

# Writtle Infants & Juniors, Margaretting Rd, Chelmsford, Healthy School Streets: Perception Survey Report

December 2024



# Survey Overview

Feedback was collected from local people, businesses and the school community around, Margaretting Rd and surrounding areas of Writtle Infants & Juniors School. The survey asked about concerns around transport-related issues and suggestions for changes in and around the School area.

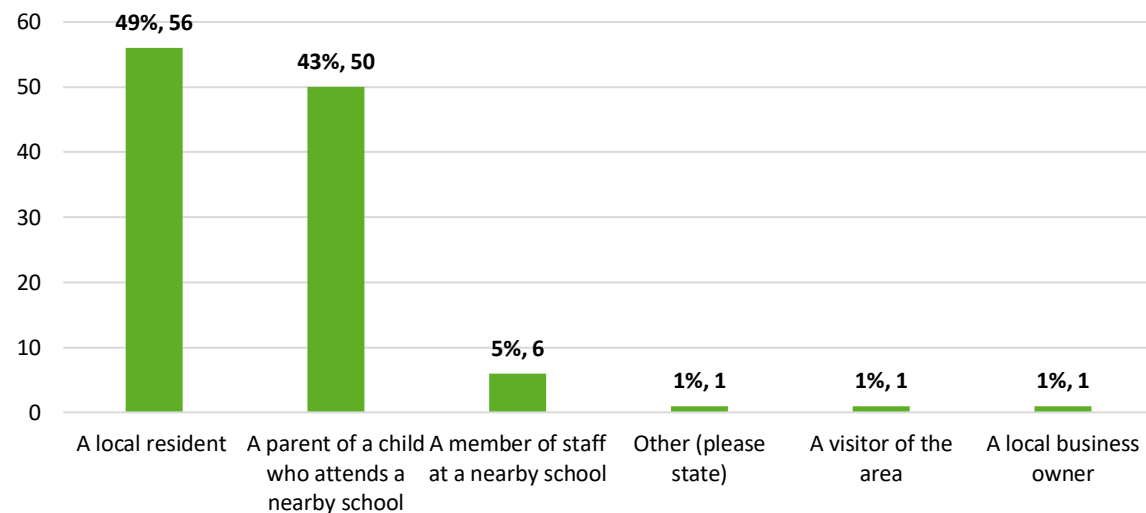
The survey ran was open from 3/06/2024 to 31/07/2024 and received 77 responses. It was distributed though letter box drops to residents and businesses and through the school comms to parents as well as being promoted in person outside the school gate.

Currently, no funding is available to progress this programme, however these results will help Essex County Council understand the issues experienced outside the school and potential supported changes to inform future discussions with the local community to develop designs to help ease congestion and improve conditions for residents, parents and pupils walking and cycling to school, in order to create a safer and healthier environment in Chelmsford should funding become available in the future.

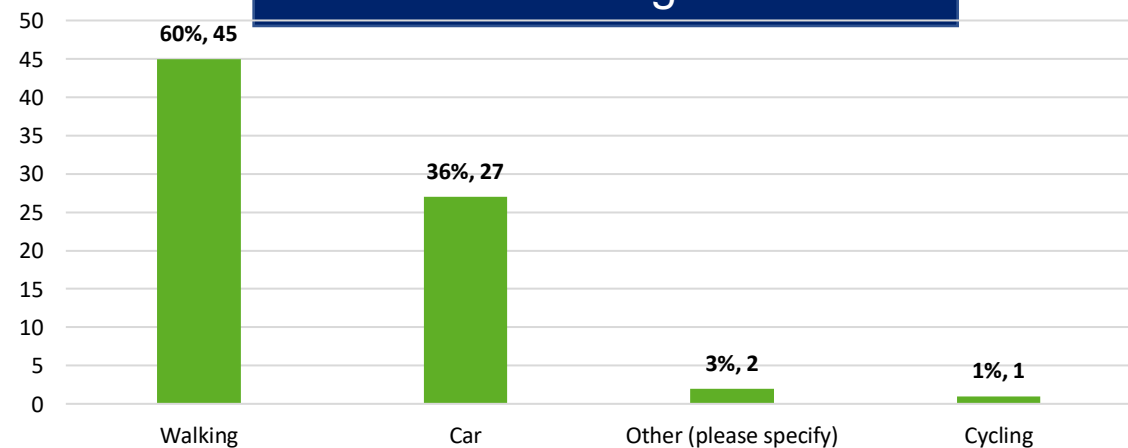


# Respondent Overview

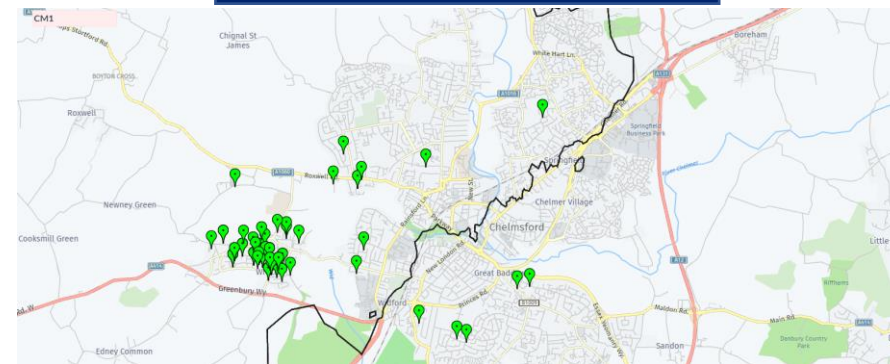
## Relationship to Area



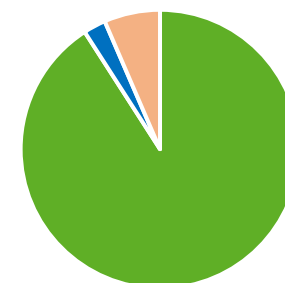
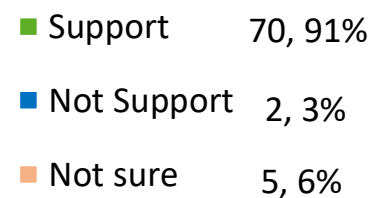
## Travel in the Neighbourhood



## Postcode

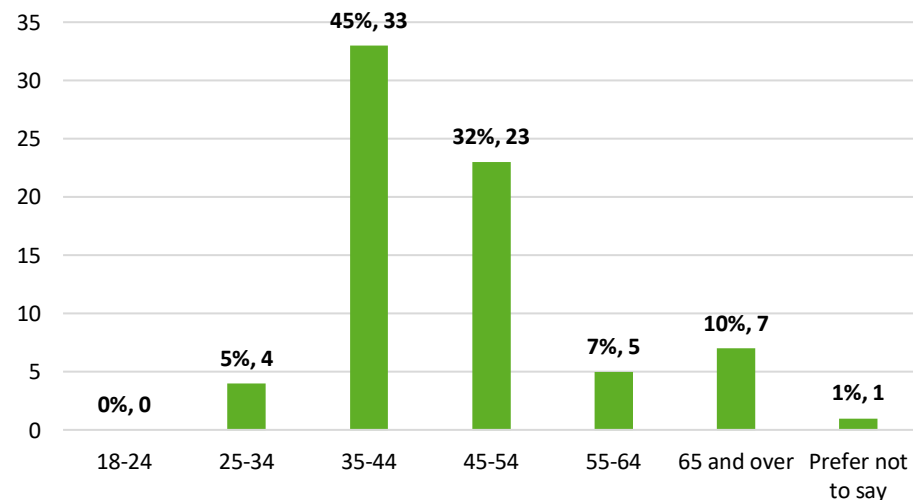


## Healthy School Street Support

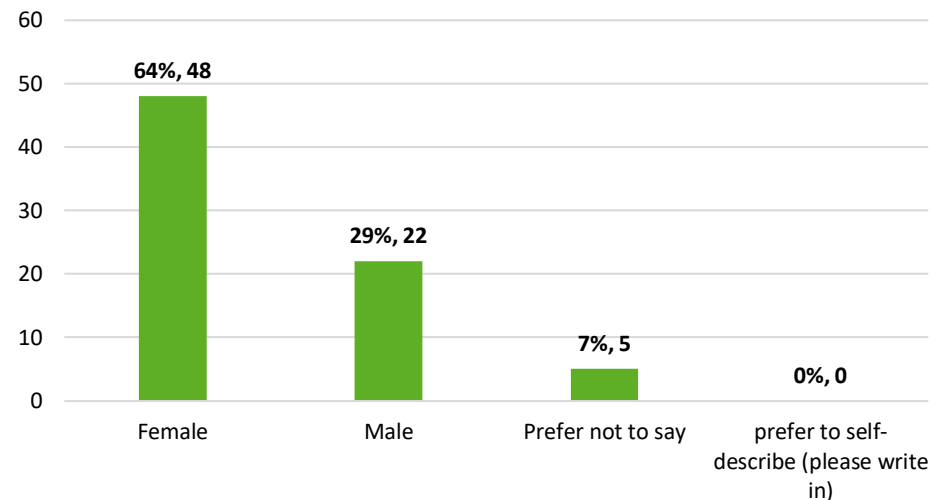


# Demographics

## Age

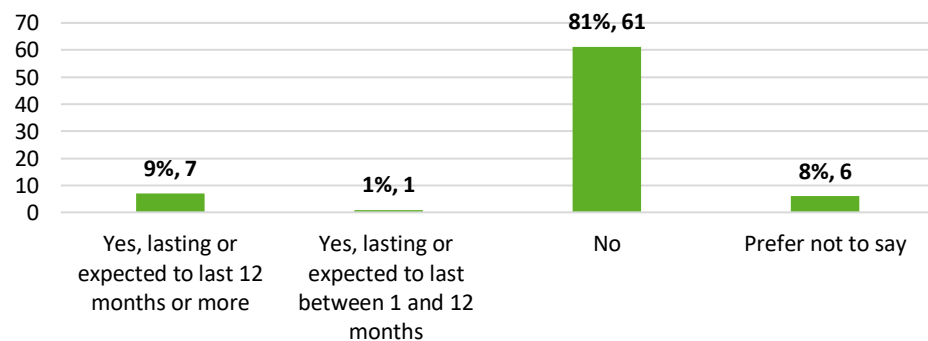


## Gender

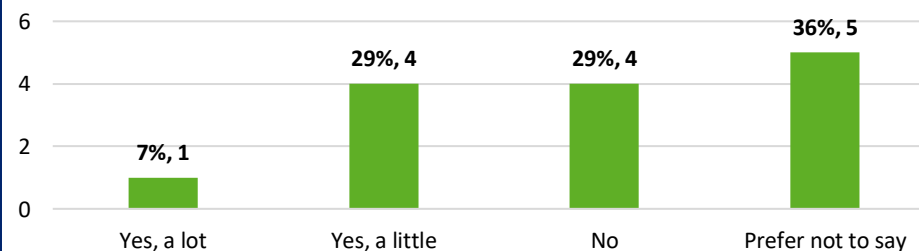


## Disability

**Do you have any long-term physical or mental health conditions or illnesses?**

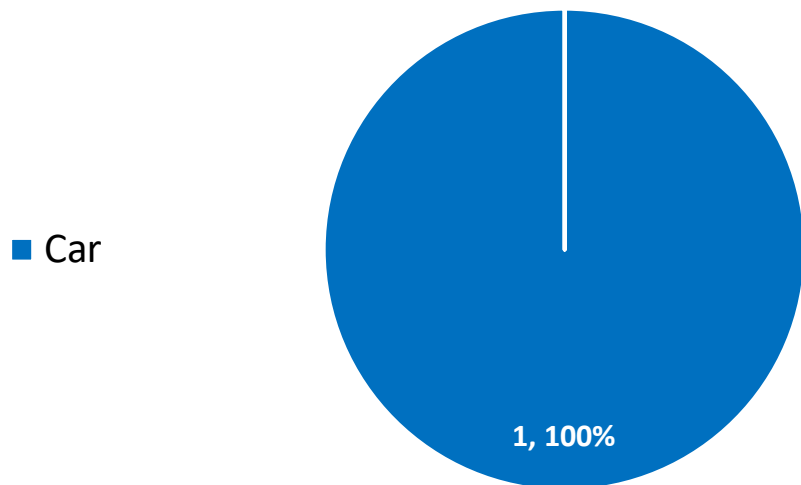


**Do any of your conditions or illnesses reduce your ability to carry out day-to-day activities?**

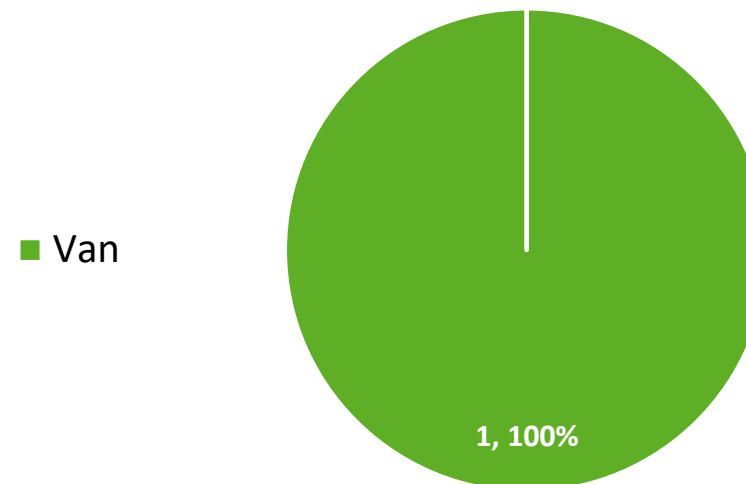


# Businesses

Customer Travel

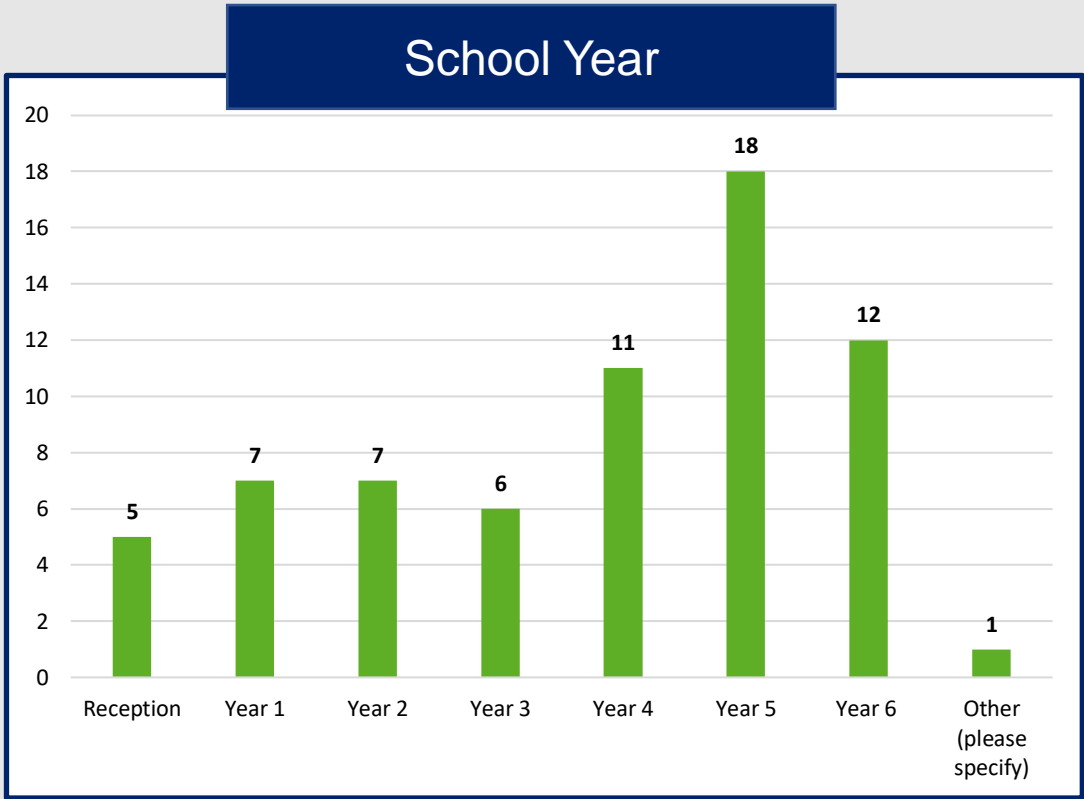
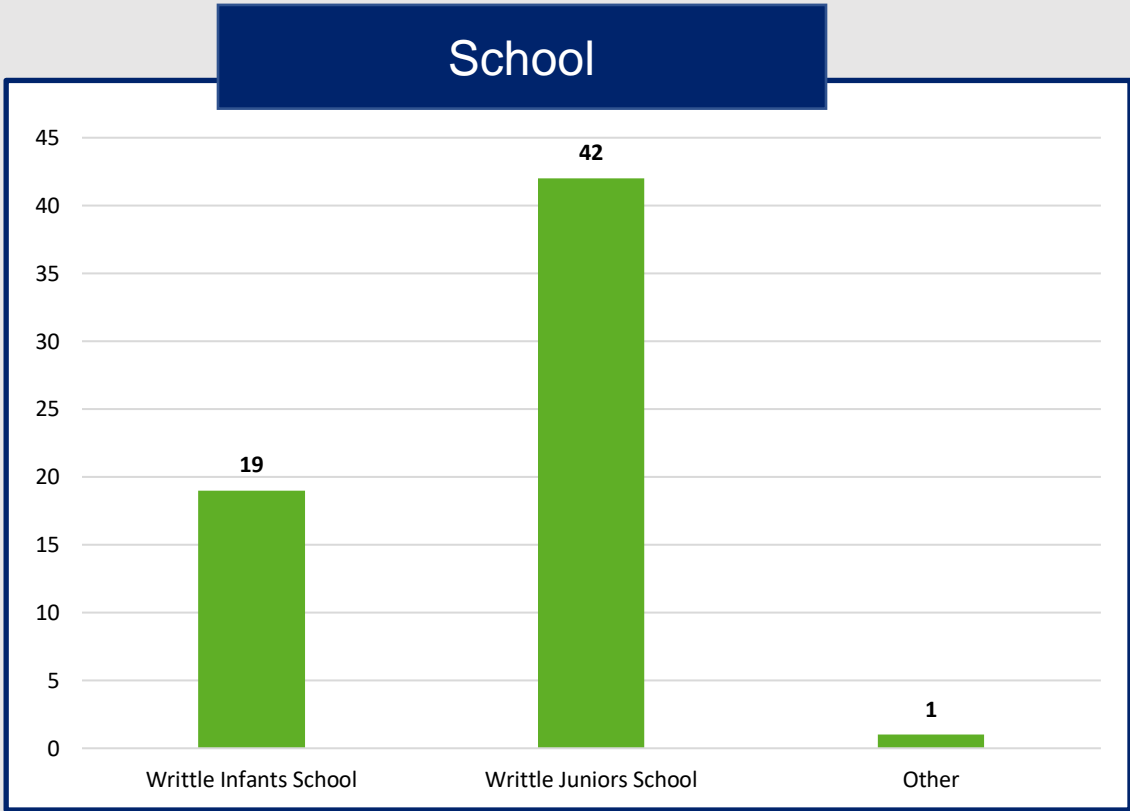


Delivery Mode of Travel



Frequency of Deliveries: Everyday

# School Overview



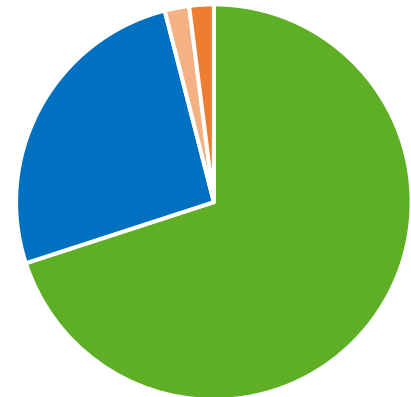
How often do you accompany your child to school?	Count	%
Everyday	42	84%
Most days each week	3	6%
Once or twice a week	3	6%
Once or twice a month	2	4%
Never. My child always travels independently	0	0%

The schools do not have a School Travel Plan.

# Pupil/Parent Travel Overview

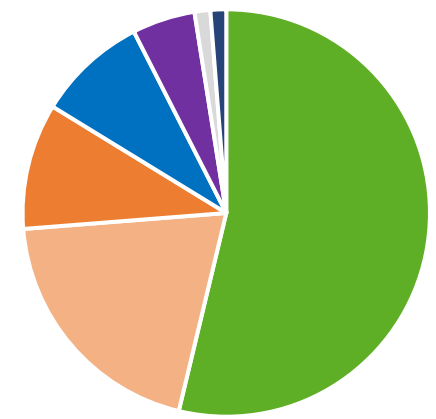
Overall Pupil Travel Mode

Walk	35, 70%
Car/Taxi	13, 26%
Park & Stride	1, 2%
Scoot/Skate	1, 2%

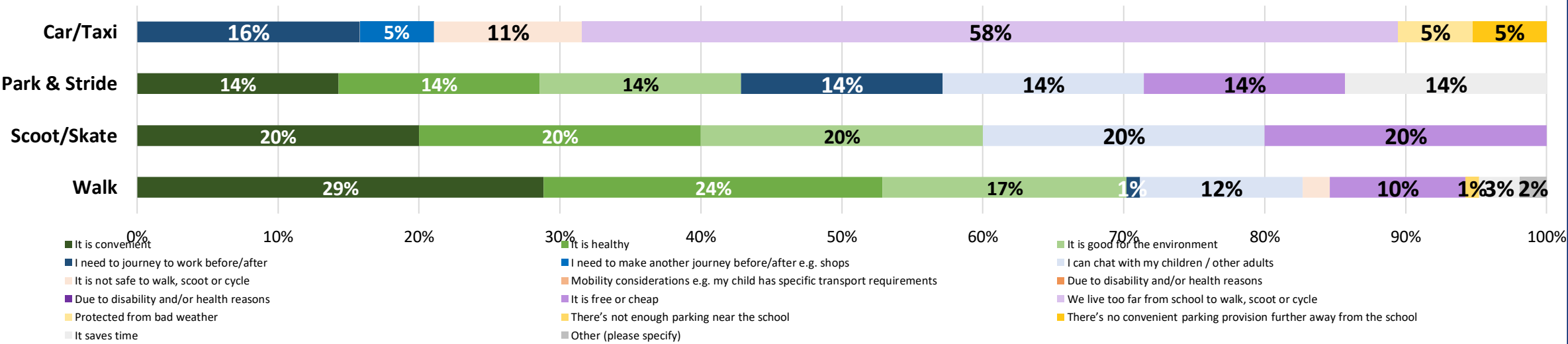


Preferred Pupil Travel Mode

Walk	43, 54%
Cycle	16, 20%
Park & Stride	8, 10%
Scoot/Skate	7, 9%
Car/Taxi	4, 5%
Car Share	1, 1%
Public bus	1, 1%

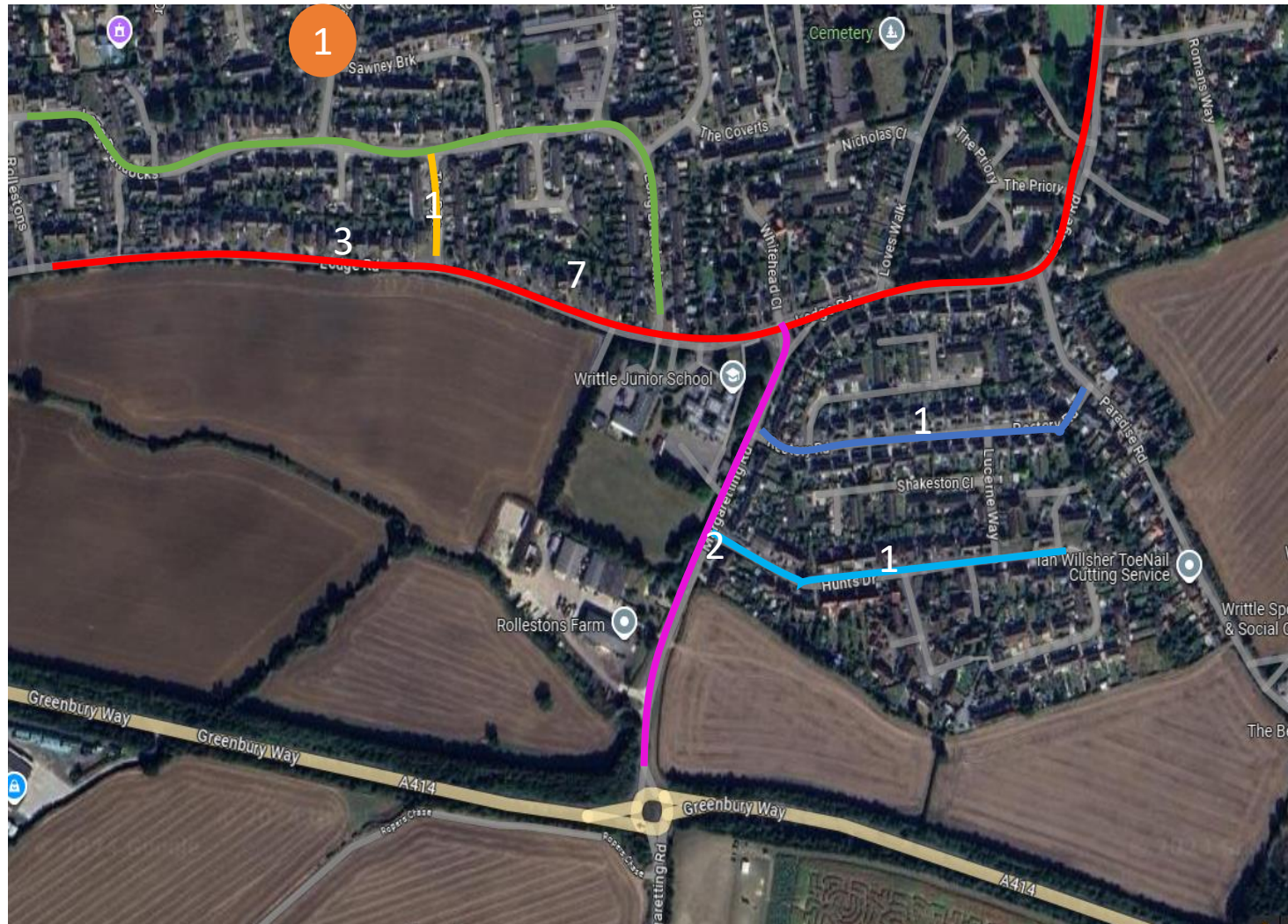


Reasons for Travel by Mode



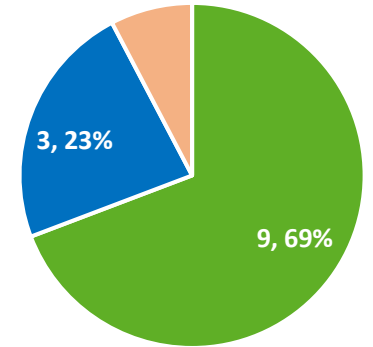
# Parent Parking Behaviours

Map of Parent Parking

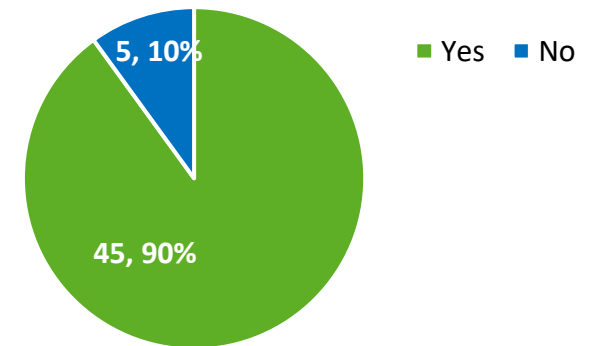


If parking on that particular road was made prohibitive, would you...

- Park on a different road
- Use a designated park and stride site
- Walk, scooter or cycle from your front door
- Consider the bus

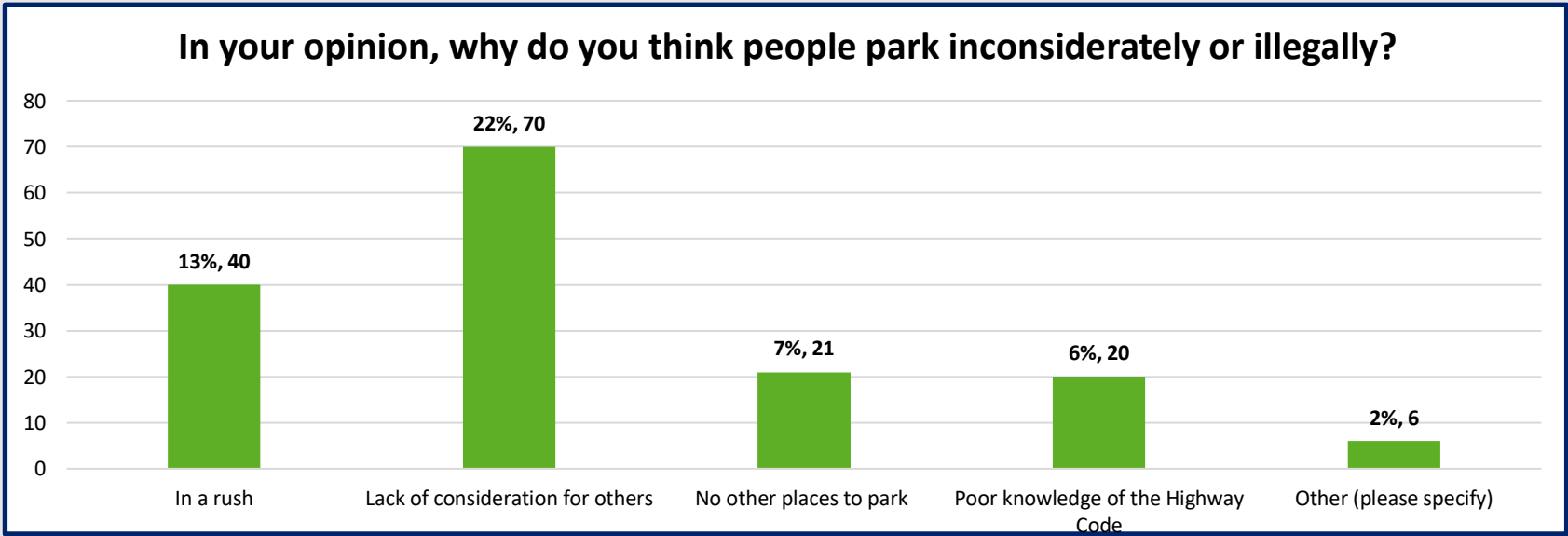
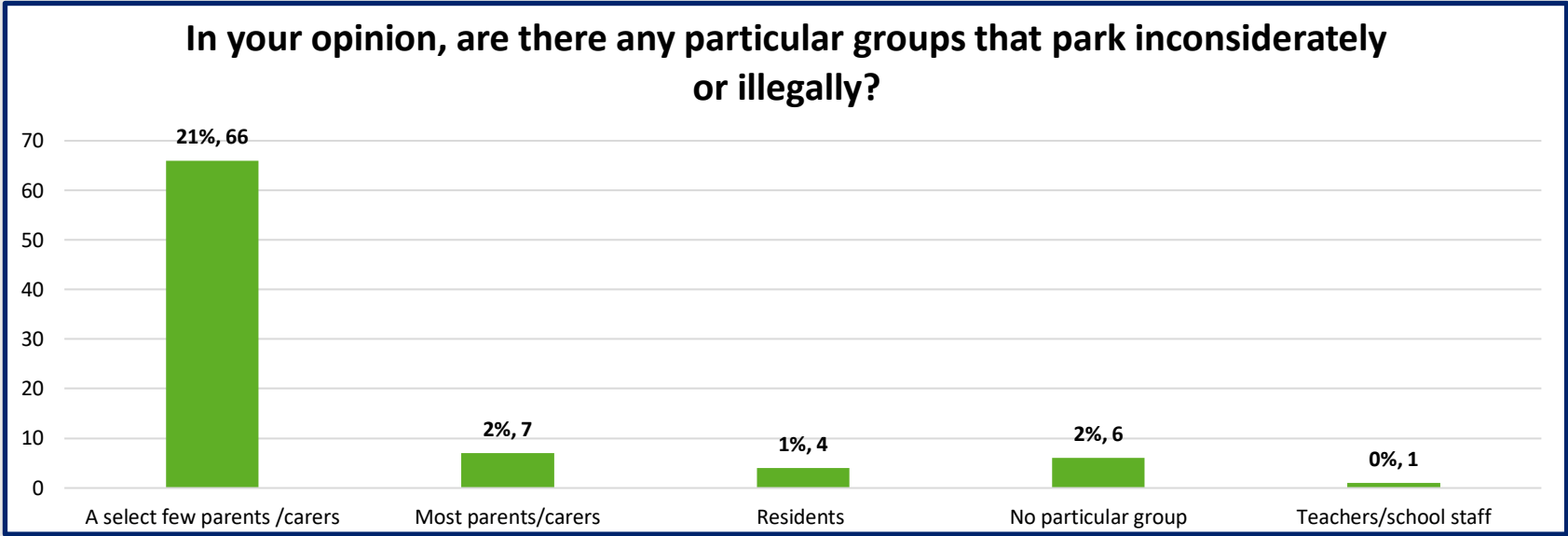


Are you aware that the school has a Park and Stride?





# Local School Community Parking Behaviours



# Perceptions of the Street Environment:

## Traffic



73% of respondents feel **traffic is very busy**

77% feel **illegal parking is a big problem**

47% of respondents feel **traffic speeds are a big problem in the area**

## Street Environment



75% feel it is **not easy to find shelter**

40% of respondents **rate the quality of the pavement as low** with regard to width and surface.

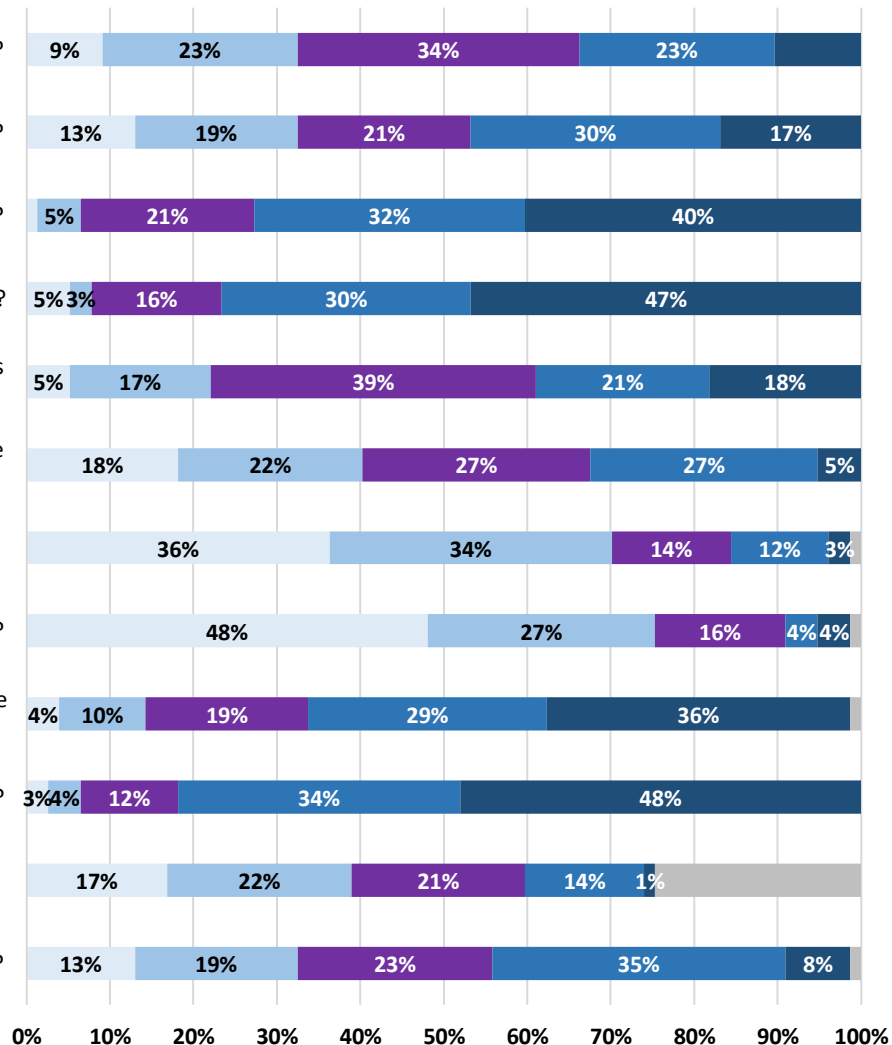
## Safety



39% do not feel safe cycling around the area (compared to 16% who do)

43% do feel safe walking around the area (compared to 32% who do)

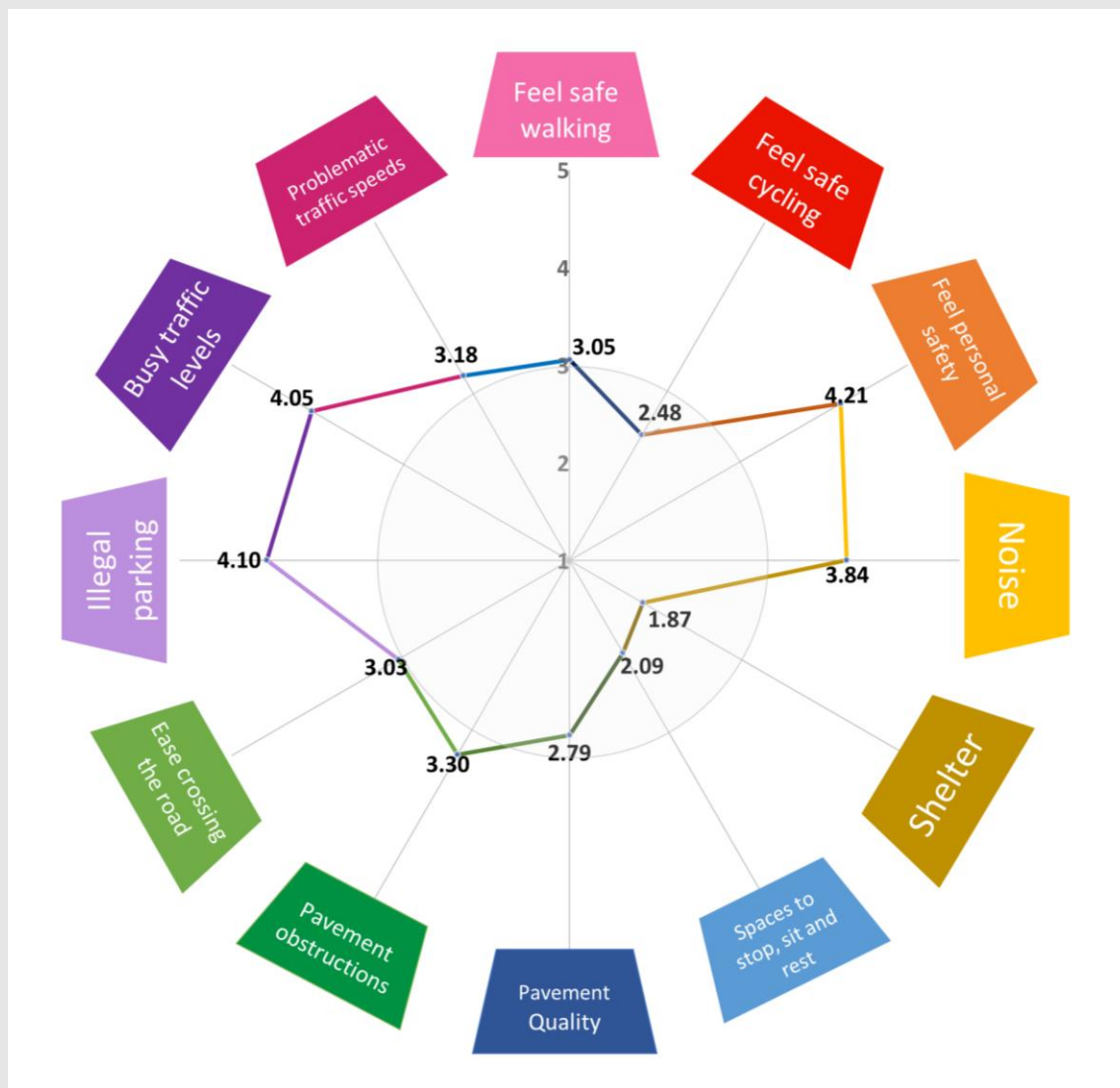
- How easy is it to cross the local roads approaching the school on foot?
- How much of a problem are traffic speeds in the area?
- Regarding traffic levels, how busy do you find the area?
- How much of a problem is illegal parking in this area?
- Thinking about pavement obstructions, how easy do you find it to walk down this street?
- How would you rate the quality of the pavements on this street, thinking about the pavement width, and pavement surface?
- How easy is it to find spaces to stop, sit and rest?
- How easy is it to find shelter when it is very sunny or raining?
- How easily can you have a conversation on this street without raising your voice due to the noise?
- How safe do you feel in this area with regards to personal safety?
- How safe do you feel cycling around this area with regards to traffic?
- How safe do you feel walking around this area with regards to traffic?



1. Not at all 2 3 4 5. Extremely N/A

77 respondents

## Perceptions of the Street Environment:



- Illegal parking and busy traffic levels are perceived as very problematic, averaging well above the mid-level '3' on the scale of 1. Not at all problematic to 5. Extremely problematic. These are negative aspects of the street environment.
- Of the positive street environment aspects, only feeling personal safety and noise levels (easy to have a conversation) are deemed well above the mid-level '3' on the scale of 1. Not at all safe or easy to 5. Extremely safe and easy.
- Finding shelter, and spaces to stop, sit are perceived at particularly low levels, with feeling safe cycling as the next lowest.

# Importance of Changes to the Street

## Most important

66% think more enforcement of parking restrictions is very or extremely important

58% think safe cycle and scooting training for children is very or extremely important

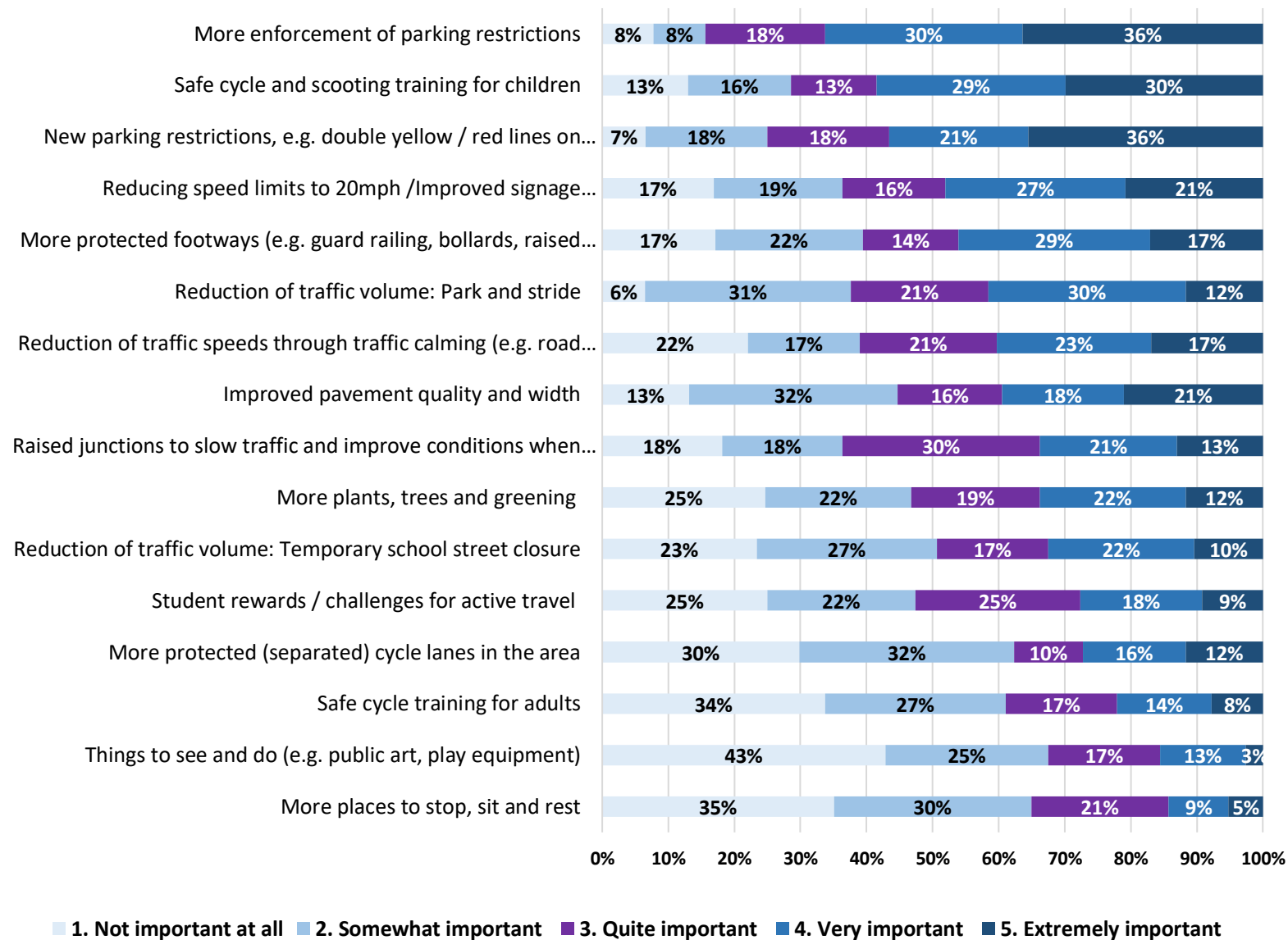
57% new parking restrictions, e.g. double yellow / red lines on junctions are very or extremely important

## Least important

14% think more places to stop, sit and rest are very or extremely important

16% think things to see and do (e.g. public art, play equipment) are very or extremely important

22% think safe cycle training for adults is very or extremely important





# Ranked Importance of Changes to the Street

Ranking	Measure	Score
1	More enforcement of parking restrictions	3.8
2	New parking restrictions, e.g. double yellow / red lines on junctions	3.6
3	Safe cycle and scooting training for children	3.5
4	Reducing speed limits to 20mph /Improved signage highlighting speed limits in the area	3.2
5	Reduction of traffic volume: Park and stride	3.1
6	More protected footways (e.g. guard railing, bollards, raised kerb)	3.1
7	Improved pavement quality and width	3.0
8	Reduction of traffic speeds through traffic calming (e.g. road humps, chicanes etc)	3.0
9	Raised junctions to slow traffic and improve conditions when crossing the road for people walking	2.9
10	More plants, trees and greening	2.7
11	Reduction of traffic volume: Temporary school street closure	2.7
12	Student rewards / challenges for active travel	2.6
13	More protected (separated) cycle lanes in the area	2.5
14	Safe cycle training for adults	2.4
15	More places to stop, sit and rest	2.2
16	Things to see and do (e.g. public art, play equipment)	2.1

# Open-text Responses Overview

## Top Issues

- 1) Illegal / unsafe parking including parking on the pavement, or on junctions – 20
- 2) High traffic volume and congestion – 6
- 3) High speeds and dangerous driving (including pavement driving) - 3

## Top Solutions

- 1) Red or yellow lines (parking restrictions) – 7
- 2) Enforcement of dangerous driving and parking and double red lines – 9
- 3) Traffic calming measures (speed bumps and 20mph) –
- 4) Safe crossing and or a crossing patrol – 8
- 5) Improve footpath conditions (inc vegetation cutting) - 6

“There are 2 lollipop people close together outside the school, however it leaves a crossing up the other end of the school unattended and very difficult to cross, especially with bad parking. We are forced to cross by parked cars and near a junction”

“The biggest issue is the select few parents who park on the corners of junctions, on double yellow lines, up curbs etc making it dangerous for parents and children to cross roads and use the pavements safely. It also causes traffic to build up and on occasions, it causes verbal conflict between annoyed drivers which isn't pleasant for children to listen to.”

“2 crossing patrol staff needed rather than 1 due to the 2 points where children cross to enter the school grounds - 1 for each school would feel safer having witnessed a few dangerous moments near the infant school, am and pm!”

“The main issue here is the inability for traffic to flow freely at the top of margeretting road join with lodge road when the road is fully parked”

“20 mph speed limit would be the most effective safety measure.”

“Reducing the traffic around the school at peak times is the biggest issue to solve.”

“Restricted area for no parking near school like 500m at certain time”