

JOHN KYRLE HIGH SCHOOL QUESTIONNAIRE

This questionnaire was a version of the Aims Questionnaire, slightly adapted for use with schoolchildren. The questionnaire was given out and completed in school time potentially by 140 children of various ages between 14 and 17. Not all students completed the form (some forms could be described as 'spoilt') and not all answered all questions.

The aims shown in column 1 of the results below are those used in the main Aims Questionnaire with some minor changes of phrasing. Each student was asked, for each aim, to rate its importance on a scale from 1 (irrelevant) to 10 (very important), to add ideas that might help to make the aim into a reality and then to assess what score (again from 1 to 10) they thought their parent(s) might give the aim.

The chart below:

- lists responses and average scores on personal views (Score 1);
- notes any ideas suggested and
- lists responses and scores for what parents might score (Score 2)

AIM	SCORE 1	IDEAS TO MAKE THE AIM HAPPEN	SCORE 2
1. It would be good to make the town centre more welcoming, safer and more attractive to be in.	136 responses Total score 722 Average 5.3	More colour, flowers, bins Better maintained Needs to be safer	66 responses Total score 424 Average 6.4
2. It would be good to look after and improve the appearance of all the old buildings in the town centre.	126 responses Total score 650 Average 5.2	Keep main buildings Restore, paint buildings Maintain better	66 responses Total score 339 Average 5.1
3. It would be good if there were better walking and cycling links between the town centre and the river.	127 responses Total score 512 Average 4.0	OK as they are, no more needed Need some more paths Manage dog mess	66 responses Total score 335 Average 5.0
4. It would be good if there were more places to stop and talk to each other in the town centre.	125 responses Total score 495 Average 4.0	More benches Plenty of cafes to meet in More space generally	66 responses Total score 271 Average 4.1
5. It would be good if there were really clear signs around the town centre, for us and for visitors.	130 responses Total score 435 Average 3.3	More signs needed, clearer/bigger More maps	75 responses Total score 341 Average 4.5
6. It would be good if there were more flats in the (often empty) spaces above shops in the town centre.	125 responses Total score 556 Average 4.5	Good idea, make affordable, target younger people No more housing, spoil the environment Good for business	68 responses Total score 325 Average 4.8
7. It would be good	125	More local business good for town and	67 responses

to build things (houses, offices etc.) on the many small, empty sites around the town centre.	responses Total score 570 Average 4.6	us Good use of place Damage the environment	Total score 325 Average 4.9
8. It would be good to build something useful for the town on the empty land behind Morrisons.	125 responses Total score Average 5.4	Park, McDonalds, shops, cinema, offices, housing	65 responses Total score 403 Average 6.2
9. It would be good if there were less empty shops in the town centre.	125 responses Total score 884 Average 7.0	Yes! More clothes shops (Top Shop etc.), more nationals, less charity shops More newer shops Less charity shops	66 responses Total score 499 Average 7.6
10. It would be good to have more cafes and specialist shops in the town centre.	123 responses Total score 439 Average 3.6	More than enough cafes	63 responses Total score 364 Average 5.8
11. It would be good if it was easier for people to drive into and around the town centre.	116 responses Total score 648 Average 5.6	Less traffic into town centre One-way system is confusing More places to park	64 responses Total score 364 Average 5.7
12. It would be good to have clearer signs to the various car parks.	116 responses Total score 528 Average 4.6	More and bigger signs Easy enough now Less people needing to ask directions	62 responses Total score 278 Average 4.5
13. It would be good if it was easier to cycle and walk into and around the town centre.	101 responses Total score 501 Average 5.0	More/wider pavements More cycle paths More paths	62 responses Total score 343 Average 5.5

Age and Gender

7 14 year old boys 14 15 year olds 1 16 year old 5 17 year olds 38 total
said boy

7 14 year old girls 19 15 year olds 5 16 year olds 7 17 year olds 56 said girl

Others gave no age or gender.

COMMENTARY

- A few children scored 0 for everything or 10 for everything (most of these adding no comments).
- Overall the children scored 5/10 for the given aims, with little difference by age or gender.
- The only high support from children came for 'less empty shops' (7.0).
- Two aims scored low: 'signs around the town centre' (3.3) and 'more cafes' (3.6).
- On all but two items (where the difference was very slight), the guessed scores for parental views were higher.

- The biggest difference between children and parents was on 'more cafes' where the adult score was noticeably higher.
- The results mirror those from adults although, in general, these aims seem to be of less interest to these age groups.