have fun with my brother</i>	<i>Because it is enjoyable and like playing outside</i>
<i>Because playing games is really fun</i>	<i>I like it because you learn so much stuff</i>
<i>Because they are fun and they entertain me</i>	<i>I like playing there because they are all fun places to be and you can do loads of activities to do</i>
<i>Fun and exciting</i>	<i>Because it's nice</i>
<i>Because I have great fun</i>	<i>Because I like it and enjoy it</i>
<i>Because it is fun (68)</i>	<i>It makes me happy</i>
<i>It's fun and has cool games</i>	<i>Because it makes me feel happy</i>
<i>Because it is fun and you enjoy yourself</i>	<i>Because I can get ice-cream</i>
<i>Because it is fun, and there are things to do and play</i>	<i>It makes me happy</i>
<i>Because there's lots to play with, and it's fun</i>	<i>It is a nice place to play and it's the only fun place</i>
<i>Because it is near and I just really like it and it's really fun. I love the sea</i>	<i>Because it's high up and it gives you lots of exercise and in the tree you can relax and it's fun</i>
<i>There's a lot of space and its fun</i>	<i>Because at the woods it is fun. At home I love playing at home. On the beach is fun</i>
<i>Because it's fun, and I like my toys</i>	<i>Because I can climb and slide down the pole</i>
<i>Because it's fun and active</i>	<i>Because they are exciting and tension building</i>
<i>Good and fun</i>	<i>Because they are adventurous and exciting to go to</i>
<i>Playing outside is fun</i>	<i>Because it is fun and cool</i>
<i>It's good fun. In the woods I play in the mud with my wellies</i>	<i>Its fun and I play with my banners</i>

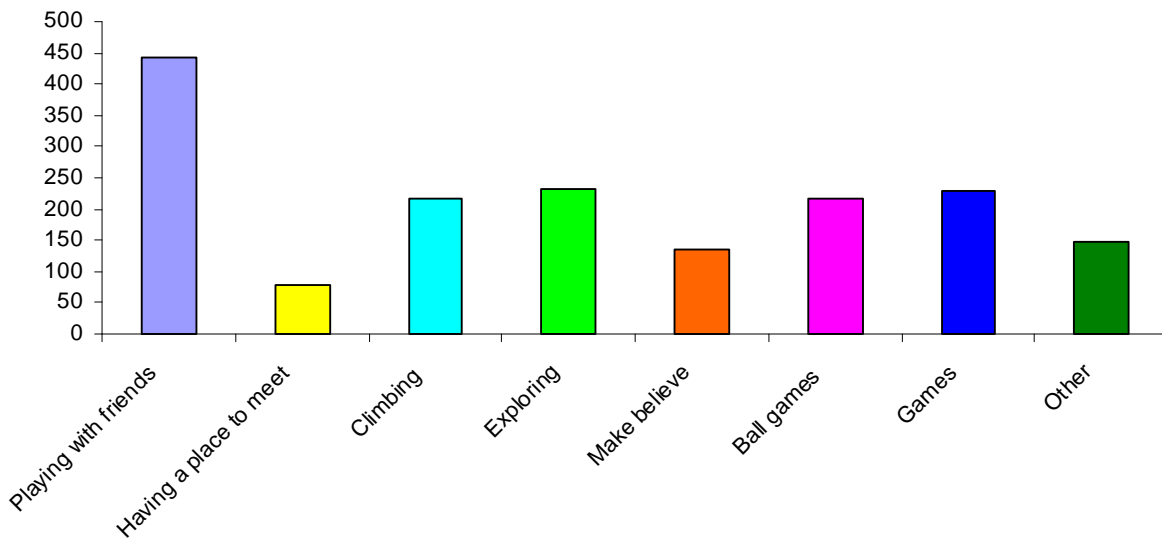
<p>Continued: Fun and Engagement</p> <p><i>Lots of fun things to do and entertain the kids</i></p> <p><i>Because its fun and you don't get bullied</i></p> <p><i>I like playing there because they are fun</i></p> <p><i>It is fun for all ages</i></p>	<p><i>Fun and favourite things to do with them</i></p> <p><i>Because it's fun, I love playing teachers</i></p> <p><i>Fun and interesting</i></p> <p><i>Playing fun activities</i></p> <p><i>I like playing there because it is fun</i></p>
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The frequent mention of fun in category I, either a statement on its own, or part of another reason gives a resounding message about the importance of play to children, as does the linking together of friends and fun.

2:3 What do you most enjoy doing when playing?

In seeking to find out more about children's most preferred play experiences, they were asked what they most enjoy doing when they play, and a tick list was given to collect this information. If their most preferred play was not on this list they had the option of choosing an 'other' category. Their responses to the categories provided are given in Chart 4 below.

Chart 4. What you most enjoy doing



Not unexpectedly, when taking account of the information provided by children earlier, the favourite choice in Chart 4 is playing with friends, and the enjoyment of outdoor play and games is similarly popular in these answers.

2:4 Feeling Safe

When asked if they felt safe when getting to and from the places they play, five hundred and seventy two primary age children stated they did feel safe and thirty nine said they did not. When asked to say why they felt unsafe, the information in the various sections of Box 6 was provided.

Box 6: Reasons for feeling unsafe getting to and from places of play

a) People	b) Hazards/Concerns	c) Traffic
<p>When my teacher shouts</p> <p>Because there could be bad people around</p> <p>Sometimes I feel unsafe because I might not know who is behind that game</p> <p>If a stranger came up to me I wouldn't feel very safe</p> <p>At night I am scared because there're lots of people I don't know, and they could do something bad to me</p> <p>If my mum is not there</p> <p>Because there are strangers in the woods and other places, except for home and after school club</p> <p>People bully me (2)</p> <p>If someone hurts me hard</p> <p>All the big children on the beach</p> <p>There are lots of teenagers. They take over the park, even though it is for young children 0-10</p> <p>On my estate, some people push me out of the way when I'm on my bike</p> <p>All the boys run near me with the ball</p> <p>Because in some places there are gangs</p> <p>Sometimes not because older children are not always nice to me</p> <p>Sometimes when they are scary</p> <p>Because I want my mummy</p> <p>Walking in the dark alone</p> <p>Because there is bullies and scary</p> <p>Sometimes big teenagers call me names</p> <p>People can kill me</p> <p>Someone might jump out</p> <p>Teenagers and Bullies (4)and Chavs</p> <p>Busy people, I get scared</p> <p>Because you could get lost or someone could follow you</p> <p>When people pick on me</p> <p>Because I think big people are going to bully me</p> <p>People I am scared of</p>	<p>I don't feel safe when I am tripped</p> <p>Sometimes I feel worried about being by myself on the beach</p> <p>I am scared of dogs</p> <p>That the wires could set the house on fire</p> <p>No airbags</p> <p>Slippery floors</p> <p>Storms, dark</p> <p>Because I feel I might get lost</p> <p>Cycling back in the dark and my brother leaves me behind!</p> <p>Because I could fall down (2)</p> <p>I don't feel safe playing on hard ground because I could fall over</p> <p>No grown-ups. I like there to be a grown-up. I frequently pop back if they are out of sight, to make sure they are still there</p> <p>When its dark and I have to go in I find it very scary, so we should have street lights</p> <p>The blades on the ice skating shoes are dangerous because they can cut off your fingers</p> <p>Because it is high</p> <p>Getting hurt</p> <p>I don't know what's around me</p> <p>The thing that I feel unsafe is going out at night</p> <p>In the dark outside on my own</p> <p>Not knowing where anyone is</p> <p>I don't like playing in the playground</p> <p>If I got hit</p> <p>When I'm alone when I'm in the woods</p> <p>I feel unsafe in the dark or at concerts</p> <p>When I go to parks because they are a long way away from my house</p> <p>Sometimes I feel unsafe because I get scared when I hear freaky noises</p> <p>Naughty boys and girls in the park where I live so we don't go there. Sometimes we can't go to Millbrook park as mummy and daddy can't get a parking space</p> <p>Once two boys from Grainville were hitting me and my sister</p>	<p>Crossing busy roads without an adult</p> <p>I am scared in case cars hit me</p> <p>Crossing roads</p> <p>I only feel unsafe when I am cycling because there aren't many cycle paths</p> <p>Sometimes I don't feel safe, because I live in front of a very, very busy road (2)</p> <p>Riding my bike on the roads and crossing them</p> <p>I have to cross a main road to get to the nearest play area</p> <p>The roads are too dangerous to cycle</p> <p>At my home it is not as safe because of the cars outside the building</p> <p>Cars (7) and traffic (2)</p> <p>I have to cross lots of roads that are busy</p> <p>Yes, I go in the car and put my seat belt on</p> <p>I am scared if a car comes when I am not looking and runs me over</p> <p>The cars when they think there's no children around and go faster than the speed limit</p> <p>Cars and little ones running in the opposite direction and when it is wet</p> <p>Some cars go to fast</p> <p>When loads of people are being silly and millions of cars are passing by</p> <p>The road outside my house (2)</p> <p>Because sometimes there are to many cars passing by the park</p> <p>A car is going to hit me</p> <p>I feel safe but in other places like the road I do not feel safe</p> <p>I don't like main roads by my house</p> <p>Someone hurting someone else</p> <p>Crossing roads and horse going up and down my lane</p>

A further question was asked about whether children feel safe when playing, and five hundred and seventy five children said they did, and twenty nine said they did not. When asked to give reasons why they did not feel safe, the reasons are given in the sections of Box 7.

Box 7. Why children feel unsafe whilst playing		
a) People	b) Hazards/Concerns	c) Traffic
<i>When my teacher shouts loud</i>	<i>Somebody might get hurt whilst we're playing a game</i>	<i>Cars going past really fast</i>
<i>Some boys push me over</i>	<i>Sometimes I feel unsafe because I am scared to play in my room</i>	<i>Sometimes cars go to fast</i>
<i>Sometimes my friends are fine, but sometimes things get out of hand. Most boys hit me and my friends</i>	<i>Sometimes I don't feel safe on my feet</i>	<i>I don't like being alone when it is busy roads</i>
<i>Because there could be strangers that are nasty</i>	<i>Falling off trees</i>	<i>Because in some places there are hazards like cars or bikes</i>
<i>Kids hurting my feelings</i>	<i>Because we are always up quite high</i>	
<i>People bullying me</i>	<i>What about if the ball hits my face</i>	
<i>If strangers come</i>	<i>When you play football the people might hit you and if you fall over</i>	
<i>I don't really feel safe when I play because sometimes there're loads of people that go fast</i>	<i>Because they go on the road and I have to think about breaking the rules or not</i>	
<i>I don't feel safe because people are rough</i>	<i>Because sometimes I fall over but mum would be there to help me</i>	
<i>Sometimes people try and push me off the pirate ship (It could be dangerous)</i>	<i>Sometimes when no ones there to look after you</i>	
<i>Sometimes I hurt people when I play, but I am learning not to now</i>	<i>In case someone else is there, someone bad</i>	
<i>Because if you play something like babies people would call you a freak or weird</i>	<i>You have to make sure that someone is watching you</i>	
<i>Because people hit me</i>	<i>I have to be very careful when I am exploring in the sea and on the rocks I think people will bully me</i>	
	<i>I feel a bit unsafe because I think I am going to fall</i>	
	<i>In the woods sometimes it is a bit creepy</i>	
	<i>When people are trying to smack you</i>	
	<i>There is a guy who bullies me</i>	
	<i>Someone might be watching you</i>	

Although the comments in Boxes 6 and 7 have been sorted into different categories to take account of natural childhood fears, what is apparent in both are children's concern about people, whether they are strangers, bullies or someone they believe will harm them physically, and worries about traffic, and other hazards on the road.

2:5 Making play better

In wishing to obtain their views on what could make play better for them, children were asked how this could be achieved. Their responses have been organized into the different categories in Box 8 on the following page.

Box 8. Making Play Better

a) Safety

To watch me so boys don't push me over
I would like play parks to be safe in Jersey (2)
If I played safer I would play better
Having a safer place
I think there should be less cars coming down the road
Less cars, so that I can play football
If the cars didn't go so fast (2)
If traffic calms down
Not having easy roads to use
No fighting (2)
Make a play area for kids so cars can't get in it (Grouville)
Having a play area on my estate, so I don't have to cross a main road
Being able to walk or cycle safely on the road
Maybe if they did more zebra crossings on main roads
Smile speed limit for cars coming to the estate
Longer tracks to cycle safely
More safer play grounds
To make my play better is if there was a soft ground just in case somebody falls and has safe things
I wish there was a cycle track that would be safer near Belle Vue
To have a safer play area in the football courts in school because it hurts when you fall over
That their could be more space in play areas
Having separate areas for big kids to play would make me feel safer
Sometimes when I play football I get hurt
Somewhere else like the play arena at Fort Regent, a better park at Springfield, that one is dangerous

b) Play environment

<p> <i>If there was more playing outside</i> <i>More places to explore</i> <i>If I could play outside my house</i> <i>More space and calm places</i> <i>If I could go exploring somewhere other than my garden.</i> <i>If I could go somewhere close to my home to climb</i> <i>To be wild and free and have fun</i> <i>Make more parks and things</i> <i>If we could play in the front</i> <i>A cycle track across the island</i> <i>I live in Grouville and I love riding my bike, but we don't have a safe public cycle park to town or the beach</i> <i>If we could have more parks in St Brelade</i> <i>A park under cover, so I can use it when it's raining</i> <i>If we didn't keep kicking our ball over the fence</i> <i>Have a bigger space</i> <i>Rope swings in the woods</i> <i>If there was more to play on</i> </p>	<p> <i>To make play better it would be good if there was no rubbish on the beach</i> <i>I would like to have an obstacle course in the woods</i> <i>Good weather</i> <i>If there were more parks in Jersey</i> <i>Having fun and enjoying play and getting fresh air</i> <i>More woodland and more activities</i> <i>More hills</i> <i>If there were more parks</i> <i>I would prefer to go out more often</i> <i>A bigger park</i> <i>More parks to play in with swings</i> <i>More local parish playgrounds with suitable play apparatus</i> <i>If there were more rock pools</i> <i>More parks around the island</i> <i>There should have been more zoos when I was little</i> <i>A park with staff looking after the children</i> <i>If we had more space to play in</i> </p>
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<p>Continued: Play environment</p> <p>More woods and lots of trees (2)</p> <p>If I could go to more places to play</p> <p>If we had a big mountain and more hills</p> <p>To make better play areas around Jersey, so then, you don't have to go that far to play</p> <p>Better weather (2), less cold</p> <p>If it was sunny in the shared area at school</p> <p>Having more parks in the east of the island</p> <p>More branches and more sunny days</p> <p>To have more freedom and to explore</p> <p>Going to the woods more</p> <p>It would be good if they put the big swings up in the woods</p>	<p>More parks for older children</p> <p>Taking my dog out, going to school and others</p> <p>More parks with more adventure bits like St. Andrews</p> <p>If it was always sunny</p> <p>It would be good if they put the big swings up in the woods</p> <p>More area to play around (2)</p> <p>More places to play</p> <p>More activities for free in the woods like swings, zip swings, tree climbing, jumps</p> <p>Taking my dog out, going to school and others</p> <p>More parks with more adventure bits like St. Andrews</p> <p>If it was always sunny</p>
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<p>C) People</p>		
<p>If there were no cheating or bullying</p> <p>For there to be kind and helpful people</p> <p>If there were staff, that would make play better for me</p> <p>If there was one adult where I play</p> <p>If my friends are here and come and see me at my house and visit me</p> <p>To have more people and more staff to play with at home and having my own trampoline</p> <p>It would be better if my mum could look after me and play with me</p> <p>If play staff looked after you in case you got hurt or bored</p> <p>To stop people being mean, and if you are young a parent should go with you</p> <p>To stop people ignoring me when I play</p> <p>Being kind to other people when you are playing with them</p> <p>If some teenagers at the park would stop stealing mine and my mates footballs. An adult should be watching</p> <p>More places I can play on my own without a grown-up watching</p> <p>If my sister stopped interrupting me in my spare time. It is the same at school with my friends</p> <p>If boys would stop teasing us when they're hanging around outside</p> <p>Sometimes I go to town with my friends and one of them gets in a mood and runs off, then the rest of us have to go find them, which ruins the trip</p> <p>If more people could come and play</p> <p>If there were more play equipment, and if people play with you</p>	<p>If there were better staff to play with</p> <p>For teenagers not to be allowed in the park</p> <p>To make people do stuff with you so you're not alone</p> <p>If I were allowed lots of my friends to come</p> <p>A tree house. Mum doesn't move my stuff</p> <p>Kids being nicer to me</p> <p>More children</p> <p>People not being left out</p> <p>Meeting and playing with friends</p> <p>More friends to play with (2)</p> <p>If there was my mummy and daddy, brother, grandma and granddad, granny and grandpa there</p> <p>More children, to make a football team</p> <p>If Reece didn't scare me with his mask</p> <p>More lifeguards at the beach</p> <p>Friends to play with all the time</p> <p>If all my friends from school could come and play in the park</p> <p>Running a little bit faster</p> <p>Playing with my friends</p> <p>If I had someone to play with</p> <p>More time to play with parents at the weekend</p> <p>If my friends were always there</p> <p>Having staff on duty all of the time not just sometimes</p> <p>I think play would be better for me is playing with friends and meeting new friends</p>	<p>Perhaps an organized activity with help on hand for special little boys and girls like myself with communication problems</p> <p>To have someone to play with</p> <p>Some friends to play with</p> <p>Someone watching you all the time</p> <p>If people are nice</p> <p>More times with my friends</p> <p>What makes play better for me is when I can play with my friends and family</p> <p>Play would be better if there was an estate near my house</p> <p>Don't go to far away from the adult because you can fall over and an adult might not see you</p> <p>I'm enjoying it but need more staff people get hurt</p> <p>Because I have nice friends at my place where I play</p> <p>More friends coming round to my house</p> <p>Would like a bigger friendship circle (2)</p> <p>No bullying and swearing</p> <p>For everyone to do no bullying and be outside with</p> <p>If everyone was willing to play what everybody else wants to play and if there is less arguing</p> <p>If staff could be more kinder to me</p> <p>If my friends lived closer</p> <p>I say there should be more teachers around us</p> <p>Having more people watching me when I play</p>

<p>Continued: People</p> <p><i>A friend to play with</i></p> <p><i>If there were more people around</i></p> <p><i>If all of us play tag</i></p> <p><i>If people weren't mean or rude to anybody</i></p> <p><i>Everybody being included in play</i></p> <p><i>If you could choose who your partner is in games</i></p> <p><i>If boys would stop hitting us and just be gentler</i></p> <p><i>If there were no teenagers hanging around, smoking</i></p> <p><i>Not getting bullied</i></p>	<p><i>If all my friends could be with me</i></p> <p><i>Having my ideas when I play with my friends</i></p> <p><i>A Teacher</i></p> <p><i>If there was more staff</i></p> <p><i>No bullying and being unkind</i></p> <p><i>No bullying and be kind</i></p> <p><i>At school I don't like having playtime with year 6 because they take over the soft surface</i></p> <p><i>More friendly and more balls to play</i></p> <p><i>If I could make more noise playing at school</i></p>	<p><i>Play will be better for me if I could make arrangements with friends and play with my friends</i></p> <p><i>More group games</i></p> <p><i>Make sure people don't punch everyone</i></p> <p><i>My next door neighbors moved very far away</i></p> <p><i>I would like to have a buddy all the time</i></p> <p><i>No fights</i></p> <p><i>If my sister or brother was there</i></p> <p><i>To have all of my friends to play with at the same time</i></p> <p><i>No body cheating</i></p>
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Although there were a number of individuals wishes in these comments, such as the benefits of more outdoor play facilities, calls for all year round indoor facilities during times of inclement weather, and some blue sky thinking about good weather all year round and re-shaping the Island landscape, the social aspect of play continues to dominate. However one child would like less grown up watching.

Despite there being many repeated requests in Box 8, a number of children took the position that play could not be improved, as shown in the comments in Box 9 below.

Box 9. Why play can't be improved

<p><i>You can't possibly make my play better than it is</i></p> <p><i>I don't think anything can improve it because it's so fun anyway</i></p> <p><i>You can not make it better, because you're climbing on real rocks</i></p> <p><i>I think play is just fine for me and I don't think anything could be made better for me</i></p> <p><i>Have anything I want</i></p> <p><i>Nothing because I like to play in nature</i></p> <p><i>I like where I play because it is safe (2)</i></p> <p><i>They should have on weekends activities for children of all ages free of charge, because sometimes children feel bound at home and some activities after school, school holidays are expensive and some parents can't afford the amount they need to pay for there children to participate.</i></p> <p><i>I am happy where I play because it is safe and there are really nice children at school</i></p>

2:6 Last word on play

As a final question in this survey, children were invited to tell us anything else they wanted to say about play, and the information they provided has been organised into the sections of Box 10 on the next page.

Box 10: Children's Last Word on Play

a) Family/Friends
<p><i>I also am enjoying playing with my sister</i></p> <p><i>Sometimes I don't play because I have no-one to play with at home</i></p> <p><i>Play is fun when you're with your friends at school</i></p> <p><i>For my play I like to go cycling with my dad and my brother</i></p> <p><i>Sometimes I fall out with my friends because I don't want to do something that they do, or the other way round.</i></p> <p><i>There are lots of people swearing and shouting out of the window to talk to their friend</i></p> <p><i>I just love playing with my friends</i></p> <p><i>I think that everyone likes playing with their friends</i></p> <p><i>I like playing with my friends</i></p> <p><i>Sometimes people bully me</i></p> <p><i>I don't have many people to play with and I get lonely</i></p> <p><i>Well I love being active so I love playing around with all of my friends</i></p> <p><i>People are sometimes mean</i></p> <p><i>I like playing with my brother at the lion park</i></p> <p><i>Share with your friends and be kind</i></p> <p><i>I like hanging out with friends</i></p> <p><i>I like playing with my two sisters and my brother and Emile</i></p>

b) Play Activities/Fun	
<p><i>I love the king swing and the zip wire at creepy valley</i></p> <p><i>I like to play on my bike and ride on my roller-skates and I like to swim</i></p> <p><i>I play at home. I make songs and like jumping. I like to cycle with my bike. I play with my dolls</i></p> <p><i>It is interesting. It is funny</i></p> <p><i>Karate is fun and makes me fit</i></p> <p><i>Play is fun and you have a good time. I like play</i></p> <p><i>Football is very fun and good</i></p> <p><i>I like playing on the beach and I like doing gymnastics</i></p> <p><i>I love doing gymnastics. I find it very fun</i></p> <p><i>Because I like playing pool and bowling</i></p> <p><i>I like to play every day. I can't wait for good weather, so that I can go to the beach</i></p> <p><i>I like football</i></p> <p><i>Bigger play area</i></p> <p><i>its fun!</i></p> <p><i>I like having big spaces to run around with my friends</i></p> <p><i>I love playing Ben 10, and transformers with my friends</i></p> <p><i>I love the beach (2)</i></p> <p><i>I like free-play (5)</i></p> <p><i>I like climbing, swimming, running, jumping but I also love being loud and trying out new things, like climbing up new climbing frames or riding different things, like scooters. I love being out-doors!</i></p>	<p><i>Surfing would be cool</i></p> <p><i>Playing can be fun, but I like exploring too</i></p> <p><i>You can learn lots of things when you play</i></p> <p><i>Sometimes it's boring and sometimes</i></p> <p><i>I found out that I love playing when I was born. I love it</i></p> <p><i>I think play is a good thing and you can do really energetic sports. I am lucky that I live on an island that I don't need to worry about my safety.</i></p> <p><i>I like to play football and on the climbing frame.</i></p> <p><i>I like playing at school in the shared area</i></p> <p><i>I like playing with my little dollies</i></p> <p><i>I like playing out in the big play ground</i></p> <p><i>I love playing outside in the garden so I can make sure my puppy is alright</i></p> <p><i>Some toys to play with, because lots of people get bored</i></p> <p><i>Its great fun, exercise, being with friends, fresh air if outside</i></p> <p><i>I think when you play sometimes you don't want to be looked at all the time like your under watch all the time</i></p> <p><i>I enjoy play very much and enjoy getting loads of fresh air I want to have in play places that you can go and have a leader and have a safe landing</i></p> <p><i>Permanent Ice Rink at Fort Regent</i></p> <p><i>There should be more stuff to play with</i></p> <p><i>I like play with my friends on my bike, cycle round the estate, it is fun</i></p>

Continued: Play Activities/Fun

I like climbing trees and I like the Kids Zone

I like it because it keeps me interested, I ride big horses

*I like to play because its fun, exciting, and it gets you active
It is a lovely place to play in the woods. I love it*

This is my hobby I go to gymnastics

I think play is very fun and enjoyable and I think the world should keep like kids club and all that kind of stuff. But I would like it if they extended play times at school and make more parks.

Play is fun and I feel quite safe at all times

I like going to St Catherine's Woods, because there are lots of trees to climb and it's a good adventure for anyone

I like to play at the common because we can play against each other

I love to play in water

More play apparatus, swimming pools, more parks, more playgrounds

I like to play with my teddies

I like climbing up big trees and big rocks

People say I am a chatterbox because I enjoy what I'm doing

It's fun(6) and cool

It's mostly boring and there's nothing to do

I like playing football and fishing and playing computer games

It is fun and enjoyable and a good time to meet my friends

I always feel safe when I play at school

Play is for enjoying the fresh air, you know it's for learning how to bond with other people and it's to learn to play the game your playing.

More fun and enjoyment

I love to climb

When I do play there is no age group because we all play together some of us are 8 years old why other people are 12 or 14 years old

It's fun and it gives us a break between lessons and we feel safe during play and school

I love playing in like a game or I play football with lots and lots of people

I like to visit the zoo at Durrell to see the animals and play on the swings and run about

Would like to jump out and surprise people

I would like to tell you that I love it

I like playing on the grass and on the bike

I like playing tennis

My favourite sport is football

It's a good thing to pass the time

I like doing kart wheels and crabs at gymnastics and I like running

I love to play spies with my friends whenever we go out

I like free running because I get stronger and fitter

c) Concerns/Suggestions

Children should have parks where dogs aren't allowed

If you play in the woods you have to be careful. You have to tell your mum before going

We need health and safety

Why do roads have to be so dangerous? How can you make them safer?

Things should be judged by age, not height

I would like safer places to cycle

We could have more play areas for older kids (11-17)

The safest place to play is at home or school. To get to friends homes we have to cycle and the roads can be dangerous. Large freight lorries drive too fast along some of our roads

The teenagers are so gross

The Parish of Grouville has very few play facilities for my age

Beach – Great, Sand Park – for younger children,

Youth club for older kids, no park, no swimming pool, no sports facility like Le Quennevais, East of Island is missing out

Having safer places in Jersey to play at. I used to play outside but I've moved and there's no safe places to play without having to cross a road

Because I live in a flat I have no outside play area apart from the one for 2 year olds and the friend I had my same age moved. I do have my brother but he is 10 years older than me, at weekends I go to my grandmothers so I can play with my friends there. If it could happen I hope there could be a after school play club for free because me and my mum and Jamie step dad have four children between them and we are struggling

Continued: Concerns/Suggestions

I live in an estate so people are older than me and destroy the park at my house

My mum says there are not any places we can easily meet my friends who have special needs – there are two swings at the Amazing Maze but the straps are always broken and there is not much else

I would like them to build the cycle track to Gorey soon

People swear and fight and they don't get told off and go inside at lunch time or break time

When some people say it's only a 3 player game or something, and don't let you play the game

When I'm playing football on the field it gets very rough hectic and mad

More cafes and indoor activities in town

In addition to repeating many points about play found in earlier parts of the report, a number of additional suggestions were made about how play facilities for primary school age children could be improved.

These covered the social aspect of play, which for some meant more adults around to alleviate concerns about being safe and cared for, but for others less intrusion of adults with greater freedom and space to explore without parents watchfulness. There were also calls for more play facilities to the east of the Island, and generally more facilities appropriate to older children so they didn't have to share with the younger ones, plus the availability of hazard free local parish playgrounds and somewhere safe away from traffic.

3. Summary : Consultation with Primary Age Children

- **One thousand and four children attending States Primary schools responded to this survey, which represented a quarter of those consulted. Of these, just over half were girls and a majority were in 5-10 age range and lived in the urban parishes in the Island**
- **The most preferred place of play for children who responded to the survey is at home, with the outdoor environment of the park, beach and woods following closely behind. Children also like going to paid for and organised activities, such as sport activities, youth and uniformed clubs and a variation of cultural activities and playing in the estates near their home**
- **Reasons children gave for their preferred places of play is because at home they can be with friends, family and pets and because they feel safe. They can also play with their own belongings, rather than always having to share with others at school and after school care, and make choices for themselves, rather than being told what to do by others. In the other preferred play places they like the sense of freedom, space, fun and excitement and being in the fresh air. In all places of play its important they can be with, or make new friends**

- **Children have a number of concerns about feeling safe when playing, these are because of people they are afraid of, or strangers, and people of their own age who bully them, but mainly older children, especially teenagers. Because of these concerns, at times, they feel they need someone to look after them when playing. They are also concerned about not feeling safe because of traffic, in particular busy roads and cars**
- **When asked what would make play better for them, many children want roads, traffic and parks safer, and others better social arrangements for making friends, and more time with their family. Children living in the east of the Island would like more play facilities in the area of their home, and the older children more play facilities appropriate to their age. A few children expressed a wish for less adult surveillance, so they had more freedom to play**

Part Two

Consultation with Year 7 Children

1. Introduction

This second part of this wide reaching consultation was with children in their first year of secondary school, known as Year 7. When planning the cycle of consultations it was not intended to survey children beyond primary school age, but when it was noted that some older children had responded to the first survey, the Working Group decided to obtain the views of the older age group. However, they were not asked the same questions as the primary age children.

It was also possible to use a more accessible method of collecting information, which was to put the questionnaire on the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE), which all school children in Jersey have access to as part of their learning journey. It also meant that the questionnaire could be offered to children in private schools, as they also access the VLE. The head teacher of all secondary schools was emailed to inform them of the survey before it opened, and their cooperation in promoting it to children in Year 7 was requested.

Taking account of the age difference of respondents to the survey, the questions were worded differently, but the focus remained on obtaining children's views on play. However, due to the older age of the children, with an anticipated self perception of independence the question about safety was not included as a question.

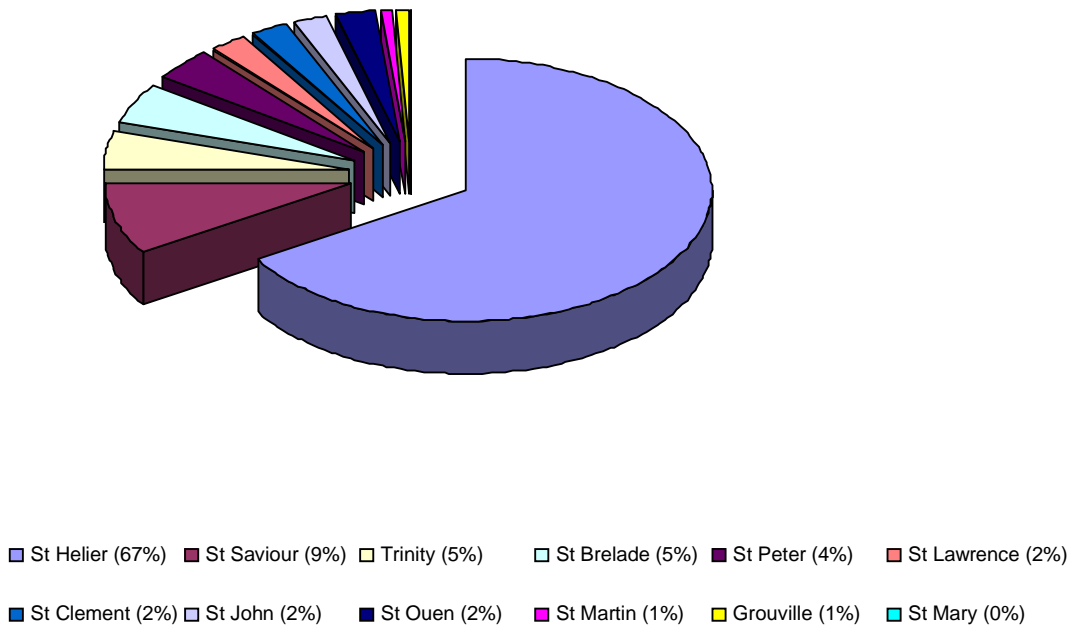
1:1 Profile of children responding to the survey

A total of 126 children responded to the survey, but not all of them answered every question. As with the survey to primary age children the questions were designed to obtain a profile of those who answered the questionnaire. These covered gender, age and parish of residence.

Of those who answered the question on gender, sixty six were female, and fifty eight male. In response to the question about age, the majority of children were aged twelve (99), with less aged eleven (15) and two aged thirteen.

Responses to the question about Parish of residence are given in Chart 1 on the following page.

Chart 1. Parish of Residence



As seen in Chart 1 the residence of children who answered this question shows a similar pattern to the first consultation, with the views of children in most parishes being represented, with the exception of St Mary. As three quarters of the children answering the questionnaire live in the urban parishes of St Helier and St Saviour (combined 76%) this needs to be taken into account when considering responses.

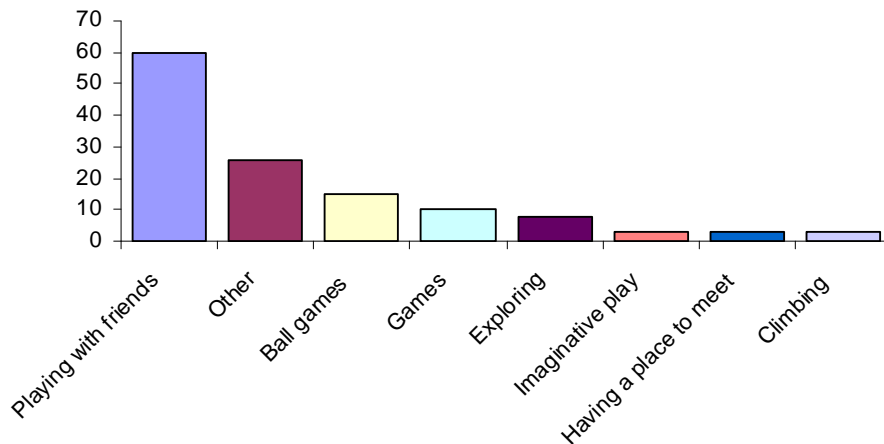
2. Children's views on play

Children were asked a number of questions in order to obtain their views on play. These covered what they most enjoyed doing in play, where they liked playing and what organised activities they are involved in outside of school. Because the questionnaire had been adjusted to the different medium of consultation and the older age range, the questions were less in number than the survey to primary age children.

2:1 Most enjoyable play experiences

Children were invited to choose from a number of items, to show which areas of play they most enjoy, and their responses to this question are given in Chart 2 on the following page.

Chart 2. Most enjoyable play



From the items chosen, it is clear from Chart 2 that the social aspect of play with friends is the most popular activity with the older group of children. Although the large majority of children who responded to the survey are in the target group of age 12 years (99%), like the younger children in the first survey, friendship seems to be a major factor in their choice of play activities. In both surveys children ranked this as their first choice when asked what they most enjoyed doing when playing. When comparing the two charts in each report of the survey, older children place less emphasis on exploring and climbing than their younger counterparts. As a number of comments were provided about what the older children meant by 'other', which was ranked as the second most enjoyable thing they liked doing, these have been organised into the categories in Box 1.

Box 1: What older children most enjoy doing

a) Friends/Family	b) Outdoor Activities/Sport
<i>My garden and my neighbours garden (my neighbour is my friend)</i>	<i>I like to play in the graveyard next to my house</i>
<i>I like to play at a friend's house, in my estate</i>	<i>Park (2)</i>
<i>I like playing on the cycle track with my best friends</i>	<i>At the park in Coles estate</i>
<i>My garden, at my house (2)</i>	<i>Coles estate</i>
<i>Playing at home</i>	<i>The beach (2)</i>
<i>At my mates house</i>	<i>Roller blading at Springfield</i>
<i>At friends houses with friends</i>	<i>Street</i>
<i>Mate house town</i>	<i>I like to play at the football pitch</i>
<i>Back garden</i>	<i>Skate park</i>
<i>I like to play at my friend's house as well</i>	<i>Beach, football</i>
<i>Estate</i>	<i>Football (2)</i>
<i>Park</i>	<i>I like to play and explore the cliff side to go rock climbing and cave exploring</i>
<i>Go out to Springfield (3) or town</i>	

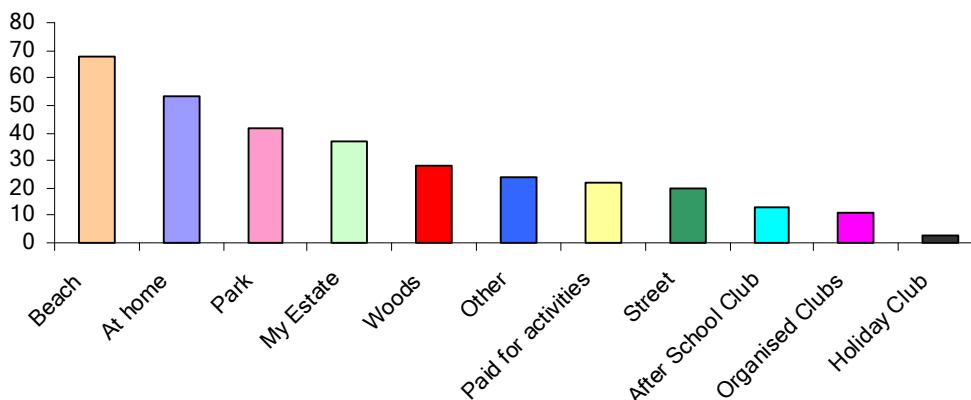
c) Paid for/Organised Activities
<i>Aquasplash</i>
<i>I like to go horse riding at weekends or just go up there to help out</i>
<i>Aqua splash because of the rides</i>
<i>Home, Town, School, Park</i>
<i>Grainville playing fields</i>
<i>La Pouquelaye Youth Club (2)</i>
<i>Up where my horse is</i>
<i>D'Auvergne school / some one else's estate</i>
<i>School (2)</i>

Although there are fewer comments in Box 1, when compared with the primary age survey, a similar trend in places of play is apparent.

2:2 Preferred places of play

Children were provided with a list of play spaces, and asked to identify their preferred places of play, and details on the number ticked in each category are given in Chart 3 below,

Chart 3. Preferred places of play



As seen in Chart 3 the most preferred place of play for Year 7 children is the beach, with home second and a gradual reduction in choices for after school, holiday club, and organised activities being the least preferred. When compared with the responses from younger children, a similar pattern is seen, but with a reverse position of home being the most preferred, to home being the second. Apart from younger children in the previous consultation ranking after school activities at a higher level, most of the other play situations are similar in the value placed on them by children in each consultation.

Children provided information on the 'other' option in the preferred places of play list, and these have been organised into the various parts of Box 2 below.

Box 2: Other preferred place of play

a) Friends/Family	b) Outdoor Activities/Sport
<i>Playing with my friends in my garden</i>	<i>Going to cycle rides and walks</i>
<i>Having time to play and do things with my family e.g. walking</i>	<i>Skate boarding</i>
<i>Hanging out with my friends and going to movies</i>	<i>Playing football</i>
<i>With friends i.e. talking</i>	<i>Skating ball games</i>
<i>Listening to music, going out with my friends, go out with family</i>	<i>I like the go to the beach with my friends as we all get on and it is so fun</i>
<i>Playing with my friends at the park</i>	<i>Ball games and playing with my friends</i>
<i>With my mates out</i>	<i>I like going swimming at Aqua splash a lot but am disappointed to say that they are getting rid of that area and that's a kids place to hang out cinema, swimming, pizza hut, KFC and I think they are just thinking about themselves and what they want and not what the kids of Jersey want</i>
<i>Meeting friends</i>	<i>Surfing (3)</i>
<i>I like playing with my friends</i>	<i>Playing football</i>
<i>I like to play with my friends, climb</i>	<i>I like to do skating at the skate park</i>
<i>Spending time with my parents</i>	<i>Going to the stables</i>
<i>Going to friends house</i>	<i>Cave exploring, rock climbing, football and more</i>
<i>Just going out e.g. town, mates house</i>	<i>Ball Games (2) e.g. Football</i>
	<i>Football</i>
	<i>Swimming, going to town with friends and going to the gym</i>
	<i>Running. Going to town with my friends and going to the gym</i>
	<i>Just going out maybe in town or getting on a bus somewhere</i>
	<i>Horse riding</i>
	<i>Football, playing with my friends</i>
	<i>Going to the zoo to see animals (2)</i>

As the information in Box 2 shows, lesser emphasis is given to being with their family when compared with the responses from younger children in the first survey. This could reflect the growing independence of these children, or because less children responded to this survey.

3. Clubs used out of school

The final question in the survey to children in Year 7, asked about the clubs they go to out of school, and the information provided has been organised into the categories in Box 3. Some answers have their own interpretation of what an out of school club is, but all comments have been sorted into the sections of Box 1, with the same categories used earlier.

Box 3: Clubs used after school

a) Friends/Family
<i>I like being with my family after school clubs</i>
<i>I don't go to any clubs. I play by myself at home. I only feel safe when I play if my mum or dad are home as I like to play in the garden</i>
<i>I sometimes go out with mates into town or on the beach, or I stay at home</i>
<i>I play outside my house or go to the park and chat with my friends there or go to my friends for the night</i>

b) Activities/Sport	
<i>I don't go to any clubs but I play at the park, beach, on my estate at home</i>	<i>I don't go to clubs after school any more I just play games on my estate</i>
Gymnastics	St Johns Football Club and Island training, Janvrin club
Athletics	I go to St Johns Football Club (x2)
Rounders	St. John Football Club
<i>I go to rounders club after school on Tuesday!!! It is really fun we play really fun games with our rounders teacher and our friends!!!</i>	First Tower Football Club
St. Ouen's Football Club	St Ouen's FC
<i>I go to Janvrin club on a Wednesday after school, I do a football tournament on a Tuesday after school. I'm a boy and I like football, rugby and cricket</i>	Simply soccer, Centre Point, a few others
<i>I like to skate board but I go to no after school clubs</i>	<i>I sometimes go to football training at 6pm near "The Bridge" where I live</i>
St Ouen's football club, La Pouquelaye football	Simply Soccer, Jersey Basket Ball Association
The hang out (2)	Go to the beach
Football	Akies netball club
Janvrin, St Ouen's footy club	Tennis
Netball	<i>I play football for Grouville</i>
Rounders	<i>I go to a football club and another club</i>
Football club and basketball club	St. John footy club
St Clements Football Club (2)	Netball club
<i>I go to Springfield quite a lot with my friends and I take a football to play a match, and I take my BMX so I can learn new stuff or teach stuff to my friends</i>	Football club
	Cricket in and out of school
	Free football sessions at Janvrin like to play lots of different games and I go to swimming and I'm joining kick boxing

<p>Continued: Activities/Sport</p> <p><i>St Johns Football</i></p> <p><i>St Ouen's footy club</i></p> <p><i>Rookies - Junior Life Saving</i></p> <p><i>Swimming</i></p> <p><i>I am part of the School Newspaper - this is amazingly fun!</i></p> <p><i>I go to Jersey Gymnastics squad training on a Tuesday, Friday and Saturday</i></p> <p><i>Jersey Basket Ball Association</i></p> <p><i>Haute Vallee basketball (2)</i></p> <p><i>Trampolining club. I really enjoy it</i></p>	<p><i>The Bridge</i></p> <p><i>Karate</i></p> <p><i>Karate club</i></p> <p><i>Thursday club</i></p> <p><i>Liquid and Platinum</i></p> <p><i>Jersey table tennis for Island out of school</i></p> <p><i>Jersey Junior Badminton Academy</i></p>
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<p>d) Paid for/Organised Activities</p>	
<p><i>Tuesday- badminton at Gilson Hall – supervised</i></p> <p><i>Tuesday - Orchestra at Fort Regent – supervised</i></p> <p><i>Wednesday - school climbing club - supervised by teachers</i></p> <p><i>Thursday - Dancing - supervised but I walk there alone</i></p> <p><i>Friday - Speech and Drama – supervised</i></p> <p><i>Saturday - piano, singing, recorder – supervised</i></p> <p><i>Monday - Swimming 6:15-----7:00</i></p> <p><i>Tuesday - Piano 4pm-----5pm</i></p> <p><i>Wednesday - Drama 5pm-----6pm</i></p> <p><i>Thursday - Swimming 6:15-----7:15</i></p> <p><i>Friday - Drama Lab 4pm-----7pm</i></p> <p><i>I am a sporty/active girl, I play/ do my homework on a Monday, go to tennis club/ do homework on a Tuesday, play/do my homework on a Wednesday, I go to drama club/do homework on a Thursday, and I do swimming/ homework on a Friday (but I don't usually get time to play or do stuff with my family as we have too much homework)</i></p> <p><i>Singing, choir, swim x 4, viola, windsurfing</i></p> <p><i>I go to eco, gardening and science club in school and St. Saviours Guides</i></p> <p><i>I go to Scouts at the Trinity Youth Centre - this is great fun and I meet lots of new friends here</i></p> <p><i>I go to Scouts and Orchestra</i></p> <p><i>I only go to sports clubs after school, Guides and gymnastics</i></p> <p><i>Trampolining, drama club and Centrepoint</i></p> <p><i>Clubs I do are Rugby, Cricket and Kickboxing</i></p>	<p><i>Swimming, guides and training band</i></p> <p><i>I don't go to any clubs after school. About 2 or 3 years ago I used to go to Centre Point near Janvrin School... It was really fun at first but then it just got way too expensive.... and boring!</i></p> <p><i>Gymnastics, Karate</i></p> <p><i>I go to a club at the First Tower one</i></p> <p><i>Netball Development and trampolining. I like netball a lot as you can see, and the amazing club of Le Claire stables</i></p> <p><i>Scouts, Band practice and swimming</i></p> <p><i>Horse riding</i></p> <p><i>Sailing</i></p> <p><i>Tigers swimming</i></p> <p><i>Jacy club</i></p> <p><i>I go to swimming squad training on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and I dance and go horse riding</i></p> <p><i>I go to swimming club on Saturday's and I go to Capoeira on Tuesday's and Thursday's, Capoeira is a martial art</i></p> <p><i>180 (2) Its like a kind of religious club</i></p> <p><i>Ballet, tap, modern, mini-chefs, training band, scouts and swimming</i></p> <p><i>I go to trampolining at Grainville and I go to cheerleading at Methodist church</i></p>

What is striking about the information provided by the older children, is the high level of sport and organised activities apparent in children's responses, with some children providing evidence of a

weekly plan which gives little time for free chosen play. One child, in category d, highlights this by not classifying what she does as play, but that it interferes with time to play and be with her family.

c) Youth Clubs	f) Music/Dance/Drama
<p><i>La Pouquelaye Youth Club which is held in Janvrin 2 days a week .But I don't go there any more</i></p> <p><i>St Lawrence Youth Club</i></p> <p><i>La Pouquelaye Youth Club (3)</i></p> <p><i>Oak Tree Gardens Youth Club</i></p> <p><i>La Pouquelaye Youth Club</i></p> <p><i>Youth club you go out or you cook every week and it's amazing</i></p> <p><i>Youth club (3)</i></p> <p><i>Le Squez Youth Club</i></p>	<p><i>Jersey Instrumental Service intermediate orchestra at Fort Regent</i></p> <p><i>Dancing at Young Farmer near the Steam Museum</i></p> <p><i>Piano in St Martins</i></p> <p><i>Street Dance</i></p> <p><i>Orchestra</i></p> <p><i>I love dancing</i></p> <p><i>I do tap and modern and I am in grade 3 for both</i></p> <p><i>I go to Jersey Academy of Dance every day!</i></p> <p><i>I do: - ballet –tap –modern – jazz, I also play piano and do music theory</i></p> <p><i>I go to Stage Fright drama club and piano</i></p> <p><i>I go to private piano lessons where I am on Grade 4 - I have been playing since Year 1</i></p> <p><i>At the moment I'm going to the St. Helier Battle of Flowers dancing rehearsals and I'm thinking of joining stomp</i></p> <p><i>La Pouquelaye and dance</i></p> <p><i>I go to Kenpo Karate, trampolining, and dance</i></p>

Twelve children made a statement that they did not attend any clubs after school, with two giving reasons for this:

I don't go to clubs but a club I would love to go to would be paint balling or shooting at a gun range

I used to go to a football club in primary but I quit

Don't go to any clubs (10)

Overall, when comparing the responses from Year 7 with those from the younger children, there is a striking lack of reference by older children to the fun and enjoyment of play. Similarly there is a lack of reference to feeling safe, awareness of hazards and concerns about traffic, which is apparent in many of the younger children's responses. However, this is probably because that unlike the two previous consultations, this was not raised as a direct question.

4. Summary : Consultation with Year 7 Children

- **One hundred and twenty six children responded to this survey, with just over half girls, and nearly all were aged twelve years. Three quarters of the total children who responded to the survey live in the urban parishes of the Island**
- **Choices about places of play for older children were similar to those for children in primary school, with the most preferred place being with friends. Outdoor activities, such as the beach was given the highest rating from a number of choices about what children in this age range like doing most. Participating in a range of sporting, paid for and organised activities, such as Youth clubs and cultural activities are also high on the agenda for this age group. However, possibly due to their growing independence they are less interested in being with their family than the younger children are**
- **Older children seem to have busy lives outside of their school day, with some attending many organised activities and groups every day of the week, thereby giving little opportunities for freely chosen play. There is an absence of reference to the fun and freedom of play, which are found in most comments from primary age children. There is also no mention of safety concerns. However this is most likely because there was no direct question about this, unlike other questionnaires**

Part Three

Consultation with Parents

1. Introduction

The third survey was to parents with school age children, when they were invited to complete a questionnaire on the EYCP webpage. The help of members of the EYCP and the local media was enlisted in promoting it, and one hundred and thirty eight parents answered the questionnaire, which was open from September to October 2010.

There are a number of different aspects to this consultation. Information is given on the children of parents who responded in the survey, parents' views on play, and the kind of play experiences their children are able to access. Their views on safety and play in Jersey are also given, plus information about their own experiences of play as a child.

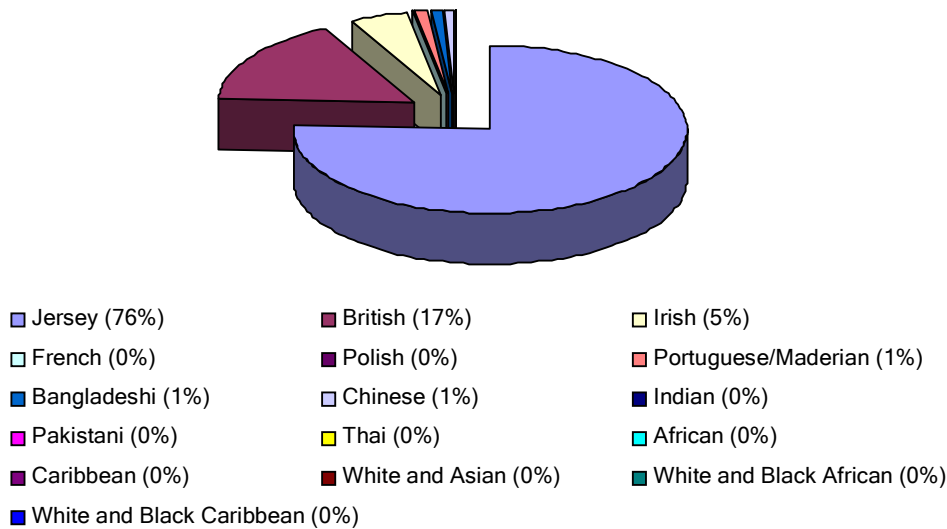
1:1 Parent's children

Parents were asked a number of questions about their children, in order to consider whether background had any influence on their views about play. These covered the age and gender of their child, their ethnic background, whether they had a disability, and their parish of residence.

Nearly three quarters, (74%) of parents who responded to the survey have children in the 5-8 age range, and 26% in the 9 -12, which means that the views of parents with younger school age children are likely to dominate the information provided in this part of the report. In terms of gender, 58% were boys and 42% girls, and only 3% of parents stated their child has a disability or impairment that stops them enjoying play.

In order to consider the influence of ethnic background, parents were asked to give the ethnic background of their child, and this profile is given in Chart 1 on the following page.

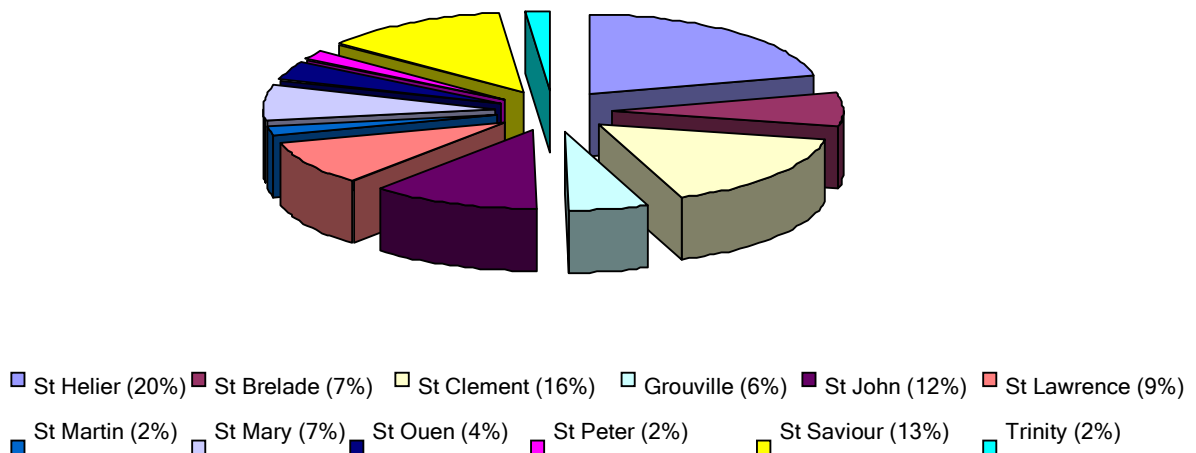
Chart 1. Child's home background



As Chart 1 shows, a large majority of parents who responded have a child whose ethnic background is Jersey, or from another part of the British Isles (total 98%), and there is little response from other ethnic groups.

Parents were also asked to identify the parish where their child lives, in order to consider the spread of responses across the Island, and whether this could have an influence on their responses. This information is given in Chart 2 below

Chart 2. Parish where child lives



As Chart 2 shows, although parents from all parishes responded to the survey, in keeping with the result of the children's surveys, most respondents live in the urban parishes of St Helier and the

adjoining St Saviour (total 33%), although residents from the east of the Island, in St Clement and Grouville (total 22%) are also reasonably represented.

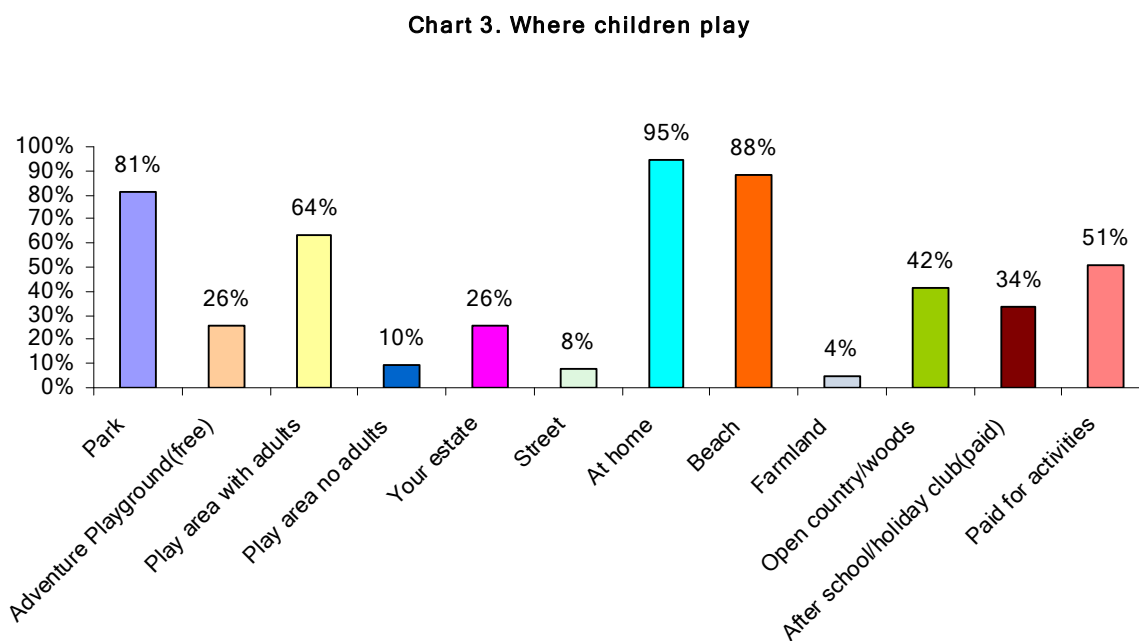
2. About Children's Play

Parents were asked a number of questions about their children's play. These included where they play, what opportunities they have for play, and their views on what additional facilities they could have.

2:1 Where children play

Parents were asked to identify where their children played by being given a number of pre-defined categories, and a space for additional information.

Chart 3 gives details on the number of responses in these categories.



As the information in Chart 3 shows, the most popular places of play for children is their home (93%), with the beach (88%) and park (81%) following closely behind, which is an order of preference almost similar to that of children.

However, the lesser emphasis given to the open countryside and woods (42%), does not match the preferences of children. Instead parents considered the presence of an adult (64%) and paid for activities (51%) to be more important.

Additional information was given to supplement these answers, which has been organised into the different categories in Box 1 below.

Box 1. Where Children Play

a) Where children Play	
<p><i>Jungle Jim - Fort Regent</i></p> <p><i>I have 2 children - the 11-year old goes out on his bike with his friends and plays in all the ticked areas. I didn't tick Adventure Playground as I haven't seen any here - they're just playgrounds as far as I can see. The 9-year old hasn't started doing that yet but has activities most days after school, plus friends over to play some days. Both are a bit old for most of the playgrounds in Jersey, as they are designed for younger children and are not enough of a challenge for active children of 9 and over.</i></p> <p><i>Adventure Park</i></p> <p><i>Jersey Zoo (2)</i></p> <p><i>Relatives' houses</i></p> <p><i>Play area at La Fontaine</i></p> <p><i>We like to be on the sand dunes rolling down the hills</i></p> <p><i>Youth club</i></p> <p><i>In the garden (3) and courtyard</i></p> <p><i>At a few trusted friend's houses</i></p> <p><i>Grand parent's pool</i></p>	<p><i>Regular organised play dates at friends' houses, with both set of parents present, usually the mum's!</i></p> <p><i>Enclosed gardens - at home, at grandparents and at friends - alone and with adults around</i></p> <p><i>Cricket Nets at Les Quennevais Sports Centre</i></p> <p><i>Football pitches at community centres</i></p> <p><i>BMX ramps on North coast</i></p> <p><i>Cycling around lanes or on cycle track</i></p> <p><i>Church</i></p> <p><i>Amazin Maze, summer family ticket holder</i></p> <p><i>Playing with friends at their houses</i></p> <p><i>Garden</i></p> <p><i>Football pitch</i></p> <p><i>Cycle track, Les Quennevais</i></p> <p><i>Swimming pool</i></p>

The point raised by the parent with children in the older age range, not only confirms the differences in terms of independence between the two groups of children consulted, but how growing independence can influence the older child's decisions about places of play, something identified in the Year 7 survey. It also raises the question of whether the equipment available in public spaces is suitable for the older age group; a point raised by children in the primary age group, where animosities about the older children in these play situations were frequently expressed.

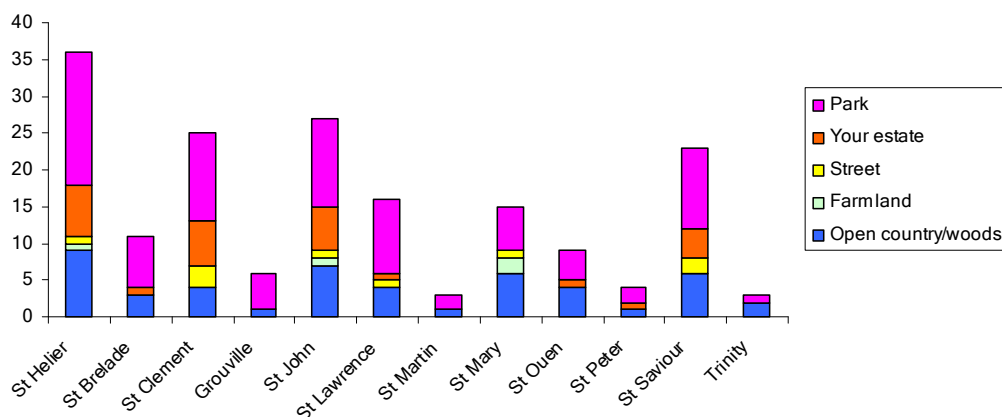
2:2 Play opportunities for children

Parents were asked if they considered there were enough play opportunities for their child in the area they live, and 62% said there were.

In seeking to find out where the 38% of parents who said there were not enough play opportunities live, responses to this question were compared with Parish of residence. As only a limited number of comparisons could be calculated, it was decided to compare only those play opportunities that occurred outdoors, as this was a popular choice for all children.

Findings from this comparison are given in Chart 4 on the next page.

Chart 4. Play opportunities by parish



What is apparent in Chart 4 is that all parents, regardless of their parish of residence, believe that more parks and open countryside should be available for children's play. Many included their local estate in this, which again is in keeping with the requests of children.

2:3 Additional play facilities

Parents were asked to identify what additional play facilities they believed should be available for their children's play, and detailed information was given in response to this question. Responses have been organised into the different categories in Box 2.

Box 2: Additional Play Facilities

a) Outdoor/Adventure	
<i>There is a huge gap in Jersey for a permanent fair ground</i>	<i>I think Jersey has a good range of parks/playgrounds for children but probably needs more of the Adventure style parks (e.g. Creepy Valley)</i>
<i>Bring back the Tropical Gardens</i>	
<i>Rainy days can be difficult with an active boy, as boys are like dogs - they need a run every day</i>	<i>It would be great to have a decent park or play area east of the island</i>
<i>Living in the town area the nearest park/play area is Springfield. it is in bad state of repair and not very much for children aged between 4-6....they seem to big for the smaller park and not quite big enough for the larger apparatus</i>	<i>More parks , more public woodland areas</i>
<i>A decent playground in the centre / north of the Island</i>	<i>More climbing frames, the old wooden ones at St Andrews were great. More parks to the east of the island A playground</i>
<i>I would like to see much better facilities in the east of the Island for play opportunities as a family. Grouville where we live has a lovely play park near the beach, but the local restaurants and cafes have tiny areas for children to play in and are either dirty or have no toys. We should be encouraging family time. A play area with a cafe not a cafe with a play area would be fantastic. I don't want somewhere I can "dump" my kids whilst I have a coffee, I want to enjoy watching them play but at the same time have something to do too</i>	<i>More tolerance of ball games in the quiet streets</i>
	<i>Would be great to have a play area in St Mary</i>
	<i>More skateboarding facilities</i>
	<i>More adventure open air parks for older children</i>
	<i>A safe wooded area with easy access via a traffic free lane</i>
	<i>Further adventurous play equipment, like the ones available in St Andrew's Park</i>
	<i>Park nearby within walking distance</i>

<p>Continued: Outdoor/Adventure</p> <p><i>I would like to see more facilities that were not taken up by alcoholics and dogs off leads in the parks that are already provided</i></p> <p><i>Parks/Outdoor areas with bigger equipment so children can take more risks (in a relatively safe environment)</i></p> <p><i>More cycle tracks - I don't think my kids are ready for the green lanes yet - they are still a bit wobbly</i></p> <p><i>There are no play facilities in St Clements and a high concentration of housing. Children have to play in the street. There are no facilities for boys to play foot ball for free</i></p> <p><i>More parks with play facilities for all ages. More areas for the children to play with scooter and skate boards. Open space to play football so elder people do worry about their property</i></p> <p><i>There should be more pubs and restaurants with play zones, and more parks like Millbrook with an open air swimming pool, why not make the sand pit in the Elephant Park a swimming pool instead, as at the moment it is usually full of cat and dog waste</i></p>	<p><i>A designated playground around St Clements's Parish Hall area - other than the playground at Les Marais, which is a long way from where we live, there is no provision within St Clement's Parish for children to play</i></p> <p><i>More grass areas. Less "no ball games" signs. The playground that is here always has broken glass and other things that you wouldn't want your child playing near</i></p> <p><i>A playground or area/field for children the Carrefour Selous area</i></p> <p><i>A Go Karting track all kids and adults would enjoy this</i></p> <p><i>I would like to have a playground nearby where my child could play safely but freely and not be confined in four walls</i></p> <p><i>Free/ cheaper, outdoor adventure parks</i></p>
<p>b) Indoor</p> <p><i>There should be more areas where children and adults can play ice skating fair activities and also more public houses/restaurants should cater for children and have safe outside/indoor areas</i></p> <p><i>There should be more indoor play areas as the Fort gets bust during peak times and also there is not a lot to do in inclement weather</i></p> <p><i>More places to go in the winter time only have the Fort and pubs as main play areas</i></p> <p><i>A ski centre like the one in Dubai it could be built where the pool used to be at Fort Regent, this area is wasted and it would suit all ages</i></p> <p><i>The only big deficit in play facilities for kids is somewhere to go with small children when the weather's bad. We used to go to the airport but that's no longer available. There must be many families with small homes who tear their hair out when the weather's bad and they can't afford to spend money in cafes or at Jungle Jims</i></p> <p><i>An out-of-town indoor wet weather play area for the winter months, other than Fort Regent, which is cold and depressing</i></p> <p><i>Fort Regent swimming pool reopened</i></p> <p><i>More all year / all weather facilities</i></p> <p><i>More Fort Regent play area style things for the winter. We went here http://www.bearfeet.net/ recently while on holiday in Devon and the children loved it.</i></p>	<p><i>The Fort used to be amazing when I was a child</i></p> <p><i>The Aqua Splash has potential but is far too restricted by health and safety. My younger child would love to go on the slides but is classed as too short. It should be up to the parent to decide if their children are too small</i></p> <p><i>More places for winter months. The only place to take them at the moment is the arena up at Fort Regent that is so crowded in the winter it is impossible to keep an eye on your children safely or the aqua splash. Having a near 3 year old and 3 month old baby swimming is also impossible</i></p> <p><i>More inside play for wet weather days</i></p> <p><i>More indoor play facilities especially for school age children. When it is colder and wet there are not many places to take children.</i></p> <p><i>Free indoor swimming facilities</i></p> <p><i>More to do in the winter months as there is not much to do without paying a fortune for it where you can be with a lot of other children</i></p> <p><i>Perhaps another park similar to Millbrook and the Elephant Park but with an assault course element would also be a good idea. In the summer there are many places to take the children and we are very fortunate.</i></p>

c) Organised/Paid for/Safer	
<p><i>I would like to see a park area where the children could play in a safe environment</i></p> <p><i>My son really loves creative things and more classes would be great</i></p> <p><i>A proper youth club to be run in the Georgetown area for kids from 7 to 16 and a more suitable play area for kids from 5 upwards as there is nothing in the Georgetown area for the kids to do apart from hang out at each others houses, but there are dangerous roads to cross.</i></p> <p><i>Would be prepared for it to be a paid-for, but value-for-money venue</i></p>	<p><i>Yes if reliant on parents driving child to these areas, but nothing in the immediate vicinity</i></p> <p><i>Play area at recreation field so different age children can play in the same place and be supervised by parent together</i></p> <p><i>I live on a road with no pavements. My child cannot go 'out' to play. She also has no friends locally. If there was a cordoned play area locally I would be able to take her there where she could meet other local children. A coffee shop or shed would be a bonus</i></p> <p><i>More things should be offered free of charge or on a discounted rate</i></p>

d) Age Appropriate	
<p><i>There needs to be more indoor play area for children aged 6 to 12/13, and they need to have a low entrance fee</i></p> <p><i>My daughter currently attends Guides but there does not seem to be much else that she can get involved in at a nearly teenage age</i></p> <p><i>Supervised outdoor activities for ages 5 upwards. More educational / nature activities in our beautiful Jersey</i></p> <p><i>My son asked if there was somewhere in Jersey like JUMP - a large indoor play area where we used to live in UK which has areas suitable for older children. I had to tell him that there isn't. The one at Fort Regent is - again - for young children</i></p> <p><i>Make more use of the parks in town - the children's area a the park could have so much more in it!! and possible a separate area for the younger children as when the schools are on holiday we avoid that park because the older children take over</i></p> <p><i>We do have a small park - but it's not safe unless there are parents around to supervise. We do however have a brilliantly equipped youth club nearby which is hardly ever open and when it is does nothing for the under 10's yet is well equipped too!! Staffing issues. Maybe an after school club of some description would work</i></p> <p><i>I would like to see more organised activities for children aged 11-16 possibly roller disco, or activities that they can join in on their own or as friends</i></p> <p><i>More parks for older children</i></p> <p><i>I would like to see more activities for key stage 1 children after school and maybe an indoor football area for children in my area not just on estates</i></p>	<p><i>We live on the out skirts of St Helier in our are there is nothing at all for older children, for younger ages you can walk down to Howard Davis park and use the play equipment there or for children up to around age 8 you have Mount Bingham but even then there is not much there so the children soon get bored it would therefore be nice to see some older play equipment, a youth club (without it being a good 20- 30 minute walk away, not everyone drives) marked cycling tracks. Bring back the old style Fort Regent roller disco big safe out door play area, fair rides, shows, aquarium something for everyone.</i></p> <p><i>More play facilities for "older" children. Many of the play grounds are aimed at the 7 and under age group. More challenging facilities are required for the 9+ age group</i></p> <p><i>I would like to see a place where the youngest children can run and ride their bikes and scooters safely in town with covered facilities for poor weather. Also a drop off scheme for children when parents are shopping in town provided at Christmas time might help the Mums and Dads avoid dragging their children around frantically</i></p> <p><i>It would be nice to have an adventure playground in Jersey to make it more challenging for children who are 8 + Play ranges would be good as well that collect children and take them to a place which is safe and free to explore</i></p> <p><i>Some additional playground facilities for older children</i></p> <p><i>After school clubs in primary schools would be great</i></p> <p><i>The nearest playground is for little ones only. It would be nice to have an older children's playground next to the little one in Howard Davis Park</i></p>

The point raised by a parent in Box 1 about more play facilities for older children, is further supported by the many comments in Box 2, where the issue of limited age appropriate play opportunities is highlighted. Suggestions about more all year round indoor facilities that can be used in inclement weather are often linked with the value of facilities at Fort Regent meeting this need. There are a number of calls to bring back certain lost activities at this indoor centre throughout parent comments.

The importance of local and accessible play facilities was illustrated by one parent, when she wrote about the loneliness of her child because environmental constraints restricted her ability to make friends through accessible play opportunities. There is some mention of opportunities for children being able to take risks, but how health and safety rules can be a barrier to this, also how the well used play facilities in St Helier should be maintained in a non-hazardous order.

2:4 The importance of play

In seeking to determine the value they placed on play, parents were asked why they considered play to be important for their child, and many considered responses were given. These have been organised into the different categories in Box 3.

Box 3: The importance of play

a) Engagement/Fun/Learning/Relaxation	
<i>They go out and have fun</i>	<i>It helps develop their ideas. Encourages the use of imagination. Gives needed time when they can act their age and have fun. They also learn through play</i>
<i>They enjoy being children</i>	<i>Because it is fun, relaxing, creative, imaginative, builds relationships, promotes independence and negotiating skills, endless opportunities to learn about ourselves and the world we live in</i>
<i>My child has the opportunity to learn through play</i>	<i>It's their way of unwinding after a day at school. It helps with their imaginative skills, if at a park etc it's a good chance for them to meet and play with other people they either know or don't know and teaches skills such as sharing, waiting on your turn etc</i>
<i>It is a great way for my child to learn new things/play from children older than him</i>	<i>It gives them valuable 'time out' from school life & home life where activities may be more controlled</i>
<i>Children learn through play. They strengthen muscles and bones by climbing and running. It is good for them developmentally. They learn to role play and take turns. They learn that someone has to win and someone has to lose in every game. Because it is fun and they can let off steam</i>	<i>It gives them a chance to relax and to enjoy themselves, also a chance to learn about social interaction</i>
<i>Its part of life skills</i>	<i>Kids grow up far too quickly these days and I believe one of the reasons for this is not enough quality play</i>
<i>Learning through play. Expression of themselves</i>	<i>For education and mind stimulating and relaxing times when they want to play with their friends</i>
<i>It helps them to relax after spending time in a structured learning environment</i>	<i>Play is important for my child because is part of being a child, is energy, is fun, is happiness, is exercise, making friends, developing skills</i>
<i>Learning, experimenting, having freedom to do what they want, rather than being focussed on a particular task with a desired outcome, learning from mistakes in a pressure free environment, developing social skills - and perhaps most importantly - enjoying themselves and being happy</i>	<i>Getting fresh air, developing imagination and learning and learning about nature and the outdoors</i>
<i>I think children learn through playing. Therefore, playing is very important</i>	<i>Allows them to be free to express themselves. Ultimately play is a foundation that supports many aspects of their lives</i>
<i>Learning by play -develops imagination and creativity</i>	<i>For learning and stimulation of imagination. Also for exercise and meeting other children. Learning social skills and sharing as well as burning off any excess energy</i>
<i>They need to have fun and use up there energy</i>	<i>Above all it's good for them to relax and enjoy themselves</i>
<i>This is how a child learns, and it is especially important for children to play with friends as they learn a lot more</i>	<i>They need to let off steam and get exercise in a fun way, it also helps to develop supervised independence and an ability to make new friends outside of their school community</i>
<i>Gives the child chance for them to do what they want</i>	
<i>Their thoughts and worries can then be brought out in their play, because it develops so many areas of his learning, social interaction, coordination, confidence and independence. Mostly, because it is fun to play together</i>	

b) Creative Skills

To be creative with their time and activities - I'd hate for every hour of their day to be 'organised' or 'prescribed'

Allows them to be free to use their own imagination and creativity

Because it allows children to be creative i.e. with imaginary themes & role play

It improves mobility and develops their creative thinking

They have the full opportunity to use their imaginations and set whatever scenes they can imagine

**c) Physical Skills/Challenges/
Risk/Safety/Wellbeing**

It's a great way to develop their greater motor skills, learn the importance of safety while climbing, planning and negotiating new challenges, socialising, having fun and exercise

Play is very important - children like to use their bodies for climbing and all children should have a place to play that is safe

When my daughter gets home from school she needs somewhere to let off steam, staying at home makes her frustrated... but at the moment we aren't in a position to provide her with "paid for" after school activities, and there's not a great deal around here for her to do

Be active and healthy. Learn how to be independent and manage risks

Playing outdoors is healthy and walking and exploring increases appetite to learn new things

Learning takes place through play, children develop strategies and problem solve whilst learning social skills and taking risk

It keeps them occupied, excited, they learn as they play keeps them physically and mentally fit

So that they are able to develop physically and socially in a safe and structured environment

*Helps them to use their imagination and to improve their climbing, balancing skills
It help them socialise, use their imagination and burn off*

Develops agility and strength

Helps develop sense of danger and caution

It stimulates their thinking/brain. Physical play gives them the exercise they need and also encourages independence

Play is a good form of exercise, a way of developing social skills as well as a way of developing co-ordination skills etc

They are able to explore the environment which has risks that they can take so they learn how to adapt to this

Nothing better than children being outdoors and using up their energy

Physical activity invaluable for health

Sharing, activity, gets them out and about everything, energy anger and exercise to have a good nights sleep

For physical activity. To explore the natural environment

Good exercise, fun to balance against wet play spent on games consoles. Doesn't need to cost money to have a fun, whether individually, with friends or as a family. It broadens their ideas and gives them freedom to express themselves, children are constantly learning through play

It helps the child learn about their surroundings and teach them about other dangers that may be around e.g. climbing a tree - could fall out or how do they get down? This is what I did as a child and I loved every minute of it

Burns off excess energy, keeps them fit, they have fun

They have the opportunity to run off steam in wide open spaces

I believe play is vital for a child's, physiological, emotional and psychological development.

It helps children learn to interact with other children, builds confidence, allows them to relax, have fun in area they know they are safe, offers them new challenges, new experiences

It keeps them healthy both physical and mentally. It helps them to coordinate, mix with other children and share. play should always be enjoyable, but children usually learn a lot through play

Expression, freedom, risk taking, interacting with other children, exercise, fresh air

Many physical and psychological benefits - fresh air, fitness, socialising, exploring, learning, independence etc

Stimulates imagination, keeps the child fit and healthy, encourages healthy mental and physical development

Opportunity to explore

Because it helps them get exercise

Outside play important to get children out of the house in fresh air and away from electronic games/TV

Outdoor activities are the best with so much opportunities for learning

Physical activity, especially in outdoor play. Play can also be learning

I try to encourage my daughter to 'get up and about' rather than sitting in front of the TV. I think children have lost the skills to 'play' since the introduction of gadgets. I have found that even when my daughter wants to play out at home her friends want to stay in and watch TV/play on computer etc

Lets them let off steam and run around especially after a hard day at school

Getting my children out and about in nature, fresh air and exercise - everyone is happy (and sleeps well!)

It is part of normal healthy childhood and it is also good for health

Gives them a chance to let off steam and open their minds and enjoy being a child and to help them to take risks in life

<p>Continued:Physical Skills/Challenges/Risk/Safety/Wellbeing</p> <p><i>It helps them become self sufficient, not to be too needy to toys. I feel imaginative play is so important, and to allow them to climb and play out with parents eye (where possible and safe) play areas away from home offer the opportunity for children to mingle and interact with people (children and adults) other than family members, thus practicing and encouraging their play</i></p>	<p><i>Playtime is important to every child. It helps with interaction skills, sharing and how to be responsible when playing with other children and equipment. Whilst there are various playtime activities, active playtime is essential to every child for health/exercise reasons. Whilst I don't agree with spending too much time with playing with computer games, they too have their advantages in this era of technology</i></p>	<p><i>Playing outdoors is absolutely essential for a child's wellbeing in my eyes, providing exercise, stimulation and experiences that a "house" environment cannot offer. Furthermore social interaction</i></p> <p><i>Good exercise</i></p>
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<p>d) Social/Emotional/Imagination/Independence</p> <p><i>It helps them become a well adjusted adult and is key to their learning and appreciation of life</i></p> <p><i>They get into their own "zone"</i></p> <p><i>They relate to friends</i></p> <p><i>They learn to deal with life</i></p> <p><i>They develop their imagination and independence</i></p> <p><i>It encourages interaction with other children, encourages physical activity and imaginative play</i></p> <p><i>Social development, physical exercise, "down" time from school, learning to share, interaction with other children</i></p> <p><i>It gives my child the chance to explore her creative side and use her imagination it also allows her to build on her skills such as communication, expression and explore emotions. it can also be a form of exercise but most importantly to me of all it allows my child to be a child!!! too many children are made to grow up too fast these days and are always being told don't do this don't do that but through play they can relax experiment (sometimes become a bit too brave thus learning courage) and explore their surroundings and themselves</i></p> <p><i>It stimulates emotional and physical wellbeing. Play encourages a child to interact, to learn to give and take and to negotiate</i></p> <p><i>Helps my child to gain social skills</i></p> <p><i>Helps them develop and practice social, emotional, physical and intellectual skills. i.e., through pretend play my daughter is beginning to learn about the world around her. She doesn't feel intimidated if she gets something wrong and is gaining confidence. It also allows her to explore and be comfortable (and want to) asking questions about the world around her</i></p> <p><i>Play helps my child learn and grow. It is important so she is able to form relationships with other children which will follow through to adult life. Most importantly she is able to let go and just be herself with no rules or adults giving direction.</i></p> <p><i>Learning to mix and interact with other children through role play and game playing</i></p> <p><i>To develop their imagination. To develop social skills. To express themselves in a variety of different ways</i></p>	<p><i>Because when he is locked up in the house all the time he becomes less responsive and sleeps poorly which affects school. Also if he could learn outside and run in a free space it would be far more healthier for him and us who sit in the house or are forced to drive to places as far as St Johns playing fields to let him run in safety and kick a ball without us having to worry about confrontations with alcoholics or dogs off leads. We even tried walking on the reservoir paths but these are used by dog walkers who contrary to signs posted let their dogs off the leads. This is particularly difficult for younger children who are dog head high</i></p> <p><i>Helps them to grow and become independent</i></p> <p><i>It helps them learn about the world as well as prepare them for later life through role play etc</i></p> <p><i>This helps children to socialise with their peers</i></p> <p><i>Children need to be able to play as a way to help them relax, take exercise and fresh air and to be able to interact and socialise with their peers</i></p> <p><i>Playing with others - developing social skills</i></p> <p><i>Its good for the imagination, communication/social skills</i></p> <p><i>Children learn through play and it helps their interaction with other children</i></p> <p><i>Interaction / sharing / social awareness / manners</i></p> <p><i>They learn to integrate with other kids while they play</i></p> <p><i>Enables social interaction with peers, enables them to let off energy, feeds their imagination and enables them to have fun, away from school environment</i></p> <p><i>Builds confidence and social skills</i></p> <p><i>Developing relationships with other children and improving a sense of independence and ingenuity /creativity</i></p> <p><i>After school it is important for children to experience fresh air with no structure. Play helps develop all areas in a child's life especially the social side</i></p> <p><i>Play helps children develop their confidence by interacting more with children they do not know and encourages healthy play indoors and outdoors</i></p> <p><i>Play is important as it helps to develop social skills and independence, and being active helps with independence</i></p>
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continued: Social/Emotional/Imagination /Independence	
<p><i>They learn independent thinking and use their imagination. It also gives them independence in a safe environment</i></p> <p><i>They get to use their imagination and have fun.</i></p> <p><i>It helps develop their imagination, burns off excess energy, helps them to know their limitations, enables them to try out different real life scenarios within an imaginary world, enables interaction with other children and generally equips them with the experiences for living life</i></p> <p><i>Play is so important for children, it allows them to let off steam, it is fantastic for development and social skills, confidence to go off and play with other children get them to use their imagination, make friendships & be children</i></p> <p><i>Play is vital to a child's personal development whether they play within a large group or by themselves. It's invaluable they use their imagination and creative abilities</i></p> <p><i>To mix with other children, my daughter came from St Johns school and did not know many people when she started at Quennevais. It teaches teamwork and sharing, and relationship building</i></p> <p><i>Play is important as it builds on their imagination, great for making friends, communication & interaction, new experiences & builds confidence in a child</i></p> <p><i>They learn to think for themselves through play, make decisions for themselves, have fun, which develops their understanding of the world around them</i></p> <p><i>Play is important as it teaches her to interact with other children and learn to take turns and share. It also tires her out so she sleeps well</i></p> <p><i>They have the opportunity to interact and play with friends or make new acquaintances.</i></p> <p><i>I think it's good for them to use their imagination and to interact with other children that are either younger, older or the same age</i></p> <p><i>I think it teaches child to form bonds with one another and the importance of team spirit. In my view children need to be in the fresh air and learn about one another i.e. differ social groups; learn to share and the points of rules and why they should be followed</i></p> <p><i>Whether they be other adults or children and to understand that everyone is different but also for the physical activity and adventure that it usually entails</i></p>	<p><i>Through play a child's imagination can be set free</i></p> <p><i>Working together as a team with other children builds confidence, I would like to see more of this through imaginative play and interaction with children of all ages</i></p> <p><i>It provides them with exercise, an opportunity to make and meet with friends (teaching social skills) and enhances imagination</i></p> <p><i>Play is important for independence and problem solving and learning about other people without adult pre-conceived ideas</i></p> <p><i>Teaches them how to mix, behave socially and to share.</i></p> <p><i>Keeps them away from screens, telly, play stations, computers etc.</i></p> <p><i>They enjoy it</i></p> <p><i>Interacting with other children</i></p> <p><i>Stimulates the mind</i></p> <p><i>Communicate better with family and friends and gets them showing their independent imaginative minds</i></p> <p><i>Social skills - interaction with other children</i></p> <p><i>They can use up energy and interact with other children</i></p> <p><i>I work full time therefore the weekends is all about the children and therefore entertainment for them is very important. I want them to learn boundaries and to learn how to make decisions on their own</i></p> <p><i>It makes them interact with other children and with their parents/carers and they use their imagination more - they also learn more about the world around them</i></p> <p><i>To learn through play so encouraging imagination</i></p> <p><i>For normal development, especially with role play type play. Social interaction is developed</i></p> <p><i>To learn to interact with other people</i></p> <p><i>Teaches development now and also as they get older</i></p> <p><i>Develop their imagination. Forge friendships, exercise, freedom, social skills, team work – sometimes its great for their imaginative play when playing in the garden or park, whether alone or with friends</i></p>

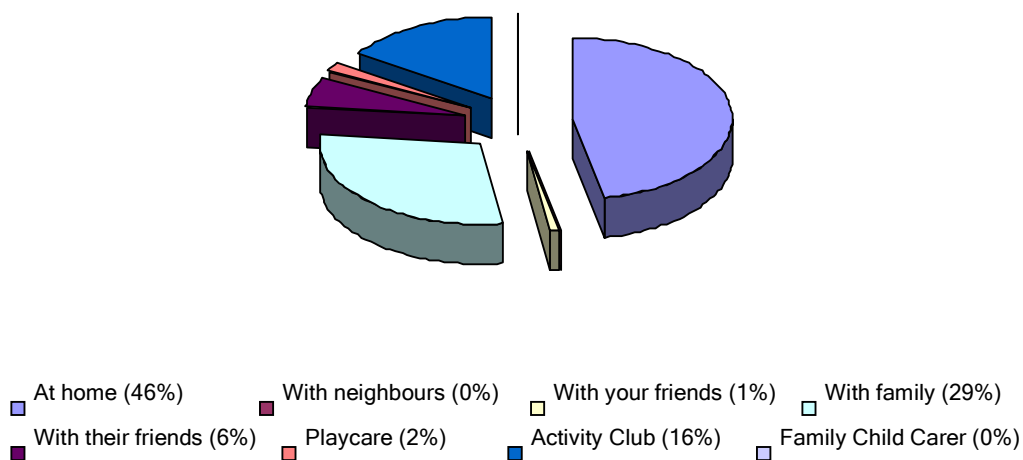
A number of themes are apparent in the wealth of information provided by parents, however many are likely to be influenced by the young age of their child. There is an emphasis on play being a vehicle for learning about a variety of new situations, ranging from being able to express themselves, socialising, making friends with others, and developing the skills of creativity. Some parents seem to have tuned into the importance of play being fun, which was loudly expressed in the young children's consultation. A lot of emphasis was placed on the physical aspect of play, which is linked to a healthy

lifestyle of exercise and tiring out for sleep, and they see sport as an important part of this. Some parents have acknowledged that play is important in helping children take risks and overcome new challenges. The many comments on play being an important opportunity for children to socialise and make friends again suggest they have tuned into their children’s needs, as this was a major theme in the younger children’s consultation.

2:5 Where children spent their last summer holiday

In seeking to understand how parent’s views about play may have influenced the choices they make, they were asked to identify the main place their child had spent their last summer holiday. This was achieved by asking them to choose from a number of pre-defined categories, and the information they provided is given in Chart 5 below.

Chart 5. Where your child spent most of their summer holidays



What is apparent when looking at Chart 5, is that those parents who responded to survey have made every effort to make sure their child is with a family member, as three quarters of children (75% total) were cared for either at home or with a relative, compared with a total of 18% mainly in paid for care. As well as ticking the categories provided, many parents supplement their answers, and these responses have been organised into Box 3 below.

Box 3. Children’s main place of play last summer holiday

<p><i>On holiday in France with family and friends</i></p> <p><i>With parents on holiday, or out and about in Jersey e.g. Amazin Maze, Beach, Zoo, pictures, bowling</i></p> <p><i>I want to tick a couple of these boxes - we played at home, with family and with friends, in Jersey and away</i></p>	<p><i>On the beach, in the rock pools, in the sea (swimming, boogie boarding and kayaking) with some combination of family plus friends</i></p> <p><i>Abroad visiting family</i></p> <p><i>Nursery</i></p>
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<p>Continued: <i>My child spent all but one week at her own home being cared for by her mother, father and grandmother split over 5 weeks and one week on a family holiday abroad</i></p> <p><i>Nursery and family in the afternoons</i></p> <p><i>Also, significant time at St Mary's Kids Club I have more than one child but only have the option to speak for one child</i></p> <p><i>We took about four weeks holiday this year but usually we have two weeks together and then she spend time with her Nan & Pop and at Kid's Club</i></p> <p><i>Including family visiting from UK on holiday to help with childcare during school holidays</i></p> <p><i>On holiday with the family</i></p>	<p><i>I have 2 children one aged 6 and 1 aged 10, both boys. During the school holidays my youngest stayed with me and we did various activities and he attended a private swimming club for 1 week as a fun alternative to break up his hols. My oldest being not yet fully responsible to go off and do things by himself spent time between myself, home, going out with friends, being driven there and picked up and a paid for holiday summer club which we opted to do in the middle of the 6 week break. This offered him a more enjoyable holiday break, as he was occupied, not bored, had fun, made new friends. The camp was excellent - but it was expensive but weighing that up it was worthwhile for the benefits he gained from attending for 2 weeks</i></p> <p><i>Family holiday</i></p> <p><i>At home, the beach & with close family</i></p> <p><i>50/50 with parents and other family</i></p>
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The comments in Box 3 again support the view that parents have made every effort to address the needs of their children in relation to their particular circumstances. This is well documented by the parent who gave a considered response about planning for two older boys, which took account of their age difference.

3. Parents views on play

In seeking to obtain further information about their views on play, parents were asked a number of questions about how their children get to their places of play, and how safe they believe they are when doing this.

3:1 Getting to the place of play

When asked about how children get to their places of play, parents provided detailed information, which has been organised into Box 4 below.

Box 4: Getting to the place of play

<p><i>We take them either walking or by car. We love to play at home too which is fine when the weather is not too good but there needs to be more outdoor (with indoor) facilities outside of the house</i></p> <p><i>The 11-year old cycles to the nearby beach, countryside and friends' houses to play with his friends</i></p> <p><i>They are both taken to paid-for activities in the car, as the activities are all too far away for them to ride</i></p> <p><i>We walk to the nearest park or she may ride her bicycle there...if we go to one of the out of town play areas we go by car.... I always go with her she never goes alone</i></p> <p><i>Depends where we go. we walk to the beach and park. We walk to our garden. We drive to other areas on the island. They are too young yet to cycle anywhere</i></p>	<p><i>Driven by parents most of time, sometimes on bikes with us</i></p> <p><i>With parent or friends. Always accompanied by an adult</i></p> <p><i>Either I, my husband or our friends take our kids to their place of play and we stay with them when they are unpaid for places</i></p> <p><i>Walk or in the car. There is a small playground near to home but this is becoming too small for my children.</i></p> <p><i>Will travel in car with myself usually. We have a garden and live in a small street/ private road of 6 houses so she uses these areas. At 7 she is too young to be going anywhere else on her own. We are lucky that there are other children in our road and they play on bikes etc. The close has direct access to a busy main road but the children understand the boundaries</i></p>	<p><i>10 year old goes to park by self - did trial runs with parents to show where and how to cross road</i></p> <p><i>I either drive or walk them there</i></p> <p><i>Monday to Friday my child attends the Kids Club at St Mary's Community Centre attached to his school. Otherwise we drive him to places</i></p> <p><i>With mum or dad (4)</i></p> <p><i>With Mum, dad, family and friends</i></p> <p><i>Either walking with parent or in the car with parent</i></p> <p><i>Walk or drive with parent</i></p> <p><i>They walk, or if going to the park or beach, we drive</i></p> <p><i>By foot (scooter, bicycle) or by car, depending on distance</i></p>
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<p>Continued: Getting to place of play</p> <p><i>I take her/them (3)</i></p> <p><i>I either walk her - or she gets taken in the car with grandma</i></p> <p><i>My child's main place of play is outside on the estate or after school clubs in a car</i></p> <p><i>By car (4)</i></p> <p><i>Walk or in car- sometimes on bike</i></p> <p><i>I take her personally, given she is only 2 and 10 months. I normally allow her to play, joining in when needed</i></p> <p><i>Walks (5)</i></p> <p><i>In our car and by foot (3)</i></p> <p><i>Walk or car (4)</i></p> <p><i>Walk to park</i></p> <p><i>Usually walking, sometimes cycling, occasionally by car</i></p> <p><i>We either go by walking, car, bus and bike</i></p> <p><i>Walk or car (3)</i></p> <p><i>We either walk to the closet beach or take a nature walk around the lanes. Alternatively I drive to the places i.e., country walks, cliff walks, St. Catherine's Woods</i></p> <p><i>Usually in the car with me or direct from school</i></p> <p><i>By car, public transport is poor in our area and not to safe to walk and cycle from our area.</i></p> <p><i>Get taken by parents</i></p> <p><i>Walking or car</i></p> <p><i>With a parent, generally by car</i></p> <p><i>They go to after school club which is transported by the provider. Otherwise my children are taken by family members</i></p> <p><i>If playing on the estate they take themselves, if they are going to an activity such as swimming, life saving they go by car</i></p> <p><i>They generally get driven to a park, the beach, swimming etc</i></p>	<p><i>She is always accompanied by an adult as she is age 9</i></p> <p><i>Bus, cycle, walk. For Holiday Club, taken there by car</i></p> <p><i>Driven by parents as it is not within walking distance</i></p> <p><i>Due to age of child, they are always accompanied by a parent</i></p> <p><i>At this age always with us as parents or close friends with their own children, or on estate closely watched by parents</i></p> <p><i>With an adult by car or foot</i></p> <p><i>Sometimes we walk but usually we have to take the car</i></p> <p><i>We have a small playground outside and if we can't walk there we drive</i></p> <p><i>With parents and/or other familiar adults</i></p> <p><i>Taken there by adults</i></p> <p><i>Independently if garden, with brother or parent on estate, likewise if going to play at park or on beach</i></p> <p><i>Walk to facilities or drive to beach other side of island</i></p> <p><i>Walk or driven by parents</i></p> <p><i>We tend to walk whenever we can, or by car for trips to the beach/zoo etc with a parent</i></p> <p><i>Is taken by an adult for activities out of the house. At home is allowed to play by himself with minimal supervision</i></p> <p><i>Various: walk, scoot, cycle, car</i></p> <p><i>Usually by car or walking, but always with an adult</i></p> <p><i>I or family member or friend will take them</i></p> <p><i>On foot or by car</i></p> <p><i>Clearly that depends on where we are going, who we are meeting, what the weather is like!</i></p> <p><i>Children are 2 and 6 so are obviously always escorted by an adult</i></p>	<p><i>Taken by parents or grandparents</i></p> <p><i>Drive or walk</i></p> <p><i>They walk onto the street, or we drive to a playground</i></p> <p><i>We usually take him to the park/beach/play ground</i></p> <p><i>With me or with after school clubs</i></p> <p><i>They are driven by an adult or we walk if the area is nearby</i></p> <p><i>Walks with mummy or we take the car</i></p> <p><i>Depending on what you mean, the child usually walks or is taken by car</i></p> <p><i>Accompanied by a parent if outside of our home. Alternatively, playing in our own garden</i></p> <p><i>Walk or I take them in the car</i></p> <p><i>Parent assisted</i></p> <p><i>Walk or cycle where the places are nearby (we are lucky enough to live near Millbrook Park and the beach)</i></p> <p><i>Driven by an adult parent.</i></p> <p><i>We live in high rise buildings within an estate. So travels down a lift and crosses the road to the park.</i></p> <p><i>In the car</i></p> <p><i>Normally with her mother or father</i></p> <p><i>By car or walk with mum or dad</i></p> <p><i>She cycles to the park or walks</i></p> <p><i>Mum's taxi service!!</i></p> <p><i>With an adult with parents family</i></p> <p><i>My son walks and runs to play with his friends</i></p> <p><i>With an adult</i></p> <p><i>Walk usually unless it is the beach and then we will drive</i></p> <p><i>Car or walking</i></p> <p><i>Walks, cycles or by car if we are going further</i></p>
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What is striking in these responses from parents is the frequent reference to using the car to take children to and from their place of play, which is often coupled with walking. The reasons given for the high reliance on this mode of transport is often linked with safety, distance from the place of play and poor public transport. However, this is also linked with the need for supervision, which is not unexpected when taking account of the fact that the majority of parents who responded to the survey have younger children.

3:2 Safety in getting to and from places of play

When asked whether they considered their child is safe getting to and from their place of play, 75% of parents who responded said they did feel their child is safe. All parents were asked to give reasons for their answer, and the comments of the 25% of parents who said they did not feel safe are given first and these have been organised into the categories in Box 5 below.

Box 5: Why children are not safe getting to and from places of play

a) Behaviour of others	b) Age	
<p><i>In the park the gates are always left open and the alcoholics are always shouting and very close by - not good</i></p> <p><i>Well I have to put a lot of trust in him being safe, stranger danger</i></p> <p><i>At the park in the evening there are a lot of drunk teenagers and they leave a lot of broken glass, mess behind</i></p> <p><i>No because we do not know everyone that lives in the area and some children do not have the same upbringing as my son. A number of parents keep in contact with each other to ensure our children are not coming to any harm. Not all children are bad but they have never been shown how to engage in play without fighting or bullying younger children</i></p>	<p><i>He is not independent enough yet to walk along roads etc</i></p> <p><i>6 and 4 - not at age to go anywhere without adults</i></p> <p><i>Too young to walk unaccompanied. Busy roads and not an immediate space - walking distance</i></p> <p><i>Until our daughter is old enough (she is 9) we consider the roads too dangerous for her to use them entirely on her own</i></p> <p><i>They are safe when they are younger as they are with adults, as they grow up making there way to these destinations depending on the child and there surroundings could be dangerous</i></p>	
c) Traffic/Roads	<p><i>Cars, cars, cars. The number one fear I have is of kids being knocked down. We live on a road where it's not uncommon for cars to drive in excess of 50 mph. My toddlers wouldn't stand a chance. It's a real deterrent to my older children's independence and my willingness to let them go out on their own. I know they're ready for it but I daren't let them cross such a busy road on their own</i></p> <p><i>Because the traffic can be really dangerous and there are a lot of speeders through Georgetown but nobody seems to care especially with the amount of kids that live in the area some children have either been nearly or have been knocked down in the area, as residents when it came to voting for the last elections were told the first thing that will be done is to do something about the roads in Georgetown</i></p> <p><i>There are roads to cross to get to any play area and there is none in the immediate area and therefore we have to drive</i></p>	<p><i>Due to where we live in the country there are no parks close by therefore trips out are usually by car or we cycle. Road safety with traffic the main concern</i></p> <p><i>We live in St John's so even to go to the village to play in the park she has no pavement to walk on. Most of the activities are outside of St John's and she is too young to get the bus on her own</i></p> <p><i>We live in town and they are both still young and the roads are just too busy for us to use our bikes on</i></p> <p><i>May have a main road to cross</i></p> <p><i>Busy roads and narrow lanes. He is OK for Kids Club but requires supervision or transport to other places</i></p> <p><i>Wouldn't let my child go alone as there is a busy road through the village with no speed calming measures</i></p> <p><i>Walking or cycling along some roads is not safe</i></p>

<p>Continued: Traffic/Roads Too many roads to cross</p> <p>He is 3 yrs old - that's why I walk with him. Too many busy roads and the play area is 10 min walk away. Or if we take the car it is because we go somewhere not within walking distance of our flat</p> <p>Sometimes there are not enough footpaths to access safe play areas</p> <p>Our children do feel that when cycling along the roads to friend's houses or school they can be ignored by car & lorry drivers. They do feel vulnerable, due to the speed & closeness of the vehicles</p>	<p>Speed of the cars</p> <p>There are no safe places to go to play without an adult to accompany them on the journey. The distance to travel is too far with too many busy roads to cross</p> <p>To get to some areas they need to cross road and there are not enough crossing places.</p> <p>Cars can come round quite fast so there is a risk of children being run over. Obviously it is down to the parent but I don't want to keep him at home everyday after school. There is a risk that if something was to happen to him I'm several floors up and unaware. I do go check on him every half hour or hour</p>	<p>The street is not 100% safe as, although it is a cul-de-sac, we live on a corner with no pavement and some of the car drivers come round the corner far too fast - particularly in view of the fact that the recommended speed on the sign is 5mph</p> <p>We live on a busy road. We do believe he would be responsible enough to walk to our local park but we would not be comfortable allowing him to do so</p>
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As shown in Box 5, the main reasons given by parents about why they consider children are not safe getting to their place of play are about the dangers of traffic. However, there seems to be no link with the comments given in Box 4, where the most frequent means of children getting to their place of play, is being driven by parents. Concerns about busy roads are highlighted, with too many of them to cross, that there are too narrow, or absent pavements and the danger of speeding traffic. One parent used the opportunity to refer to a failed political promise to address the concerns about traffic in her area. Although less emphasis is given to concerns about the behaviour of others, one parent raised the point that some 'others' may have failed in helping their children learn how to play with other children in a socially acceptable way, which could be reference to a lack of parental responsibility.

Comments from parents who considered that their child is safe getting to and from their places of play, have been organised into the categories in Box 6.

Box 6: Why the play spaces are safe

<p>a) Supervised environment</p> <p>Because we supervise</p> <p>Only because I won't allow her to be unsupervised</p> <p>Because it is nothing but a concrete square there is nothing there for her to be able to hurt herself on! It is also in the middle of the estate which is opposite my kitchen window so I can see her and because of where it is positions there are no roads near by</p> <p>We spend most of our time at Amazin Maze Adventure Park. You can see your child from one area, parental involvement is encouraged; obviously a lot of thought goes into the smaller things, which has a big impact on safety</p>	<p>It is safe because I am watching (from a distance generally)</p> <p>Because she always plays either where I am present or in an area that I can see and hear her</p> <p>Most of my children's play space is supervised by adults</p> <p>Accompanied by an adult</p> <p>Because parents are there to supervise</p> <p>I am always with them because of their age. I have noticed people at the Elephant Park who I would not expect to frequent the area which is concerning for those parents who allow their children to go on their own</p>	<p>He is only 4 years old so myself or his father are always with him, he is still too young to play unsupervised where we live</p> <p>Close supervision by myself, family or known family friend</p> <p>Only safe under adult supervision</p> <p>My car is driven to a place of play by an adult and an adult is always there</p> <p>After school club is well organised and monitored</p> <p>When playing at friend's homes, I would trust the judgement of a like parent</p> <p>Always an adult present</p>
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<p>Continued: Supervised environment It's safe because I am always there</p> <p>They are in qualified supervised care at all times</p> <p>Because it is always supervised by a parent, overseeing their safety, which is of primary concern</p> <p>Always chosen by adults</p> <p>My child is only 4 years old, so whenever my child plays an adult is always around</p> <p>It's right outside our house on a small estate, but I still watch them constantly</p> <p>Because an adult is always supervising and ensuring even new/unexplored areas are shared together first and any 'risks' talked about.</p> <p>Usually play is under supervision, because I am always present</p> <p>I supervise them</p> <p>They are with me and or a grandparent/godparent/friend - someone is always keeping their eyes peeled</p> <p>Because I supervise them, or they are supervised by an appropriate adult</p> <p>Mum, Dad or responsible adult always present They play at home or with adults around,</p> <p>Primarily because there is always a supervising adult</p> <p>No obvious dangers as long as adult there to supervise</p>	<p>Because he would not go to the park etc alone he will be supervised</p> <p>We are fortunate to have a large enclosed garden and driveway with gated access. We ensure that the outdoor space is safe and suitable for the kinds of activities undertaken. Bike riding, trampoline, basketball netball</p> <p>We are there with them</p> <p>Younger child always with adult supervision</p> <p>I am mostly with him</p> <p>Supervised by a parent</p> <p>Supervised by us at the moment and until old enough to travel there alone and be left alone/with friends. Alternatively, playing in our garden</p> <p>Outside of home is always supervised by an adult (Family member, friend or paid care)</p> <p>Because she's always with myself, her dad or one of her friends parents</p> <p>They are being supervised by a family or adult who is qualified to do so</p> <p>Because there is adult supervision by either the playcare providers or myself</p> <p>I am usually always with my child/ren when taking them to any play areas, if they are outside at home then I am usually in the kitchen keeping an eye on them, since the estate is busy with cars driving in and out, some of which can go quite fast</p> <p>Because it is always supervised by an adult near by</p>	<p>Most of our play places are away from the main roads and their is always adult supervision</p> <p>They are in qualified supervised care at all times</p> <p>Because parents are always around</p> <p>Always adults around</p> <p>However yesterday, at an after-school club, my child did get injured due to another child throwing large stones and I am angry at the fact that the 'supervisor' was not, in my opinion, doing a sufficient job to ensure such an incident was avoided I will be taking the matter further!!</p> <p>Because there are always other parents around. The play area has been designed for children. Or if we go to the woods we are with our children</p> <p>Relating to "getting to and from", talking as a mother of a 5 year old, the way to the play area is safe because our child is taken there by an adult</p> <p>There is always an adult to supervise</p> <p>The travelling is fine because they are driven to the playground. The playground is safe because I am there to supervise them</p> <p>They are supervised by an adult parent (usually myself / husband / parent of friend) at all times when in public space</p> <p>Supervised by myself or her dad or if at the Fort someone supervising</p> <p>Speaking as a mother with young children they are supervised, their play spaces are suitable for their age and safety.</p> <p>Because it's only across the road and I can actually watch them play</p>
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<p>b) Safe environment</p> <p>I have a safe play space outside our flat, it's secure and safe</p> <p>We have easy access and the roads are not too busy to make it unsafe to cross. the play space itself is generally safe although in high summer the sandy park area in Grouville often has rubbish in the sand that people have abandoned, so I always make them keep their shoes on, which they do not like doing</p> <p>When the gates are closed it is (2)</p> <p>The parks have been thought out and have safe equipment. The play spaces are generally away from busy roads (once we have crossed them to get there!) The parks are cleaned so shouldn't have broken glass etc</p> <p>Safe areas maintained by States</p>	<p>Because I make it safe. If there is any place (such as the arena on a crowded day) that I am not comfortable with we will not go in, and will try to find a happy alternative</p> <p>It's on the estate so I can see her (or hear her) most of the time. The only unsafe aspect is the cars coming in and out</p> <p>Because we take him in the car to places like FB Fields and St Johns football field where we can let him run freely without being worried he is going to get run down or bitten by dogs or affected by adults smoking in children's play areas in town</p> <p>Because they are usually away from busy roads - my main concern is traffic, but away from that, I feel they can play nearly anywhere</p>
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<p>Continued: Safe environment</p> <p><i>The parks do seem to be well maintained (with the exception perhaps of St John's Village park which we use regularly which is not looked after). They seem to be safe</i></p> <p><i>Its a small cul du sac we know our neighbours and is off a quiet road</i></p> <p><i>The playground had a fence round and a locked gate</i></p> <p><i>We live in a secluded area of only 6 homes. The children all play together at the front of the houses away from the road. There are 5 young children that play together. It is safe as one of their parents is always there</i></p> <p><i>Garden is security</i></p> <p><i>Housing estate on grassy area</i></p> <p><i>They cycle around estate which is quiet and not a main road</i></p> <p><i>Park - Housing Estate park so generally we know who lives there and pretty enclosed</i></p> <p><i>Well built and protected and away from main roads</i></p> <p><i>I will only go to safe places and remain with them</i></p> <p><i>It is away from a main road</i></p> <p><i>The chosen facilities are in good repair and engaging</i></p> <p><i>Because it is a quiet street</i></p> <p><i>Good quality play equipment and away from major roads</i></p>	<p><i>They know what is safe for themselves through discussions</i></p> <p><i>Home is safe not other places</i></p> <p><i>Playing at home is safe because there is an enclosed courtyard</i></p> <p><i>Because there are no hazards</i></p> <p><i>Because the equipment and area is checked to limit the dangers</i></p> <p><i>Because most of the areas we go to are catered especially for children</i></p> <p><i>At the park there are restrictions such as the opening of the gate to get out but also because I'm with him</i></p> <p><i>Good standard of equipment to play on. Facilities nearby - toilets, small kiosk, clean area, lots of bins provided, maintained to a high standard. Beaches are clean, lifeguards on duty</i></p> <p><i>People working in the play space have been police checked</i></p> <p><i>Environment is child-friendly and clean</i></p> <p><i>Jersey has wonderful open spaces and the majority of the island is clean and safe</i></p> <p><i>Selection of safe places to play and setting simple rules to keep her out of danger are also factors</i></p> <p><i>Wide open spaces, that sadly not every child on the Island has, and our children know how lucky they are</i></p> <p><i>Because I check it is ok and stay to ensure safety</i></p>
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<p>c) Self control/Risk taking</p> <p><i>I have to rely on his judgement when he's out with his friends climbing trees etc but the parks, playgrounds and school grounds are well-maintained and I would view any cuts and bruises sustained there as part of childhood</i></p> <p><i>I feel my child is safe because we have taught her the boundaries so she knows never to go near the road (which is busy). We are always close by so that I can see/hear play from my house. The road is private and therefore quiet although we always reinforce that they must look/listen for any cars that may enter the close</i></p> <p><i>Kids Club is fairly safe as it is well supervised. It also is not 'molly coddling' thus enabling the children to be responsible for themselves to some extent. This requires a balance and trust which T.... and her team manage brilliantly</i></p> <p><i>Because our children are street wise and an adult is always close by if needed</i></p> <p><i>There are always other people around, the equipment is good, and she is old enough to now be fairly responsible</i></p>
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As shown in the first two categories of Box 6, parents who responded to the survey associate children being safe with being supervised by them or another reliable adult. However, as suggested earlier this could be because more parents with younger children responded to the survey. Although there were also some comments about children being safe when taking risks, there was still mention of an adult in the background.

3:3 Supervision of play spaces

Parent's views on supervision of play spaces were explored further when they were asked if the play spaces their child used were supervised. There was little difference in responses to this question, with 52% saying their child's play spaces are supervised and 48% saying they are not. However, when asked which they preferred, 66% said they preferred supervision with only 34% saying they did not, which fits in with comments found earlier in Box 6.

In seeking to obtain more information about perceptions of safety, parents were asked what they considered would be a safe play space for their child, and their responses have been sorted into the categories in Box 7.

Box 7: Parents views on a safe play space for their child

a) Clean/Safe environment		
<p><i>Equipment that is well maintained and has a suitable area around it e.g. appropriate floor tiles or sand. clean areas - lots of bins that are emptied. Dogs not allowed- one of my kids is terrified of dogs. I never leave my children to play on their own (unsupervised) they are only 4 and 5, so am not worried about a play area being supervised. If it is a play area for young children then it should be kept as much as possible for young children only as if the older ones are there, their language is not always appropriate, nor their use of the play equipment, which the youngsters will then copy. No thorny bushes or poisonous plants</i></p> <p><i>A play area that is spacious, maintained regularly and enclosed</i></p> <p><i>If it's outside, it should be enclosed with no sharp corners or dangerous objects</i></p> <p><i>A pond should be covered with wire mesh</i></p> <p><i>An area that has safe play equipment and is away from immediate danger (e.g. roads) and that I can monitor easily from a short distance without being so close as to interfere with free play</i></p> <p><i>School / community centre</i></p> <p><i>Somewhere were there is little traffic</i></p> <p><i>Enclosed park or enclosed play area</i></p>	<p><i>Safe and clean parks with no glass or drugs</i></p> <p><i>Safe grassy areas. Open spaces for them to run about. Enclosed areas away from the roads</i></p> <p><i>An area that is looked after by a park keeper for instance</i></p> <p><i>Anywhere that is away from danger i.e., main roads, water etc.</i></p> <p><i>Open space with sensible non slippery climbing frames or woodland areas</i></p> <p><i>Ideally a play area within walking distance and a safe passage way away from a busy road. An ideal world</i></p> <p><i>No stinging nettles or dangerous berries or fungi</i></p> <p><i>Somewhere clean would be a start</i></p> <p><i>An enclosed area away from a busy road, with pavement access</i></p> <p><i>A specifically designated play area that can be checked on occasion by adults</i></p> <p><i>Anywhere away from traffic and anywhere I can see them</i></p> <p><i>An area which has a safe area which is only for kids to play in, not stand about looking bored</i></p>	<p><i>Any place that I consider to have negligible risks or risks that can be managed appropriately. This ranges from Fort Regent play area to climbing over rocks at the beach</i></p> <p><i>Anywhere's safe if car use / access are limited</i></p> <p><i>Virtually any space where there is no traffic</i></p> <p><i>Somewhere free of dangers such as broken bottles, needles, 'stranger danger'. I am quite happy for my child to climb rocks and trees - that doesn't worry me</i></p> <p><i>Somewhere where there are adults present just in case a child feels like they need support for any reason. Somewhere that is not near to a main road</i></p> <p><i>A local cordoned space which is regularly checked, cleaned and repaired</i></p> <p><i>Children left to their own devices can usually make up their own games without the need for lots of toys. The ideal place would be an area away from cars, traffic and persons that would do them harm. Parents should be able to see and hear their child from a distance without worry</i></p> <p><i>Dogs on leads</i></p>

b) Adult supervision		
<p>Beaches, countryside, fields, trees, school grounds, gardens, friends' houses, parks, anywhere is safe, as long as an adult is with them</p> <p>Garden / supervised activities / enclosed environments</p> <p>Supervised and spacious with plenty of activities</p> <p>A supervised park</p> <p>Anything that is supervised</p> <p>Other than at home, holiday /activity clubs essential for school holiday periods. I feel the main holiday activities undertaken are properly organised and supervised</p> <p>Anywhere where there are not physical dangers provided they are supervised by a parent</p> <p>Enclosed play area away from roads/traffic and frequented by families and other children, ideally within sight of our house. On the beach if supervised by us. Our garden</p> <p>As long as the area is enclosed with adult control over the access I am happy with that</p> <p>A park, woodland area but supervised by their parents</p> <p>Somewhere close to me</p> <p>Either somewhere designed specifically for children. Or the beach, woods or parks where an adult has gone with my child</p> <p>Anywhere away from traffic, cliffs etc. with known adults around</p> <p>It does depend where they are playing, if on the estate you can watch from your window. If they are going to a park I would prefer and adult there to make sure they are kept safe</p>	<p>The park at Howard Davis -much safer than the Parade or the one by Westmount,</p> <p>Most places are safe given the fact that at this age (pre-school and primary) the parent is with them. If my children were pre-teen/ teenager then I would probably be looking for supervised youth clubs/ skate boarding/ roller skating etc</p> <p>I do think all the places that he plays are safe, just he is still a little young to play on his own. He also attends after school clubs like Sports Bug which he also enjoys</p> <p>Other than where she plays already they safest areas are those that are supervised but it all depends on the child's age and also the child themselves as to what is deemed to be safe for the individual</p> <p>Usually a playground, our private road with very few houses, somewhere where we are or a supervised area such as soft play</p> <p>Somewhere that is secure and supervised</p> <p>I do not think children have to be closely supervised but I do believe an adult needs to be available</p> <p>It's not always about the place being safe it's the safety of the children going somewhere on their own</p> <p>Anywhere as long as with an adult.</p> <p>Obviously not a building site etc</p> <p>In a park, beach supervised with adults, in-door play centre, outdoor activity centre, woods with adult supervision - depends on age of the child where they like to play and if they need supervision at all times</p> <p>Anywhere as long as public access was permitted and an adult was supervising / accompanying</p>	<p>Anywhere I can see her or easily reach her without encroaching on her space, or in supervised play facilities. She is sensible (aged 8) so is aware of most of the dangers to children and avoids them</p> <p>A park where the space is regularly policed and monitored</p> <p>The youth club on our estate</p> <p>The beach with supervision</p> <p>Too young at the moment - aged 3 and 5, to have unsupervised play</p> <p>Somewhere which is supervised, where they can challenge themselves physically and take calculated risks, while keeping them as safe as possible</p> <p>Supervised but allowing freedom to play</p> <p>An enclosed park area with supervision or area you could leave them and go back for them</p> <p>A supervised indoor / outdoor area</p> <p>Any place which is either supervised by the parents or by a NVQ qualified carer</p> <p>Home (2) or children's centre</p> <p>I would expect for a fee paying activity for it to be supervised and for non fee paying for the child to have an adult with them</p> <p>Either a space under parental/family supervision or supervised by a trusted other adult</p> <p>As long as there is an adult with her most places are safe, I wouldn't let her go off and play on her own anywhere</p> <p>Where there is always a responsible adult in the facility there to keep watch but also let the children play without being interrupted</p>

d) Outdoor environment
<p>The old Fort Regent site, outside in the square but with play equipment installed</p> <p>We like open fields where we can build dens and dams</p> <p>Our favourite place to play is the beach</p> <p>Outdoor and happy friendly place</p> <p>Gardens, parks</p>

Continued : Outdoor environment

I would be more than happy to let my children play in a playground close to home, if there was one

Open land, parks, beach etc

I am lucky that I don't work full time so we don't need to arrange after school play etc. Rather than attend an association/planned play, I prefer my children to pop their wellies on and just get outside and run with their friends!

Play park and a large playing field where they can go and play football and run around

A park, beach or playground

Well organised leisure centre/outdoor activity area

e) Unsupervised opportunities

Anywhere - they are happy to play train tracks down the middle of King Street, or football in the park or rounders on the beach

Most places are safe if they have the experience of playing unsupervised at some point in a garden out on an estate

Bring back Fort Regent to its former glory that was one of the safest places to be a child and play ever till now

A safe place is one where I know that they are safe and when they are older one that they feel safe in because they have been allowed to learn what is safe and what is possibly not

Adventure playground park with more play opportunities

Not unexpectedly, many of the comments seen in earlier Boxes are repeated in Box 7. Many affirmed that, in the view of parents, a safe play space for their children must be a clean environment that is hazard free, and is within walking distance of home. Fort Regent got further mentions as a safe place. Some parents acknowledged children's love of the natural environment, and others the need for opportunities where more risks can be taken, so learning about safety is possible.

4. Parents Play Experiences

The final strand in this survey asked parents for information about their play experiences as a child. Two questions were asked in order to obtain this information and to consider whether the choices they made about their children's play opportunities today had been influenced by their own experiences as a child.

The first question asked about their favourite play space as a child, and the second was about what made it so special.

4:1 Favourite play spaces

Parents' responses to the question about their favourite play space as a child are given in the different sections in Box 8 on the next page.

Box 8. Parents' favourite play spaces as a child

a) Parks/Beach	b) Outdoors
<p><i>Elephant Park at Quennevais and Millbrook</i></p> <p><i>Havre des Pas Bathing Pool</i></p> <p><i>Trips to the beach</i></p> <p><i>The Dicq Beach and Howard Davis park</i></p> <p><i>Either the beach or in our road (a quiet cul de sac)</i></p> <p><i>I loved the beach and local park</i></p> <p><i>Millbrook Park and Plemont beach (2)</i></p> <p><i>Parks and Beaches (14)</i></p> <p><i>Park and wooded area</i></p> <p><i>My favourite places were Green Island Beach, Grouville Beach, Jersey Pottery Car Park & Green, Millbrook Park</i></p> <p><i>I grew up on a farm so I had plenty of activities and entertainment there, but I also loved the beach, park and swimming pool</i></p> <p><i>The sand dunes and creepy valley</i></p> <p><i>Park, woods, stream, beach</i></p> <p><i>Parks and playgrounds</i></p> <p><i>Harbour, beach</i></p> <p><i>Millbrook Park (3)</i></p> <p><i>Greve de Lecq Beach and Millbrook Park. I also spent 4 years in Tanzania - that was 'wild'. We had to watch out for snakes etc rather than worry about cars</i></p> <p><i>West Park beach, Fort Regent in pool, watching shows, skating, using free play/fairground equipment</i></p> <p><i>The park and the beach</i></p> <p><i>The beach and the Elephant Park</i></p> <p><i>Sand dunes and beach</i></p> <p><i>The field at the back of our house</i></p> <p><i>Running around the local woods, fields and street</i></p> <p><i>Loved going cycling, exploring</i></p> <p><i>Farmland and beach</i></p> <p><i>Jersey Zoo, parks, swimming pools</i></p> <p><i>St John's Village & Bonne Nuit</i></p> <p><i>The farm where I grew up or St Catherine's wood</i> <i>Walking in the countryside</i> <i>In the garden/fields were I grew up</i></p>	<p><i>The local play area which was a large field with some swings, slide, round a bout, rocking horse and a line of oak trees</i></p> <p><i>Field behind my house</i></p> <p><i>As a child I liked to play in the woods where I built den's with my best friend, to this day my den is still there and it is now my thinking space. It is a special place also for my godchildren now, We spent a lot of time there in the summer. Also because my grandparents had a farm I used to build dens with hay bales, potato barrels and climbed trees and making dams</i></p> <p><i>Local public playing fields</i></p> <p><i>We lived near to a field a marsh and a reservoir all were great places</i></p> <p><i>Beach, woods and village streets</i></p> <p><i>We used to live near a field and I can remember going to the field to make houses in the very long grass and take jam sandwiches to eat. We also had a garden so played there</i></p> <p><i>I grew up in the UK and as a child we (sisters and friends) just played outside together. We made up our own games and used our imagination. It's strange that kids today now think that they have to be taken somewhere (cinema, zoo, etc) to have a good play date with friends</i></p> <p><i>Outdoors in the parks and also in the woods. Swimming pool was also important</i></p> <p><i>As children, we had much more freedom to play outside, in the street and in our garden, with different generations of children living in the same street, playing together at different times. So outdoor play would have been the favourite</i></p> <p><i>In the back garden</i></p> <p><i>Outdoors in fields or woods</i></p> <p><i>In the forest facing our home. Unsupervised, we would explore wildlife e.g. birds tadpoles, climb trees, make dens, have picnics. Not a care in the world</i></p> <p><i>Woods near my home</i></p> <p><i>Out in the woods and up trees, but then I was brought up in Austria. Visits to the library also featured most heavily in my childhood</i></p> <p><i>The bottom of the garden</i></p> <p><i>On top of a big hill just outside the village where I grew up. There were plenty of places you could go in the countryside where you didn't have to worry about crossing roads</i></p> <p><i>Beach & Woods/field exploring</i></p> <p><i>Countryside</i></p> <p><i>Woodlands</i></p>

c) Friends/Family	d) Estate
<p><i>At home with my brothers and sisters playing shops, hospital etc and in the fields with a club house</i></p> <p><i>At home (x3)</i></p> <p><i>At home in the garden</i></p> <p><i>Garden</i></p> <p><i>Various youth clubs, Woodcraft folk, ballet and gym classes, as got older playing out in the street with friends</i></p> <p><i>At home with friends, countryside and beach</i></p> <p><i>In the estate where I lived with friends or packing the car and a day trip to beach with my mum and dad, older sisters and nieces of similar age to me</i></p> <p><i>Garden at home</i></p> <p><i>At home both inside and in the garden</i></p> <p><i>My grandparent's garden</i></p> <p><i>My room</i></p> <p><i>A number of places, the estate where we'd play games like buzz me, bulldog, hide and seek or playing on the bikes. I grew up in Gorey Village it was brilliant. We'd make dens in trees or play at the park on the beach. Growing up, in the summer holidays everyday we were down the beach playing either with other children from the estate or making new friends</i></p> <p><i>It was so long ago I can't remember. I do remember loving the time spent outdoors with family and friends</i></p> <p><i>My favourite play place was outside my house where all my neighbours will meet and play for hours</i></p> <p><i>As a child my favourite play area was going on long walks with my family and playing in the area I was born with my school friends and my neighbours</i></p>	<p><i>On my estate in Ireland</i></p> <p><i>My Estate</i></p> <p><i>Either my back garden or next door neighbours garden</i></p> <p><i>My garden</i></p> <p><i>Estate/village</i></p> <p><i>On my estate - cycling, playing hide and seek</i></p> <p><i>In the garden or the street</i></p> <p><i>The bottom of my road, a field</i></p> <p><i>In my estate, riding my bicycle or climbing walls and trees</i></p> <p><i>The park on my estate in the UK</i></p> <p><i>The street with my friends</i></p> <p><i>My street which was a circle with a grassed/tree area in the middle. Bearing in mind it was a council area of Glasgow it was completely safe as it was surrounded by houses/neighbours and the only people who drove the streets were residents. I would love a similar place for my child as we used to ride bikes, play games and generally tear around without a care</i></p> <p><i>Out on the street by house with my friends - strangely it felt safe then and not something I'd comfortably do with my own child these days</i></p> <p><i>In our garden and around the estate, and on the large school playing fields</i></p> <p><i>The local green and surrounding streets</i></p> <p><i>Up to 14 years old at my friend's house</i></p>

e) Organised/Paid for Activities
<p><i>Fort Regent - you had everything you needed. Swimming, bumper cars, Jungle Jims etc</i></p> <p><i>Fort Regent. It was a real treat to go up there, watch a show, roller skate, play on the rides and go swimming - a whole day was easily spent up there</i></p> <p><i>Fort Regent</i></p> <p><i>Fort Regent - My mother couldn't drive so it was perfect to get to by myself. I would spend every single day there meeting friends and doing a number of different sports - gymnastics, judo and swimming. It was a massive part of my childhood</i></p> <p><i>Beach and Holiday Club (Kid's Club at St. Mary's)</i></p> <p><i>Fort Regent and Bel View Pleasure Park</i></p> <p><i>The local outdoor swimming pool which I attended when I was older on my own as a child and never encountered anybody unsafe apart from boys who like to dive bomb us. Thanks for taking the time to undertake this consultation</i></p> <p><i>Fort Regent / Millbrook Park</i></p> <p><i>Local club</i></p>

What is apparent when comparing the comments from parents with those from children is that many have used the same play spaces in Jersey. However, parents' memories suggest they were more able to use the local environment without adult supervision. One parent noted how the sense of community in their childhood was linked with a feeling of safeness. Parents also remember differences in traffic levels and feeling safe when crossing roads, and it is apparent that most organised activities were located in Fort Regent.

4:2 What made the play space special

Having identified their play spaces as a child, parents were asked to say what made it so special, and their responses are organised into the categories in Box 9.

Box 9: Parents special memories of play

a) Independence/Freedom	
<p><i>As we got older we could go without supervision and it was safe as there are staff around</i></p> <p><i>Perception of lack of adult involvement</i></p> <p><i>The range of activities - the fact that everyone went there - you could always find friends / people you knew. My clubs were based there. I could go independently. There was something which interested me at every age</i></p> <p><i>The freedom that my parents gave me as I grew, getting so engrossed in something pretend that only a child can</i></p> <p><i>We could play without supervision get muddy make up amazing games</i></p> <p><i>Freedom to come and go as I pleased from the age of five - cycling, running, hide and seek, other neighbours and people in the village looking out for us</i></p> <p><i>We could take a picnic and stay out all day, we always felt safe and our parents never seemed to have to worry. We built dens, climbed trees, explored bunkers and always came home tired and dirty</i></p> <p><i>Because it previously was a farm with lots of places & buildings to explore etc</i></p> <p><i>Very little parental guidance, felt free and grown up but was never afraid</i></p> <p><i>Living in the countryside I had more freedom than I would allow my son at age 11. Parents more relaxed about me cycling off unaccompanied to friends houses etc. Less traffic on roads</i></p> <p><i>Swings and roundabouts and there was always a number of football matches on the go for different age ranges that you could join in and leave as you wanted - it was only 5 minutes from home and we had a sneak way into the park that only children could fit through meaning your parents had to walk all the way round or had to shout you over the fence - the brave amongst us would try to ignore your parents knowing that they could not get you and should they walk around to the park entrance you could sneak out the gap in the fence and be home long before them. Such small victories but they felt huge</i></p> <p><i>Exciting and thrilling activities. Small element of danger</i></p>	<p><i>We were packed off after breakfast and after lunch, to play, with minimal parental assistance in terms of guiding us into play. This probably meant that we were much more imaginative in our approach to playing and having to entertain ourselves with friends, without parents overseeing our every move, unless they got the sense that we were up to no good. We were given boundaries and places that we couldn't venture to, which were tested at times and promptly dealt with if we deviated. However, please note that I grew up in the UK, not Jersey</i></p> <p><i>Independence. Being able to use your imagination. Not forgetting that we did not have daytime television, PCs, etc in those days</i></p> <p><i>Space and being free to play as we pleased</i></p> <p><i>The freedom of running in the fields and it was safe as it was still near the family house</i></p> <p><i>It was a bit wild and you could make up your own games</i></p> <p><i>Huge open space, no boundaries, plenty to explore, no rules, no adults</i></p> <p><i>Freedom (6)</i></p> <p><i>Fun, free, could meet friends, freedom to roam, dig, swim, explore</i></p> <p><i>Sense of freedom</i></p> <p><i>It was a bit wild and you could make up your own games</i></p> <p><i>Huge open space, no boundaries, plenty to explore, no rules, no adults</i></p> <p><i>Fun, free, could meet friends, freedom to roam, dig, swim, explore</i></p> <p><i>It was a mix of all ages, it was something that we did on our own without supervision and it was great fun</i></p> <p><i>It was still on the estate where I grew up but far enough away from my house so couldn't be seen. We made mud pies and potions in the hollows of the trees, using whatever we could find etc</i></p> <p><i>I was unsupervised at those times but I always told them where I was going. My Nan used to call out that it was lunchtime and I would come back again</i></p>

<p>Continued :Independence/Freedom <i>Enjoyed playing team games outside with other children and having the gradual independence given to me by parents. Have lovely memories of weekend trips to the beach (I make my children aware of how lucky they are having beautiful beaches and sea on their doorstep to visit so often)</i></p> <p><i>Freedom of the open spaces and outdoors. Lack of parental supervision. I felt very lucky as I was the youngest of a big family so older siblings and their friends made up great games and homemade activities .i.e. play dens, rope swings, tunnels, assault courses and 'catch games'.</i></p> <p><i>The freedom to be able to go there unaccompanied and the opportunity to explore and invent adventures</i></p> <p><i>My toys, my area, could go there whenever I liked without having to wait for a parent to take me. It was safe I had my secret areas and hiding places and I could invite my friends to come and play</i></p>	<p><i>Freedom to do whatever and a great risk of danger</i></p> <p><i>Being close to nature and outside without worry about danger</i></p> <p><i>Played with all the other children who lived on my street and my parents always knew where I was but didn't need to be watching me</i></p> <p><i>Nice play equipment - felt special being taken there / freedom to do what I wanted to.</i></p> <p><i>It was totally adult free. Just saw my parents at meal times. We played den building and slid down hills on cardboard boxes, bliss</i></p> <p><i>Freedom to make up games and explore my imagination</i></p>
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<p>b) Family/Friends</p> <p><i>The whole family could go and there was something for everyone.</i></p> <p><i>I went with a friend, without parents, there were lots of kids there that I knew and who also went there a lot. I loved to swim. I liked to play on the pinball machines. I liked being out all day with friends. I felt like I belonged (there was a membership scheme). I learned life saving and improved my swimming, learned to dive, made new friends. It made outings elsewhere more special</i></p> <p><i>I felt safe and got to spend quality time with my family Friends I went there with, the huge slide (well probably not so big now I am big), and the fact it was close to my home so could play for hours then when getting dark I was in earshot of being called in - guess made you feel safer and relaxed, plus it was free</i></p> <p><i>Lots of friends that you grew up with and everyone knew everyone</i></p> <p><i>All the children of all ages played together, from hide and seek to may I and we would always look out for each other</i></p> <p><i>Being with family and friends</i></p> <p><i>It was special because you felt secure and everyone knew your name, your family and looked out for one another</i></p> <p><i>Memories of family fun together</i></p> <p><i>Freedom. Quality time with my best friends</i></p> <p><i>It was just full of other children all playing and growing up together. Many of the children I grew up with still live in the same houses now and are still friends. When I was young friends were the most important thing to me</i></p> <p><i>Other kids to play with</i></p> <p><i>Friends that played on the same estate</i></p> <p><i>It was safe, you felt safe and you make friends with children that you still speak to today. If you were to make a tree den today you'd be in trouble</i></p> <p><i>I was left to my own devices while still having a supervisor if I needed anything</i></p>	<p><i>Friends, being outdoors and the fact we were 50 yards away from home with squash and biscuits</i></p> <p><i>The people we played with</i></p> <p><i>Having a friend to play with</i></p> <p><i>Spending time with my family, Mum and Dad</i></p> <p><i>It was fun and available all year round, changeable but always games to play with sibling or friends</i></p> <p><i>Went together as a family to play and walk</i></p> <p><i>It was right outside my house so I felt very safe. The neighbours were friendly and would always have a smile for any one of us. There were a lot of children around as every second house was occupied by a family. Parents just had to peek outside to see that their children were safe.</i></p> <p><i>There was always someone there to play with, you could just go out and find someone. There were all sorts of games that could be played, places to hide and climb, puddles to play in, pavements to chalk on and games to play.</i></p> <p><i>When we got bored we could get the bikes and roller skates out and the roads were safe to ride on because all the local residents knew that there was likely to be children out playing and so long as we did not misbehave we were well tolerated by the residents</i></p> <p><i>It was just very basic and no safety equipment so if you fell off your bike or fell out of a tree then you just learnt the hard way that it hurt. We always stayed near home so parents could find us</i></p> <p><i>I could ride my bike, go and knock for friends and my mum knew I was safe</i></p> <p><i>Lots of space - designated playroom inside and large garden</i></p> <p><i>Feeling safe</i></p> <p><i>Large open spaces, plenty of things to do, where I met all my friends and the room and facility for lots of imaginative play</i></p> <p><i>The community we lived in</i></p>
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c) Organised Activities

There were so many different things to do all in one complex - which was safe and well staffed / supervised

Had everything thereindoor play area, out door play area, fair rides, shows, aquarium, swimming, pool, roller disco, gym, sport courts, was the place to be. Didn't cost the earth and warm and safe. You could buy a membership and that covered most things and Pluto play time was much better than what Le Quennevais offer these days

Swimming, roller skating, shows, Jungle Jims, crazy golf, aquarium, hippodrome, outdoor play area and the rides

Fort Regent because there were always shows on and always something to do, such as outside rides, swimming, sports etc

We all played together, and saw the same people every day, and we could swim in the pool at Westpark. We always could go to the Fort even if we didn't have much money that week because we had our Fort card and could do things for free

d) Outdoors

It was wild and natural

Natural resources

The memories of long sunny days exploring rock pools

It was the fun of being hidden and making paths and "rooms" in the long grass

*The variety of spaces and opportunities there, beach sea, caves, waterfall, rocks etc
I could climb trees*

Football

Millbrook because it had play apparatus to play on, a big open space to run around and kick a ball or chase friends plus the paddling pool to cool off if it was a hot summer and easy access to treats at the little shop

We had lots of trees to climb and made camps with the children in the street

It was across the road from where we lived. It had loads of onsite facilities. Courts, indoor activities, trees to climb. Above all, it was a safe environment

I enjoyed building sandcastles and eating ice-creams

Felt huge, so a great place to play hide and seek with my brother and my dad, but we knew the park so well that we felt safe within its walls

I live in the country so it was outside my front door

Simple pleasures, sandcastles and swimming in the sea. Long walks on the beach in the winter all wrapped up.

Walking/cycling in the countryside. All of this free of charge and so great to be out in the fresh air enjoying nature. Beats computer games and cartoons anytime

It was open and safe and we could do whatever we wanted

They had a vegetable patch, herbs, fruit trees and hens as well as a wild area of garden with space to make dens, camp, picnic and climb trees, play hide and seek - there was always something to do whatever the weather

So much to see and do at the park and so much space. Loved the beach for the same reasons, plus we lived by the seaside, so it was always busy with holiday makers and noise and lovely smells

Wide open space and fresh air in the summer anyway

There was a variety of play areas, equipment and woods to walk/climb through. Also always went with friends

Being outdoors

Being in the outdoors and with/near animals

Huge amount of space with lots of different facilities and all free of charge

Safe - lots of room to run and no busy roads - traffic

Continued :Outdoors

Clean beaches and park supervised by park keeper. There was on one occasion an incident where a man exposed himself to me at the age of about 7, he was attempting to take me into the bushes and my mother called the police. There is obviously the need to recognise that wrong doers hang around play areas of children for evil purposes also - supervision

I felt safe – safety

There was no one there, and no traffic as it was at the end of a rough track. You could sit on a gate and see for miles and there was an old airfield bunker to play in. You felt like you were on top of the world.

There were lots of different kinds of facilities

When looking at the comments in category a, the special memory for many parents was the sense of freedom to explore, and being able to use the natural environment as a prop to support their play. The absence of an adult seems to be a key part of this memory for some, which is in contrast to the level of supervision they expect for children today. These good memories of parent’s freedom to play contrasts sharply with the information provided by some older children, which details their highly organised lives with little time for free play and family, and opportunities for exploratory play without adult surveillance.

As well as memories of fun and freedom in the natural environment, parents also recall a sense of family, community and belonging in their play, and refer to friendships that have endured into adulthood. Feeling safe in play is often linked with less traffic, but there is little mention of undesirable people interfering with it. However, account needs to be taken of the possibility that parent’s memories may be about when they were older children.

4:3 Parents last word on play

Like children in the two earlier surveys, parents were given the opportunity to make a final comment on play in Jersey, and their responses are organised into the categories in Box 8 below.

Box 8: Parent’s last word on play

a) Social Issues/Safety

Please get rid of the alcoholics at the Parade Park - I have had to leave the park before as their shouting and swearing was not good for my child - also have had to call the police on more than one occasion (during the morning) to remove abusive drunks - do not need my child to see this on a daily basis

It is time to stop smoking in children’s play areas. It is dangerous from many perspectives. Children run into cigarettes held by adults, smoke from cigarettes enters our child’s lungs, dog ends are picked up by babies and put in mouths

I think as parents we need to be mindful that children can be unpredictable and accidents will happen so they need to be as safe as possible

There are not enough pedestrian crossings on the St Clements Coast Road, so it is not safe for children to cross the coast road on their own. I would be happy to give my children the freedom to explore the local area on their own but I don’t feel that the roads are safe enough - there are a lot of ignorant drivers around and very narrow pavements,if any pavement at all

Jersey is doing nothing to help the children of this Island. Unless they are prepared to invest in children and provide the facilities and services which are either non existent or currently being cut then they deserve all that they get when the courts are full of children who have gone astray

I think it’s not very practical to put young families with young children in high rise blocks

Unfortunately the community spirit that we had as children is not there. As a child I used to be able to play within a block of houses where everyone knew our parents (and had their telephone number), the parents all kept an eye on the children and any misbehaviour was promptly reported back. I can’t imagine this happening now. Children seem to be expected to go to designated areas to play or around to each others house - making it less spontaneous. Even in our small road the children playing in the street is only tolerated by the neighbours for small amounts of time

b) Freedom/Independence

Myself and my husband were both brought up here and have always felt it safe and a wonderful place to bring up children. When our son is old enough to play unsupervised without us, we will have no problem in letting him do so. He will be given his boundaries but at the same time we want him to enjoy growing up and a main part of this is through playing and fun, just as we experienced as children

Children will always have accidents bumps and bruises nothing will prevent this

We don't look for supervised areas as our child is our responsibility, we like him to feel independent whilst we watch from a safe distance, a small amount of freedom and risk must be allowed to encourage growth and confidence

I don't prefer my child to attend supervised play areas because I supervise him. He is my responsibility and I enjoy playing with him and watching him learn

My children are 7 & 3 so I do make sure they are supervised at all times. With the older child this supervision can be from a distance. When playing, supervision is for safety and they are allowed play uninterrupted and with total freedom as long as they are behaving respectfully and not in danger or endangering anyone else

c) Organised/Paid for activities

As children get older, e.g. 11 years + I feel that there are less organised activities available. Children are looking for more independence from this age but they still require supervision and knowing they are in a safe location, where they are and who they are playing with is important. Finding activities for this age group that don't cost a fortune in the holidays is difficult

If you have any input in the areas that children have to play then please suggest those ideas I put in the column about ski slope and go karting. I feel that there is many wasted land where we can create spaces for play on this island which can be for all ages

I feel Jersey lacks all-weather affordable facilities for children. There are the museums, Jersey Bowl and the swimming pools, as well as Fort Regent, but unless I'm missing something I think that's all - and they all cost money. I am not saying that I wouldn't be happy to pay for other facilities, of course I would, but when having already spent money on attractions such as the Zoo, Living Legend, Amazing Maze and Les Mielles in the summer, money gets tight in the winter saving or paying for Christmas. My child does belong to clubs - swimming, football and martial arts

I feel Jersey has a lot to offer children but it has to be made affordable for everyone. Bearing in mind there is very little things you can offer a child to do or go that does not cost money. Child allowance is not given to every parent and we all know the expense of taking children out for the day

I have had very negative experience of supervised play areas within the island. Few staff appear to be qualified nor do they seem to have the ability to keep them within the designated play area and therefore safe i.e. the Fort Regent play area where you cannot go within the facility with your child at busy times but neither can you rely on the staff to monitor

d) Outdoor Spaces

As we live in the countryside there are plenty of places the children can go to play, and I am pleased the schools here allow children to use their grounds outside school hours to play football or whatever. Our children are fairly busy and I like them to have somewhere outside they can hang about with their friends and kick a ball around, chat, climb on climbing frames or trees and generally chill out. I can see this would be more of a challenge if we lived in town

Outdoor play is so important to children and can be accessed in all weathers from puddle jumping in the rain to running through a field in the sunshine. The conditions of play areas need more monitoring as to the cleanliness and safety of the apparatus. Maybe a booklet for parents to give some ideas as to where to play and some simple activities for them to do with their children that doesn't cost money. The indoor supervised areas are good and I do use them with my daughter but they can be busy and what appears to be understaffed at times

I once went to Howard Davis Park at half term with my kids to discover that the playground was basically out of bounds as the largest piece of equipment was awaiting (still) repairs. The free playgrounds on the island should always be available in the school holidays - inexcusable not to be

We really need another safe area for children to play in town. The Millennium Park would be an excellent opportunity

There are few open spaces safe from cars etc

I am not the parent but am the legal guardian of my God children they like the freedom of exploring Jersey. It is very rare that they ask to go to paid places as they like the fresh air. They came from the UK and have only ever asked for an adventure playground and a zoo with larger animals. They do not like the Waterfront swimming area either because it is too noisy for them and too many people in at one time

We value any space as potentially great for play, our children often make their own play experiences in the most unlikely spaces

e) Age Related

Children are not just little ones they are still children when they hit secondary school and this needs to be remembered. There is nothing for this age group in the island, its no good providing more parks with baby swings etc when there is nothing for teenagers. If something was to be provided then people would have the right to complain about teenagers gathering on the streets but until then I think everyone needs to remember there is nothing else for them to do

Children should be provided with appropriate age related spaces. At school the children are forced to play on the concrete yards away from a big area of grass. Concrete creates injuries when they fall. Wet grass creates as much protection as expensive protective tiles and costs nothing. Children also have boiler suits at Grainville so playing on the grass when wet would not be a problem

We as a family are very happy with the play areas that Jersey offers, in comparison to the UK I think our children have the benefit of a fairly safe island that offers a wide variety of activities that are free or paid for and children are able to enjoy all these depending on their individual circumstance whether it be paid for with a supervised play area or free play with supervision of an adult. If anything I think it is teenage children that are struggling with activities that are free and they are often at a loss for something to do, unless they are members of a youth group, sports club, dance club etc they are limited in choice of fun, indoor, outdoor, activities

At present there is no specific facility that I feel my child could get to safely on their own. As I do not feel confident with him playing on the roads and lanes unsupervised we are limited in our play experiences - he age 7, has to have his 3 year old sister in tow and I have to drive - or else we stay at home (a flat) with a courtyard in front which has cars entering and leaving, so cannot be unsupervised. My children play inside a lot and so are not very physical and often play separately as of differing ages. I feel that my son also plays down to adapt to his sister - and is therefore less advanced in playing than his peers at school

Many parents used the 'last word' opportunity to highlight issues of concern about children's play, they had previously mentioned, but believed needed to be addressed. A particular concern was the lack of appropriate facilities for older children in their teenage years, and the limited access to open space for children living in town. The cost of having to rely on paid for organised activities was seen as an additional burden for some working parents, especially for all weather facilities. The issue of safety continued to be raised by a number of parents, with the same focus on traffic and hazards in the play environment. One parent expressed the desire for their child to have the same play experiences they had as a child. Another made reference to the lost community spirit and tolerance of children's play, which is perhaps a reflection of the rapid changes in Jersey culture over recent decades, which is very different to memories of their time as a child.

5. Summary: Consultation with Parents

- **One hundred and thirty eight parents responded to the survey and of these three quarters had children in the 5-8 age range. Just over half the children were boys, and a small number of parents had children with a disability or impairment that interfered with their play**
- **Three quarters of the parents who responded to the survey are from Jersey, with the remainder of British and Irish origin, but there was limited response from other ethnic groups. More parents live in the urban parishes, although the views of parents from all parishes in the Island are represented in the survey**

- Although over half of parents who responded to the survey consider there are enough play opportunities for their children where they live, many suggestions were given about how play facilities in the Island could be extended or improved. Suggestions included more outdoor facilities such as parks and open countryside and this was regardless of parish of residence. There were calls for adventure playgrounds for children of all ages, and play spaces within walking distance of home. The issue of cost, because of having to rely on paid for and organised activities for children's play opportunities, was of concern to a number of parents. Suggestions were given about the importance of outdoor public spaces, such as woodland often linked with being safe, and as far away from traffic as possible
- Parents place much emphasis on the benefits of physical play, not only for exercise but as a means of unwinding at the end of the school day. The majority of parents see that being able to play is an important part of children's learning, as it is a key factor in developing independence, overcoming new challenges and developing creativity. The importance of play in forming friendships and developing social skills was acknowledged by the majority of parents
- There are a number of calls for more age appropriate play opportunities both indoors and outdoors, especially for children in the older age range. The need for more all year round play facilities indoors for use in inclement weather was also highlighted by a number of parents
- Some parents seem to use a number of paid for and organised play facilities for their children, which seem to be more in abundance than when they were children. Many of the places that parents take their children to are reflected in their positive memories of a child, and Fort Regent and the local parks are key players in this
- A major concern throughout responses from parents is fear about their children's safety when playing, because of hazards from the high level of traffic in the Island. When compared with their own memories of play as a child, fast cars, busy roads and limited or non existent pavements is seen as an impediment to children's freedom in choices of play. To deal with these fears there is a high level of supervision and surveillance by parents. The same fears about traffic were evident in children's comments. The most preferred place of play for the children of parents who responded is home, which matches choices in the younger children's survey

- **The high level of supervision by parents is in sharp contrast to memories of their own play as a child, which has a major theme of space and freedom to explore, and independence to do this. Less traffic and a community spirit that accepted children who could play in the car free surrounding neighbourhood. Parent's memories of play served to highlight how children today live and play in a different Jersey to their parents**

Part Four

Consultation with Professionals

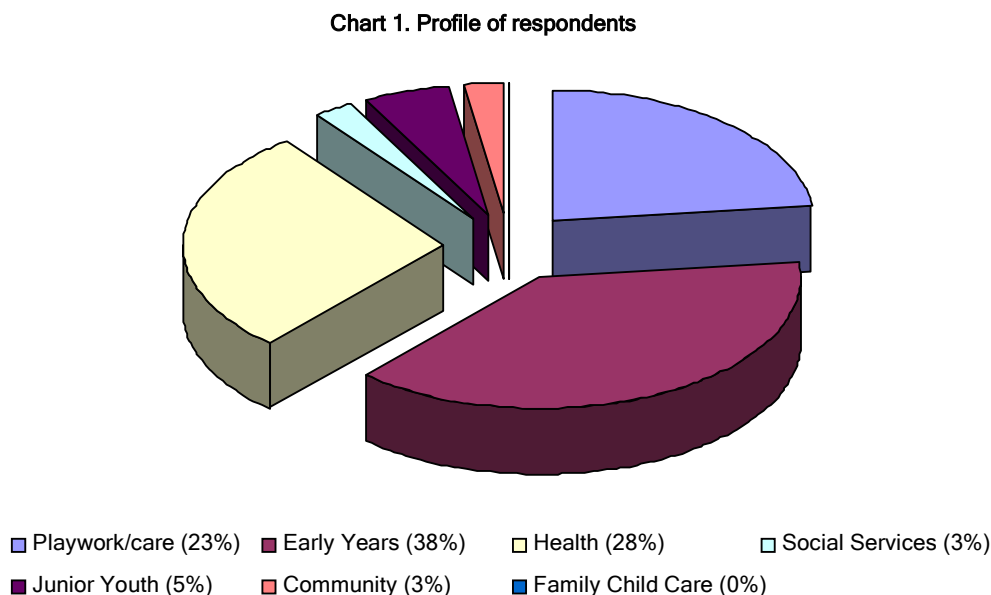
1. Introduction

This final part of this report provides information on the last survey carried out in the year long consultation, which was to obtain the views of professionals working with school age children. The information was collected by posting a questionnaire on the EYCP webpage between November and December 2010. A link to the webpage was sent to members of the EYCP, with a request to cascade it to members of the organisation they represent on the Partnership.

1:1 Profile of respondents

Despite the efforts made to promote the survey, only forty six professionals responded to the questionnaire. Of this group 82% were female and 18% male. In order to obtain a profile of respondents a number of questions were asked, and these covered their gender, age, ethnic background and professional group.

Chart 1 below gives details on the professional groups that responded to the questionnaire.

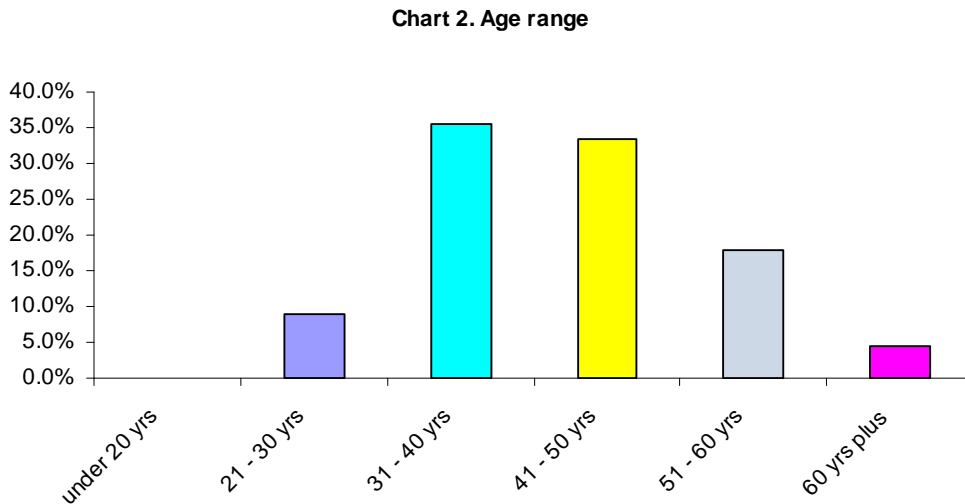


The details in Chart 1 were supplemented by the following information:

Education
Teacher (2)
Head teacher
Youth work 9 - 18 yrs old
KS2 teacher
Family child carer

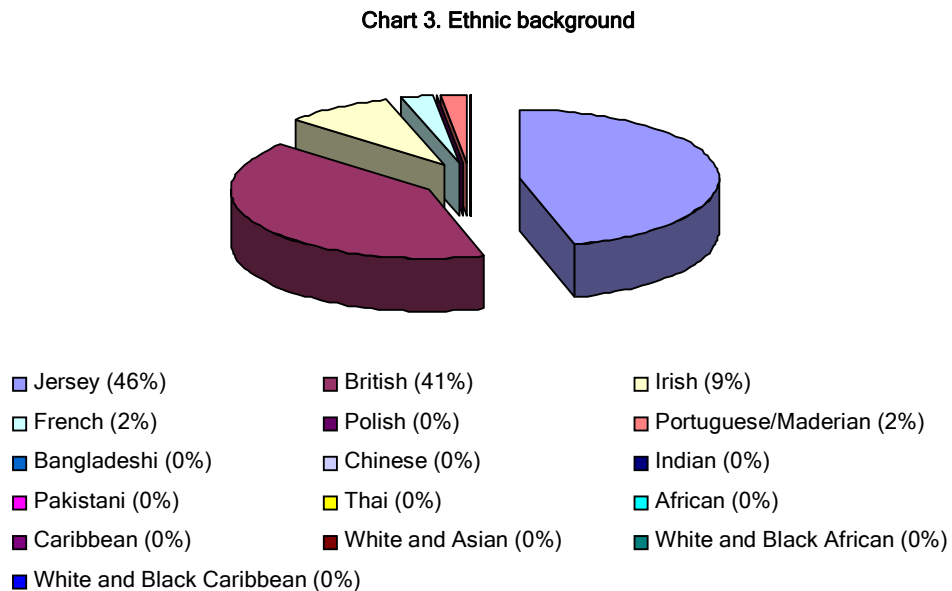
As shown in Chart 1, most respondents belong to an early year's professional group (38%), with Health services (28%) and playwork/care (23%) close behind.

Professionals were asked which age group they belonged to, and their responses are shown in Chart 2 below.



What is apparent in Chart 2 is that the professionals who responded to the survey fall within the thirty plus, rather than younger age range, so some are likely to be around the same age as parents who responded to the previous survey, so may share similar views on play.

In keeping with all EYCP surveys since 2010, respondents were asked to identify their ethnic background, and this information is given in Chart 3 below;



What is clear from the ethnic profile in Chart 3 is that there are slightly less professionals who are Jersey (46%) than British and Irish combined (50%), and even less from other ethnic groups, which could be a factor on their views on play.

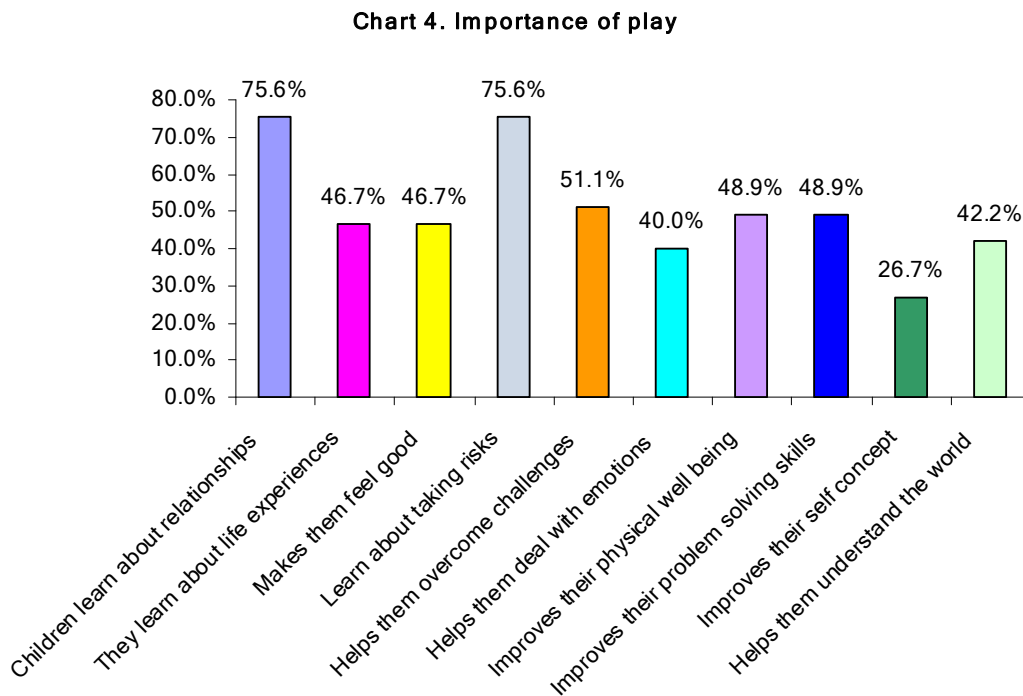
2. Professionals views on play

In keeping with the three previous surveys the professional group were asked a number of questions in order to obtain their views on play. These ranged from why they considered play to be important, what they believed to be the most important facilities for play, and what they considered to be the major factors in children’s play.

2:1 The importance of play

In order to obtain their views on the importance of play, professionals were provided with a list of statements about children’s play and asked to decide which were the five most important.

The result of their five choices is given in Chart 4 below.



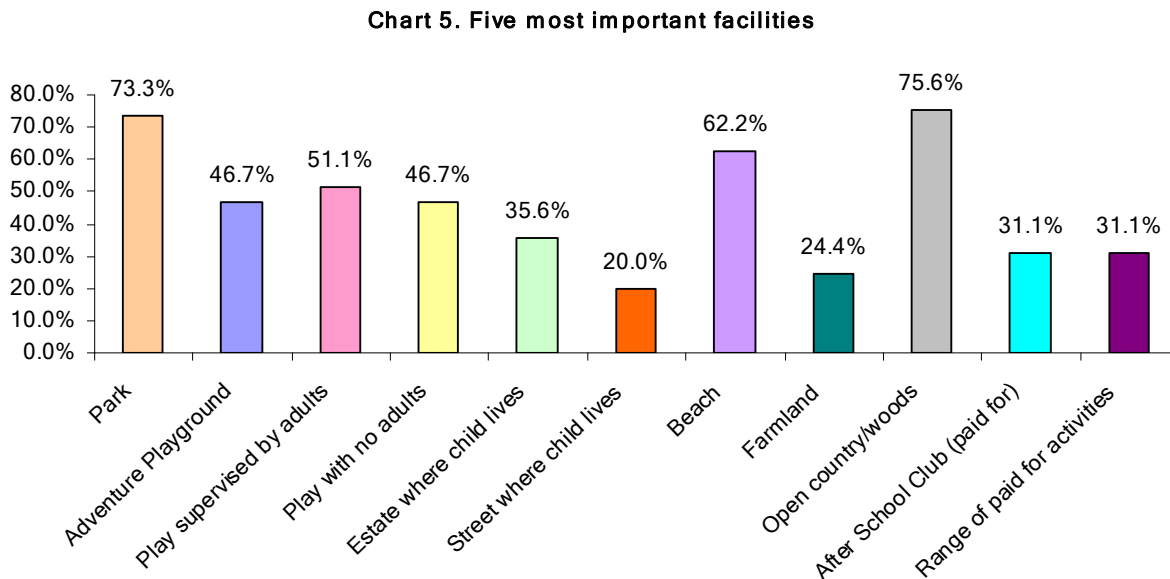
When looking at Chart 4, it’s clear that professionals, like children and parents, see play as being key to helping children learn about relationships (76%), but also place the same emphasis on its part in learning about taking risks (76%) and overcoming challenges (50%). They share the view of parents

about play and physical wellbeing (49%) and its part in developing problem solving skills (50%). Professionals also seem to have tuned into the pleasure children get from being able to play (47%).

2:2 Important play facilities

Using the same method as the previous question, professionals were asked to identify what they believed to be the five most important facilities for children’s play.

Chart 5 below provides information on the choices they made.



As Chart 5 shows the views of professionals working with children are similar to those of children and parents with regard to the priorities in play facilities. Taking away the younger children’s first priority of home, the emphasis given to the natural environment in the open countryside and woods, beach and park is almost the same across children, parent and professional groups. Although professionals place similar emphasis as parents on play supervised by adults (51%), they also highlight the importance of play with no adults (47%).

An opportunity was given to provide additional comments about play facilities not given in the provided list, and these have been organised into the categories in Box 1 below.

Box 1. Important facilities for children’s play

<p>a) Adult involvement</p> <p><i>Play with adults</i></p> <p><i>Play supported by adults, difference between supervised play as adults are involved in the play</i></p> <p><i>Children should have a range of play opportunities. Some supervised sensitively and others away from adults</i></p> <p><i>Play that is adult supported not supervised</i></p> <p><i>Supervision should be on hand when necessary but children also need time to explore and express themselves</i></p> <p><i>A large supervised area in hospital for sick children</i></p>
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b) Organised/Paid for Activities
<i>Unpaid activities, Brownies Cubs etc, general knowledge enhancing experiences</i>
<i>Youth clubs, Brownies Guides, Cubs Scouts etc may come into paid activities as do all the above.</i>

c) Play Opportunities
<i>Gardens</i>
<i>Skate Board Parks, skating opportunities i.e. ice or roller blading, more swimming pools</i>
<i>Those shared with their peers at school inside and out of doors. Those which provide a link with home school or distraction relaxation in situations where they are receiving dental medical check-ups treatment or surgery</i>
<i>Those shared with members of their family</i>
<i>Swimming supervised</i>
<i>Indoor play spaces</i>
<i>Opportunities for children to take safe risks</i>
<i>Creative workshops girls only. Creative workshops boys only. Free join in sports taster sessions</i>
<i>Play can take place in any environment that is safe play at home inside and outside in the garden is important</i>
<i>Imaginary play can be expressed using simple toys e.g. cardboard boxes sticks for guns trees to climb etc</i>
<i>Leisure centres with swimming pools. Supervised boating lake water activities. Dance halls etc.</i>

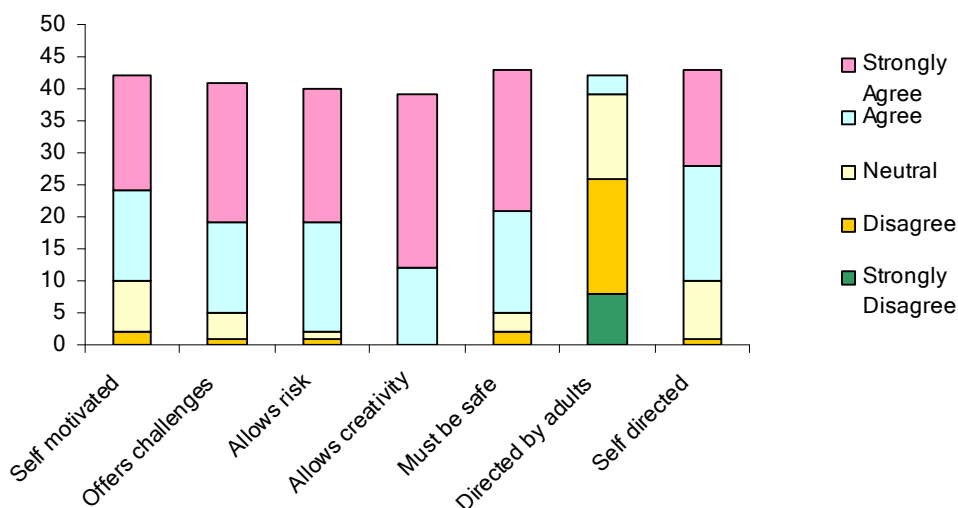
What is apparent in the comments from professionals in Box 1c, is a different perspective on the role of the adult in children's play, which is more empowering rather than supervisory. There is an emphasis on them being a facilitator and role model, rather than the controller and organiser. However, suggestions about the types of additional play opportunities are similar to those given by parents.

2:3 Major factors in play

The final question in the survey sought professional's views on the major factors in the play of school age children, and this was achieved by asking them to make choices about seven statements, by rating their strength of agreement from strongly agree to strongly disagree.

Their responses to these questions are given in Chart 6 on the following page.

Chart 6. Major factors in play



When looking at the strongly agree and agree responses to the statements in Chart 6, it is apparent that parents and professionals share many views about the important factors in children’s play. However, they differ in one aspect, which is about the degree to which the adult should be the director of children’s play rather than play being self directed.

Whilst the earlier views expressed by professionals seemed to agree with parents about the need for supervision in children’s play, the views expressed in Chart 6 seem to highlight they believe this must not be to the extent that it interferes with the pattern and self direction of their play.

3. Summary: Consultation with Professionals

- Forty six professionals working with school age children in Jersey responded to the survey, of which the large majority are females who work in the regulated sector. Most respondents are in the 31-50 age range, and just over half have an ethnic background in the British Isles, and for just less than half this is Jersey. There was also some representation from other ethnic groups**
- With regard to views on the value of play, professionals share the same belief as children and parents that it is an important part of children’s learning and developing their relationships with others. However, the professional group place greater emphasis on children having opportunities to take risks, having the freedom to overcome challenges and being able to play freely, than parents do**

- **The views of professionals' differ from those of parents in another aspect which is about the role of adults in children's play. Rather than being a director and supervisor of how that pattern emerges, they see the adult as a facilitator and role model of new play opportunities and seem to take a less direct stance on surveillance for safety reasons**