

Background

Ballymena Locality Planning Group along with Ballymena Learning Together Partnership hosted the Ballymena Annual Youth Fair on Tuesday 7th November 2017.

Prior engagement completed with young people highlighted a need to inform young people about support services available to them. The Youth Fair provided Year 11 pupils with valuable information on organisations they can approach for help, advice and support.

Students from Ballymena Academy, Cambridge House Grammar, Cullybackey College, Castle Tower School, Dunclug College and Slemish College attended the Youth Fair.

The Outcomes of the day were to:

1. Highlight services available to young people as well as organisations having the opportunity to ask what issues are of concern, and explain how to access necessary support.
2. Strengthen the relationships between organisations working in the area.
3. Help strengthen the relationships between Schools and agencies in order to ease any barriers to provide further support to pupils.

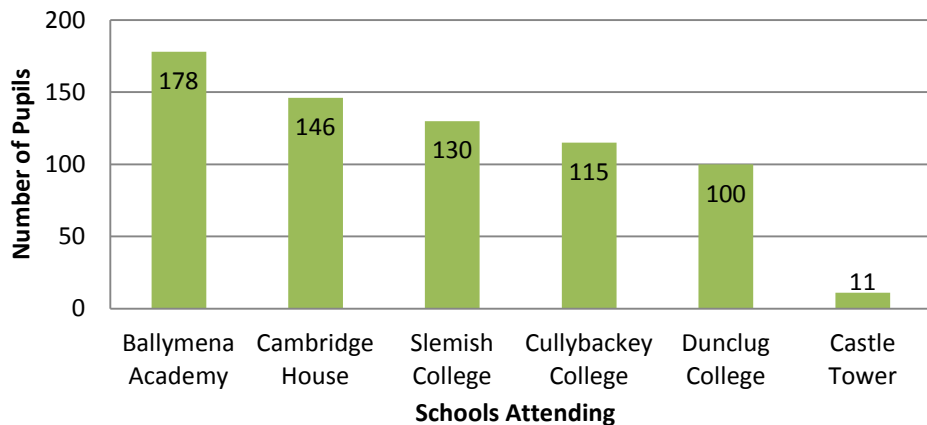
Northern Outcomes Group - Outcomes 1, 4 & 5

- Children and Young People and their parents will have the support they need with regard to their emotional wellbeing, mental and physical health.
- Children with disabilities have access to practical social and emotional support services.
- All children and young people will enjoy good relationships/equality and diversity.



How much did we do?

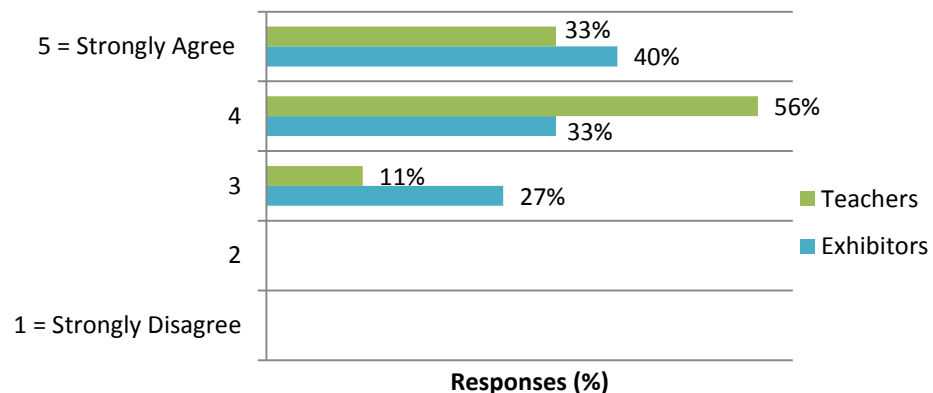
Youth Fair Attendance



Information on support services and activities in the local area were provided to approx. 680 Year 11 pupils who attended from 6 Post Primary Schools.

How well did we do it?

Increased knowledge of support services as a result of attending the Youth Fair

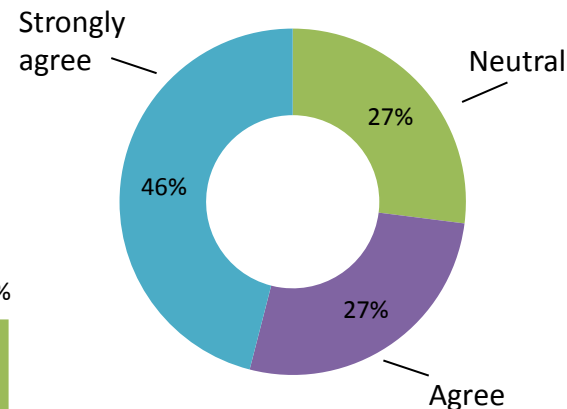
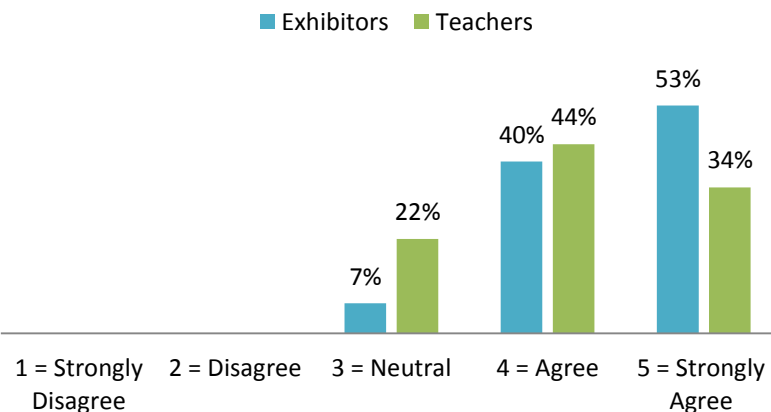


Is anyone better off?

Quotes from Pupils

- I enjoyed learning about the different services we can use.
- I thought the fair was helpful
- I have enjoyed talking to lots of different people and I have learned lots of new things. I enjoyed all different topics, and was shocked to know the chemicals in a cigarette. I wouldn't change anything about the youth fair.
- I enjoyed answering the quiz and learning what is in my community.
- I loved the youth fair, learned a lot from this.

Improved information sharing and communications across organisations



Improvement of exhibitors understanding of the needs of young people from attending Youth Fair