



2023 CAMPBELLTOWN YOUTH SURVEY





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SURVEY

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Young people in Campbelltown

Campbelltown City Council is located in Adelaide's inner eastern suburbs - about 6 kilometers from the Adelaide GPO. Campbelltown City Council takes in the suburbs of Athelstone, Campbelltown, Hectorville, Magill (Part), Newton, Paradise, Rostrevor (Part) and Tranmere.

At the time of the 2021 Census, Campbelltown City Council had a population of 54,796. Approximately 15.1% (8,267) of this population is aged 12-24, compared to 15.7% in Greater Adelaide. While these numbers represent an increase of 431 young people in overall population from the 2016 Census, as a percentage of the Campbelltown population this represents a decline of 0.5% (compared to a Greater Adelaide decline of 0.7%). .

Places of interest:

Secondary Schooling

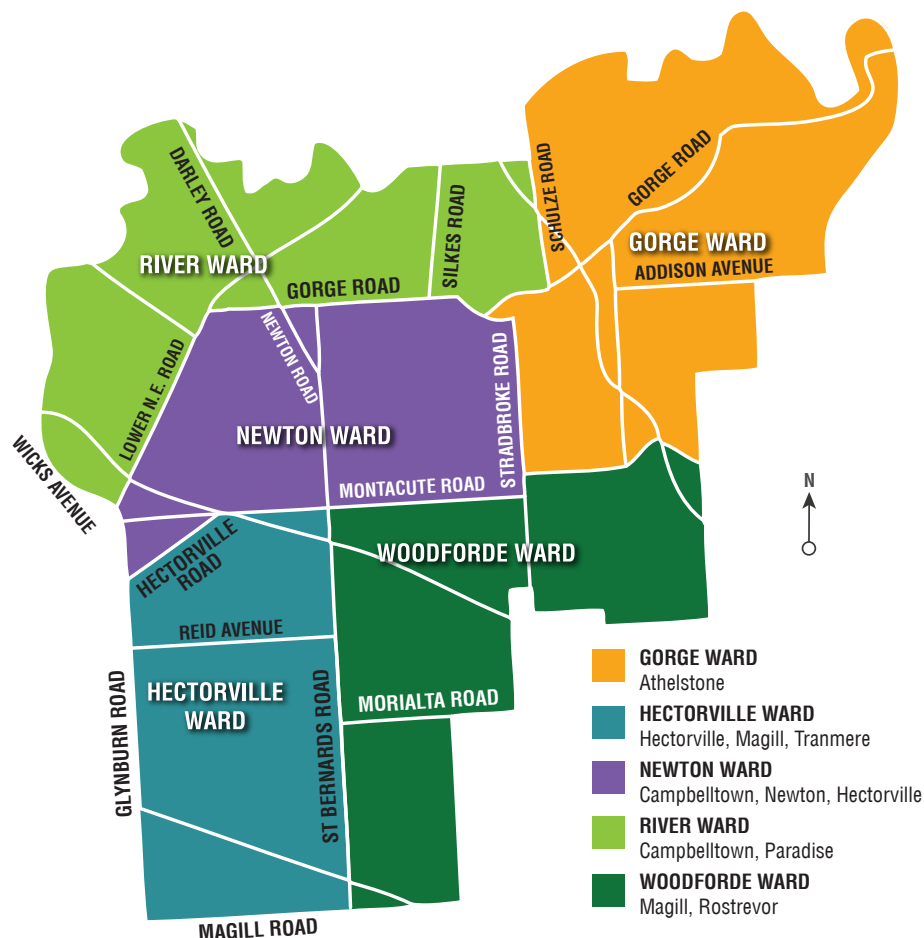
Charles Campbell College (R-12), Adelaide East Education Centre (7-12), Morialta Secondary College (Year 7 only in 2023) and St Ignatius College (7-12) are located within the Campbelltown City Council boundary, while Rostrevor College (R-12) is located on the boundary. Since the 2019 Campbelltown Youth Survey took place, the Norwood Morialta High School (Middle Campus) has merged with the Senior Campus in the City of Burnside, to become Norwood International High School. Morialta Secondary College is now located on the old Norwood Morialta High School (Middle Campus) site and opened to Year 7 students at the beginning of 2023.

Tertiary Study

The University of South Australia Magill Campus is located within the Campbelltown City Council area. Schools of teaching at this campus include Creative Industries, Education, Psychology, Social Work and Human Services.

Other key places of interest

- Paradise Recreation Plaza (formerly Paradise Skate Park, closed for redevelopment in 2023 and opened to public December 2023)
- Paradise Interchange
- Campbelltown Library
- The ARC Campbelltown
- There are a number of Sporting/Recreation Groups, Clubs and Churches in the area that service young people.



Introduction

In 2023, 623 young people aged between 12 and 25 years of age participated in a survey for young people who live, work, study or play in the Campbelltown City Council area. This survey is a snapshot into the lives of young people in Campbelltown.

The 2023 survey was preceded by a survey in 2019 which had 600 responses. At the time the 2023 survey took place, the young people who participated in the 2019 Campbelltown Youth Survey would be four years older and in a different stage of their journey through adolescence or young adulthood. In addition to this, in the four years since the 2019 survey took place, the world has experienced a global pandemic which impacted the way we navigate the world and day-to-day significantly.

There were some minor changes to refine the survey, however for the most part, the 2023 survey replicated the 2019 survey to provide opportunity to compare and observe if there were any significant changes in responses between the two surveys.

Participation in the survey was anonymous, voluntary and all questions were optional – participants were advised that they could skip questions or stop at any time if they felt uncomfortable or did not want to continue. Even considering this, most questions had a relatively high response rate. The quotes featured in this report are original and unedited.

The Campbelltown Youth Survey was created taking into consideration identified gaps in our knowledge of young people in the area as well as the principles of Child Friendly Campbelltown and the ARACY Common Approach Wellbeing Wheel. The survey was developed and tested in consultation with young people including Members of the Campbelltown Youth Advisory Committee and Campbelltown Youth Crew.

NOTE: Due to the voluntary nature of the questions, there were a varying number of responses to each question. Where participants have not responded to a question, they are excluded from the data presented in this report for that question. For example – if only 75% of participants responded to a question, the data presented in this report relating to that question would represent the 75% who responded and the 25% who did not respond would be excluded.

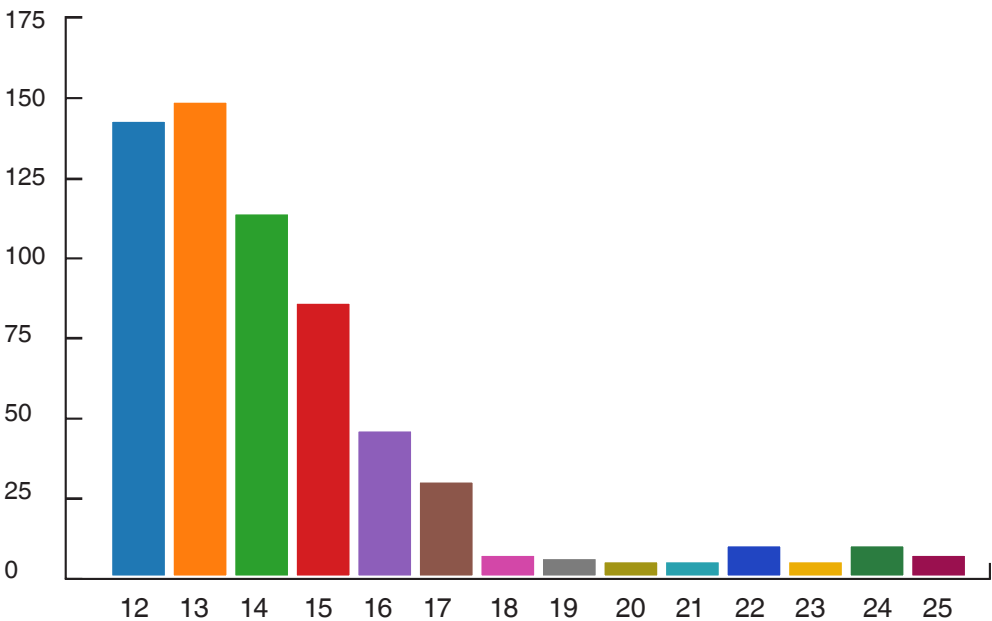


About You

What is your age?

Most respondents were aged under 18, representing 91% of the responses received. 9% of respondents were aged 18-25.

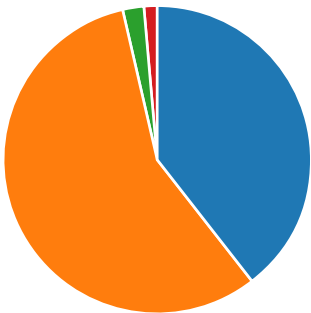
12	143
13	149
14	114
15	86
16	46
17	30
18	7
19	6
20	5
21	5
22	10
23	5
24	10
25	7



Gender

57% male, 40% female, 2% non-binary, 1% other (including Gender-Fluid and Agender)

Female	247
Male	355
Non-Binary	14
Other	7



How are you connected to CCC area?

- 65% study in the CCC area (taken from this question + school)
- 84% live in the CCC area (taken from this question + suburb)
- 6% work in the area

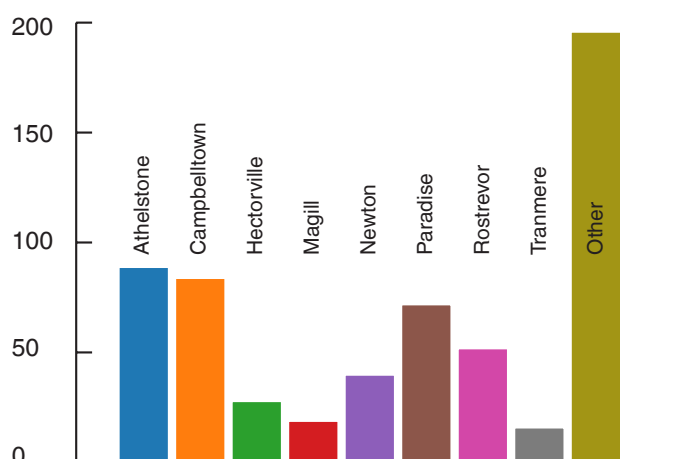
What country were you born in?

- The majority of respondents (81%) were born in Australia
- Around one fifth of respondents were born overseas
- India (6%) Philippines (1.3%) China (1.14%) Malaysia (1%) Vietnam (>1%) England (>1%) USA (>1%)
- Africa, Albania, Belgium, Brazil, Cambodia, Colombia, Congo, Croatia, Ethiopia, Germany, Hong Kong, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Mongolia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nigeria, North Korea, Pakistan, Peru, Scotland, Singapore, South Africa, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Zambia, Zimbabwe (3 or fewer responses).

What Suburb do you live in?

- 65% of respondents reported living in CCC area with highest representation from Athelstone (15% of total respondents), Campbelltown (14%) and Paradise (12%).

● Athelstone	89
● Campbelltown	84
● Hectorville	28
● Magill	19
● Newton	40
● Paradise	72
● Rostrevor	52
● Tranmere	16
● Other	196



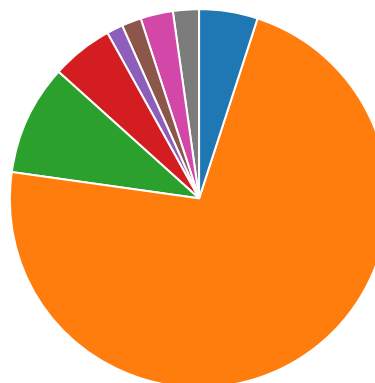
- Of the 196 who reported living outside the council area, the LGAs they reside in are as follows: City of Tea Tree Gully (42%), Port Adelaide Enfield (26%), Salisbury (12.5%), Norwood Payneham St Peters (7.8%), Adelaide Hills (4.7%), Burnside (3%), Walkerville (2%). Playford (1%). Adelaide City Council and Charles Sturt (>1%)
- Some indicated they move between residences, for example where their parents are separated and they spend time in both homes

Learning and Earning

Current study commitments

- 72% studying full time (secondary)
- 9.5% studying part time (secondary)
- Remainder a mix of not studying, tertiary study and completed studies

Not studying	31
Studying full time (secondary)	438
Studying part time (secondary)	57
Studying full time (tertiary)	32
Studying part time (tertiary)	8
Taking a break from study	10
Completed studies	18
Other	12



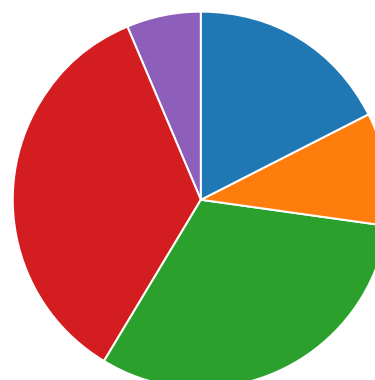
Which school/ college/ university/ TAFE etc. do you attend?

- 64.5% Charles Campbell College
- 12% Rostrevor College
- 7% Morialta Secondary College
- 5% St Ignatius College
- 3% Norwood International High School
- 2.7% UniSA
- 1.6% University of Adelaide
- Remaining responses include Concordia, Flinders University, Kildare College, Loreto College, Marden Senior College, Mercedes College, Modbury High School, Open Access College, Our Lady of Sacred Heart College, Pembroke School and 42 Adelaide

Do you currently have paid work?

- 18% are employed and happy with the amount of work they currently have.
- 35% are not currently employed but are not looking for work. 12 and 13 year olds represent 77% of those who responded this way.
- The majority of those who selected 'Other' (6%) responded that they were too young for a job and/ or were planning to look for a job in the future.
- The remaining 41% represent young people seeking employment or who would like more work, with 10% employed but would like more work and 31% looking for work.

Yes, happy with the amount of work	108
Yes, but would like more work	59
No, but looking for work	193
No, but not looking for work	215
Other	38



How did you get your first job?

- 64.4% reported that they have never had a job.
- For those who have had a job, the breakdown of how they got their FIRST job is as follows:
 - 27.6% applied in person
 - 35.7% applied online
 - 33.7% got a job through family or a friend
 - 3% reported that work experience or volunteering led to a job

Is there anything you feel affects your ability to get paid work?

- Approximately 45% of 380 relevant responses indicated that they did not think anything affected their ability to get paid work.
- Of the remaining responses, the following barriers were noted (some reported multiple barriers)
 - 29.4% Availability (including study commitments, homework, sporting commitments or extracurriculars)
 - 23.7% Age
 - 9.5% lack of experience or knowledge required to get a job
 - 9.5% job availability (including jobs for students or in relevant field)
 - 3.3% Transport
- 25% cited personal circumstances which included:
 - Motivation / focus
 - Parents
 - Knowledge of how to get a job
 - Confidence
 - Social Anxiety
 - Mental Health
 - Autism
 - Physical disability including vision impairment, injuries and chronic pain
 - Discrimination
 - Homelessness, home situation

Quotes

“I am too young to get a real job so people don’t take me seriously” – Female, 12 years

“A lack of jobs available for young people in the area affects my ability to get a job.” – Male, 14 years

“Too much stress, too tired, not enough free time, homework” – Female, 14 years

“High school jobs are quite difficult to come by because of high demand.” – Female, 15 years

“Getting to the workplace and the hours I can work being a student and not having my license.”
– Female, 15 years

“I do not know the best way to find a job”
– Male, 15 years

“The amount of homework we are given to do outside of school” – Female, 15 years

“It is difficult to balance part-time work with school and other commitments. I also am limited in not being able to drive yet, so have to work in walking distance.”
– Female, 17 years

“Not having references or experience were barrier I had to overcome to build my first CV”
– Female, 19 years

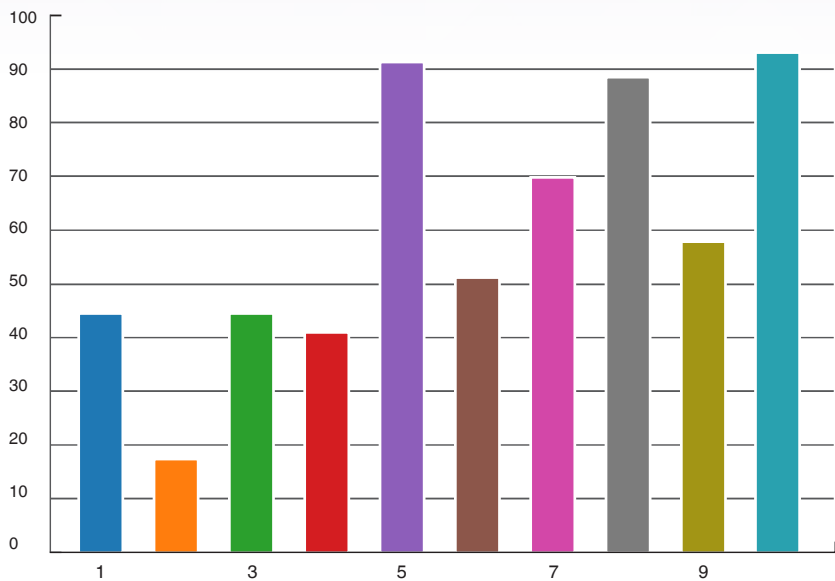
“Range of jobs on offer, finding work for which my qualifications are applicable, and mental health.”
– Male, 23 years

“I feel as though it’s through who you know and this can be hard if you don’t have networks.”
– Male, 23 years

Do you ever feel concerned or worry about money?

1 = Frequently, 10 = Never

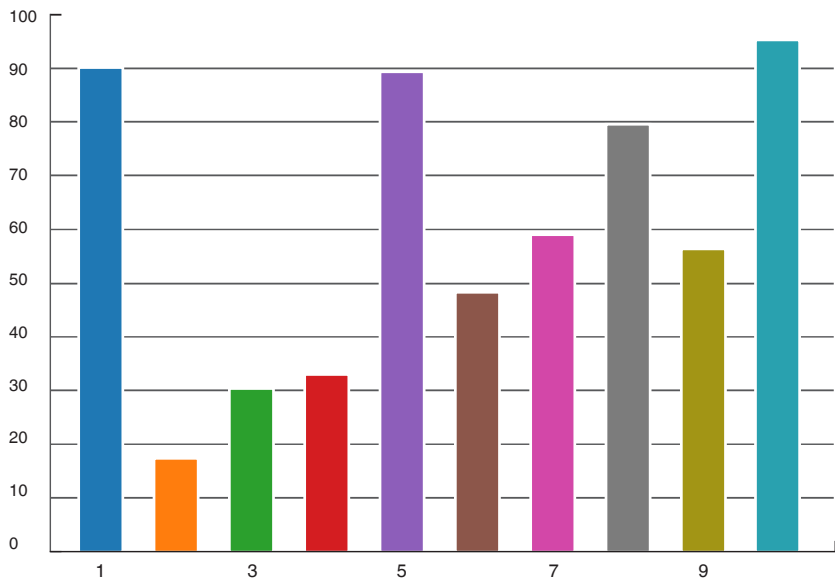
6.30
Average Rating (out of 10)



Do you feel you have access to the tools you need to manage your finances?

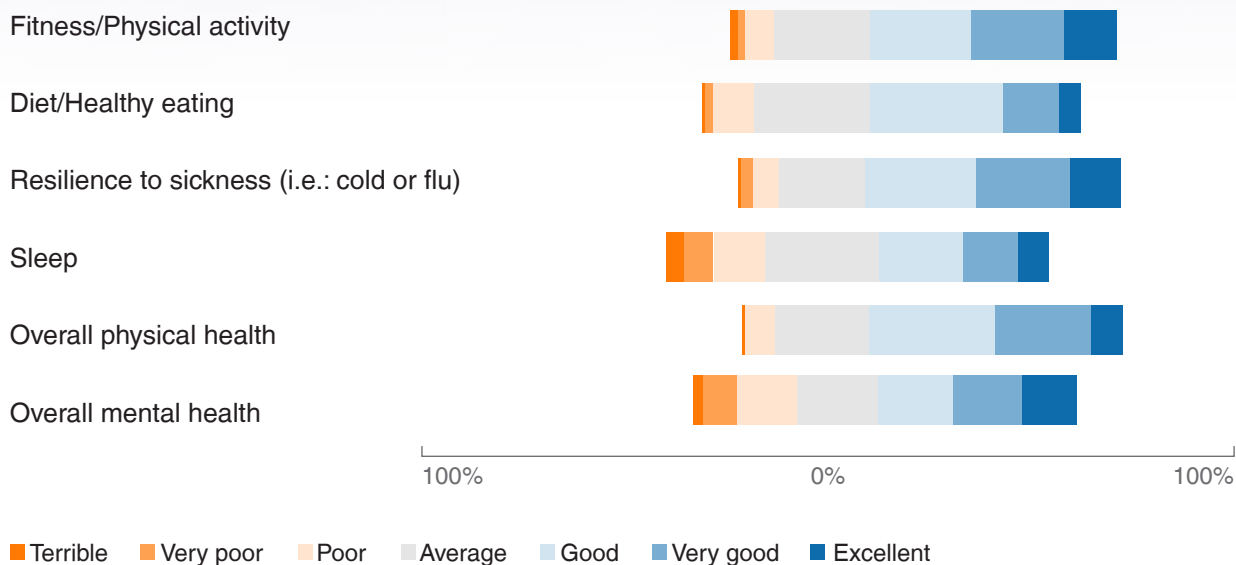
1 = No, 10 = Yes

6.30
Average Rating (out of 10)



Wellbeing

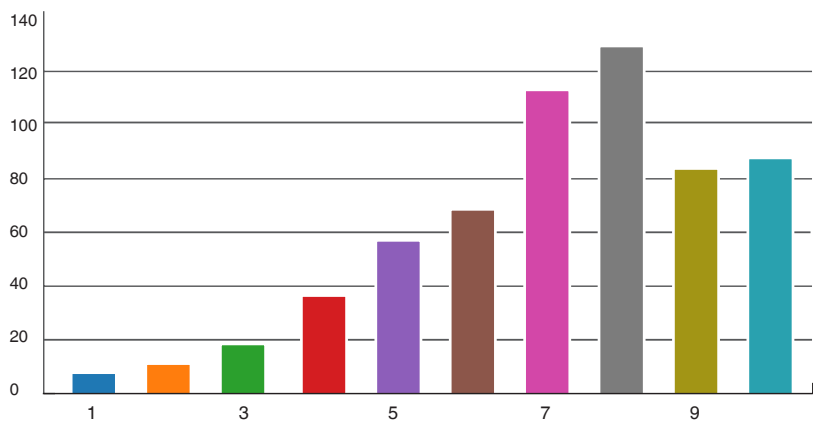
Please rate your health in the following areas:



Sleep ranked the lowest with approximately 30% of respondents ranking their sleep health as below average (Terrible, Very Poor or Poor). This was followed by Overall Mental Health with 26.5% below average and Diet 14.4% below average.

How happy are you with your life as a whole?

1 = Not at all happy, 10 = Very happy



In the past year, have you had any serious or stressful problems or issues?

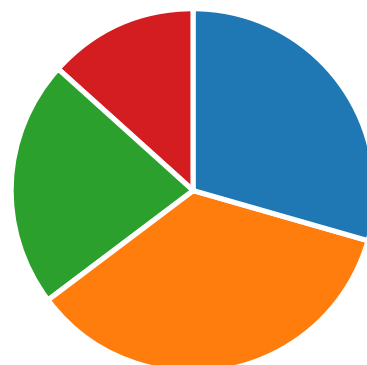
35.25% reported that they experienced some problems but felt they could manage.

29.67% reported that they experienced few or no problems.

21.8% experienced some problems and did get help to manage.

13.28% had some problems, but did not get help even though they thought they needed it.

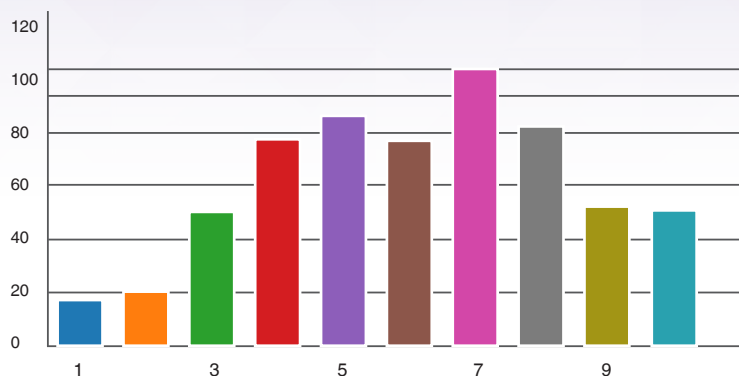
I experienced few or no problems	181
I experienced some problems	215
I experienced some problems	133
I have had some problems but I...	81



How would you rate your ability to cope with stress?

1 = Very poor, 10 = Very good

6.12
Average Rating (out of 10)



When you are experiencing stress, what helps you to de-stress?

Top responses:

- Listen to music
- Exercise or physical activity (including walking, running, dancing or playing sports)
- Breathing, use breath techniques, relaxing
- Play games (including video games)
- Watching television or videos

Other common responses:

When it comes to managing stress and methods to de-stress, respondents reported a wide range of methods that they use to help cope with or tackle their stress. Common themes included:

- Activities such as art, colouring, drawing, journalling, writing or baking
- Cry
- Focus on positives
- Get the task done/ address the issue
- Practice mindfulness or meditation
- Read
- Sleep
- Spend time outdoors or in nature
- Spend time with friends or family
- Spend time with pets
- Self-care
- Stress/ fidget toys
- Take time out, distractions, not think about it
- Take time out from devices/ social media
- Talk it out



Relationships

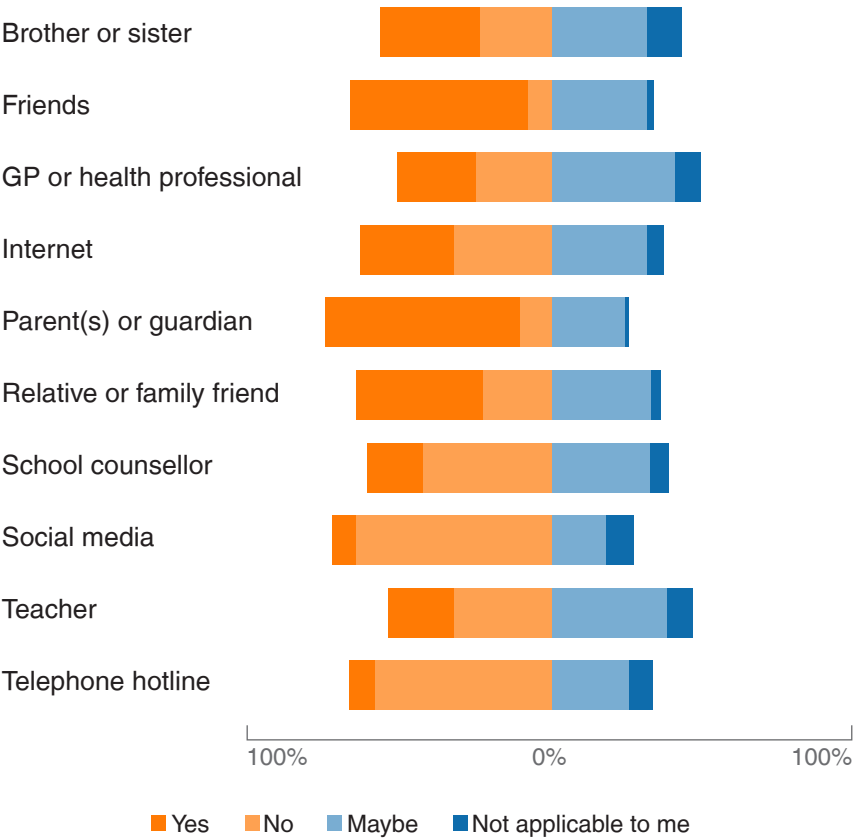
Which of the following would you go to for help with important issues in your life?

NO highlights

65.6% of respondents responded that they would not go to social media
59.4% of respondents would not access a telephone hotline.
44.9% would not go to a school counsellor (34.3% maybe, 13.4% yes).

YES highlights

62.5% would go to parent(s) or guardian(s)
52% would go to friends.



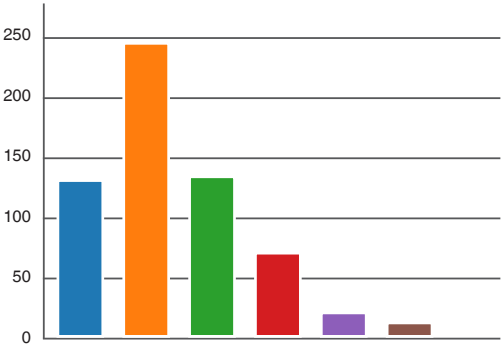
Material Basics

Which of the following describes your current living situation?

The majority of respondents (71%) live at home with both parents. 12% live in a single-parent household and 11% move between single-parent households. The remaining responses represented those who rent (2%), own/ mortgage their home, boarding at school or living with relative(s).

How many homes have you lived in over your lifetime?

1 (still living in childhood home)	131
2-3	246
4-5	135
Renting	71
10 Or more	22
Unsure	13



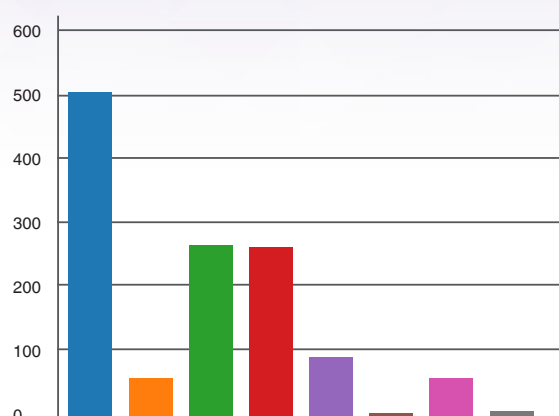
What was your main reason for moving?

- House too small / upsizing (often when a sibling is born)
- Parent separation / divorce
- Job opportunities / job relocation
- Closer to school, moving into a school zone
- Location/ moving to a more desirable area
- Built a new home
- Purchased a home (often renting beforehand)
- Rental, landlord selling / end of lease
- Safety
- Seeking better living conditions/ nicer home
- Moving from another country/ state
- Rent increase
- Cost of living / too expensive
- Health condition of someone in the household making move necessary



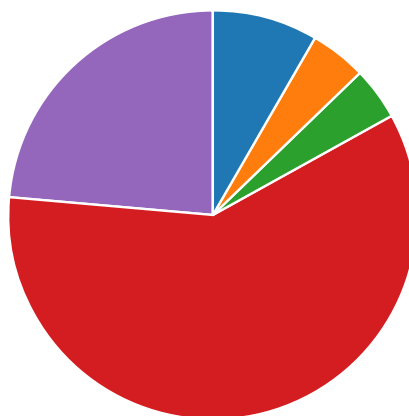
How do you get around on a day-to-day basis?

Car (driven by someone else)	508
Car (driven by me)	28
Public transport (bus etc.)	26
Walk	367
Ride (bicycle,	145
Motorcycle	4
School bus	62
Other	11



Do you have a driver's license?

Yes – Learner's Permit (L's)	52
Yes – Provisional Licence (P's)	28
Yes – Full Licence	26
No, but planning to drive	367
No, NOT planning to obtain one	145

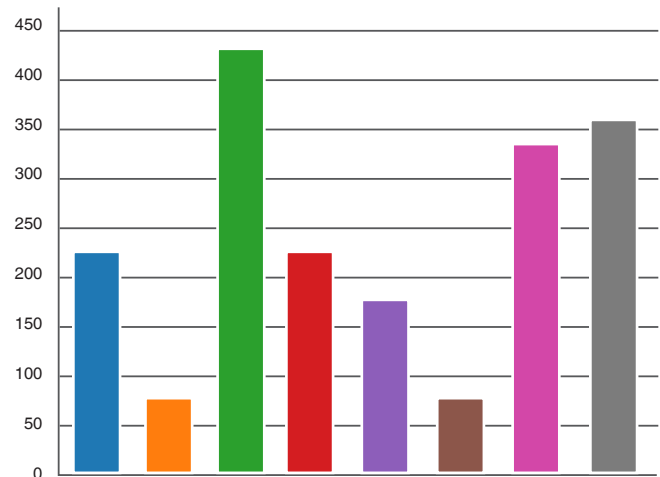


Safety and Community

Visited in the past 12 months

Council facilities have a reasonably high visitation rate for young people: 70% visited a local park or playground, 57.5% visited Thorndon Park, 54% visited The ARC Campbelltown and 35.8% visited Campbelltown Library. 12% visited Paradise Skate Park.

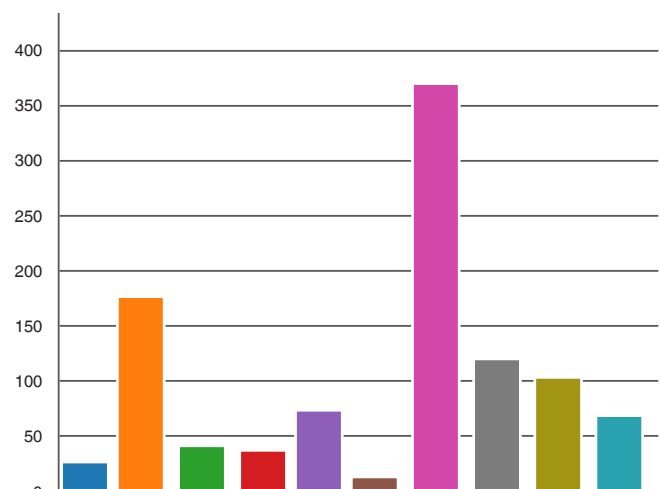
Campbelltown Library	223
Community club or group	77
Local park or playground	434
Local sports club	226
National park	175
Paradise Recreation Plaza (Skate Park)	75
The ARC Campbelltown	336
Thorndon Park	358



Been involved in over the past 12 months

Sport overwhelmingly is the most accessed activity for young people with 59% of respondents reporting they have been involved in the past 12 months (either as a participant or spectator). The next highest is Arts and Cultural activities with 28.3%.

Activism or advocacy on an issue	24
Arts activities (art, drama, music)	176
Cultural groups or activities	40
Environmental groups or activities	36
Religious groups or activities	74
Political groups or activities	12
Sport (participant or spectator)	369
Student leadership activities	124
Volunteer work	106
Youth groups or activities	68



When you catch up or spend time with people outside of school/ work, where do you go?

Top responses:

- My house or their house (29.5%)
- Park (including local parks, Thorndon Park, Morialta, Linear Park) (27%)
- Tea Tree Plaza (16.1%)
- City (Rundle Mall) (14.5%)
- Norwood Parade (8.6%)
- Sports (including after-school sports, football/ soccer ovals, sporting clubs)
- Shops/ shopping
- Restaurants / cafes
- The ARC Campbelltown

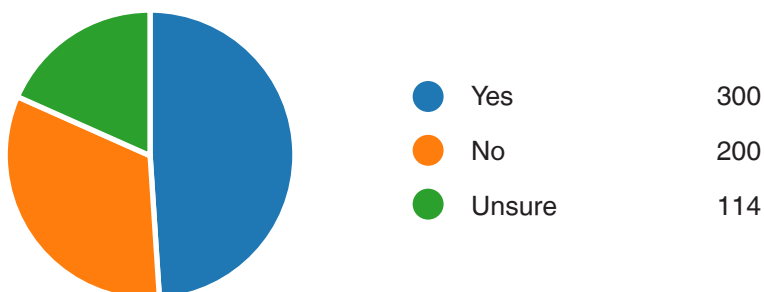
Other responses included:

- Movies
- Library
- University (including meeting rooms, library, Unibar)
- Gym
- Pub/ bar
- Glenelg
- Beach
- Pool
- Newton Central
- Church
- Youth group
- Bike riding, bike jumps, mountain biking
- Hiking/ walking
- Don't see friends outside school/ work (including not allowed to, talk on phone)
- Discord calls
- Video games
- Festivals/ fairs
- Birthday parties
- Trampoline parks

Have you ever felt unsafe in a public place?

Top responses:

- 37.8% of males responded 'Yes'
- 61.9% of females responded 'Yes'
- 78.95% of people who identified as LGBTIQ+ and responded to this question selected 'Yes' (noting this represents 19 responses).



Safety

What caused you to feel unsafe?

78.6% of respondents to this question mentioned people. Of those:

- 15.7% specifically referenced men/ a man
- 14% referred to aggressive or unwanted behaviour (including fighting, catcalling, yelling)
- Being watched/ stared at (8.5%)
- crowds/ crowded places/ too many people (8%)
- Intoxicated people – alcohol or drugs (8%)
- Being followed (5.1%)
- Fear of being kidnapped (2.6%)
- 1.3% specifically mentioned a woman

Other reasons given included:

- Location (city, public transport, public toilets, dirty, unclean or poorly lit places)
- Lighting (lack of lighting at nighttime)
- Time of day (most commonly night)
- Public transport
- Being alone/ no adults around
- Social anxiety
- Weapons (including knives, fear of school shootings)
- Discrimination (including racism and homophobia)

Quotes

“...drunk people in the city, they are VERY unpredictable.”

– Male, 14 years.

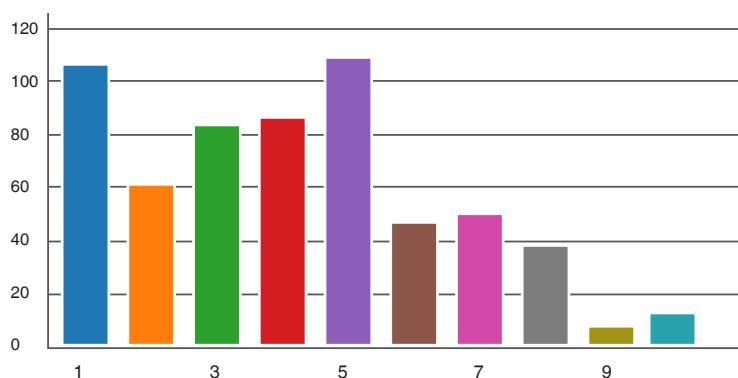
“I think as a woman it is easy when you are alone in public or out on a walk to feel unsafe when men are around. It is something we deal with on a daily basis unfortunately.”

– Female, 25 years.

How much do you feel you know about what council does?

1 = Very little, 10 = Quite a lot

4.16
Average Rating (out of 10)



Please name 3 things you think council is responsible for.

Around 15% of the 497 respondents to this question indicated that they did not know at all, and a number provided 1 or 2 examples only.

Top responses included:

- Parks (45.7%)
- Rubbish (32.4%)
- Roads (28.2%)
- Library (8%)

Other common responses:

- Animal management
- Building approvals
- Building community
- Cleaning up after storms
- Cleanliness of the area
- Community events and programs
- Decision making
- Environment
- Fines
- Footpaths
- Maintenance of trees, verges, fire risk reduction
- Making and enforcing laws
- Other Council infrastructure such as benches, community buildings
- Safety
- Sports clubs and facilities
- Traffic management

The responses indicated that the majority of respondents feel Council is generally responsible for the maintenance and cleanliness of the Council area and facilities.

Some of the responses that referred to actions that Council generally is not responsible for included:

- Fixing burst water mains
- Internet
- Public transport
- Renovating or building shopping centres etc.
- Schools/ education
- Sewer maintenance



Campbelltown: Likes and Dislikes

What do you like most about Campbelltown?

Approximately 40% of respondents referenced parks, open spaces and the natural environment.

Around 15% referred to the community and general feel of the area. Many described Campbelltown as nice, safe, peaceful and clean and that the people are friendly and close.

7.6% mentioned Campbelltown Library and 5.2% mentioned The ARC Campbelltown.

Other common responses included:

- Shops, cafes, restaurants and businesses
- School
- Friends living close by
- Sporting clubs
- Community events, youth groups, clubs

Quotes

"The shops that I can hang out with my friends."
– Male, 12 years

"The pointy light up tower." – Non-Binary, 12 years

"Clean and well presented. I love the library!"
– Female, 13 years

"I love the library and the staff there, after having a quick chat with one of the staff after they recommended me a book I have fallen back into the habit of reading which I am very grateful for."
– Female, 13 years

"I love all of the opportunities that it contains. It has many options with sport, shopping, jobs and a lot more. It provides a safe and joyful environment that I am very appreciative of." – Male, 13 years

"I like how people seem to be very friendly and like to take part in community events" – Female, 14 years

"The number of places that you can exercise and play sports." – Male, 14 years

"Clean and attractive streets." – Male, 17 years

"Lots of green areas, and large communities of migrants." – Male, 17 years

"Community-centred – feel like they are checking in on you." – Female, 19 years

"The presence of local nature in the area, especially in the foothills." – Female, 20 years

"I like the parks and ovals and walking trails, and I like that it generally feels like a fairly safe place."
– Female 22 years

"It's a beautiful place to be - lots of trees and green spaces." – Female, 24 years

"Lots of well maintained parks and bike lanes."
– Male, 24 years



What do you like LEAST about Campbelltown

Common responses included:

- Not enough places for teens or young adults
- Lack of entertainment options/ activities
- Urban infill and the flow-on effects including cutting down trees, street parking, traffic
- Maintenance of roads, footpaths, parks, sporting facilities and other Council infrastructure
- Traffic issues
- Public transport (buses)
- Introduction of cat by-laws
- Lack of advertising for events
- Graffiti/ litter
- Power outages
- School

Quotes

“Lack of big shopping centres within walking distance.”
– Female, 12 years

“Not enough places for teens to hang out.” – Male, 12 years

“The new living crisis where all of the houses are crammed into blocks and there aren’t large or any backyards which encourages kids to stay inside on their devices.” – Male, 13 years

“The playgrounds could be better, they could have more options for different ages.” – Female, 14 years

“Destroying bike tracks and jumps, making sure kids don’t ride their bikes.” – Male, 15 years

“Not a lot of places to go and hang out with friends at.”
– Female, 16 years

“It is not as interesting and expensive looking then other council areas.” – Female, 16 years

“No ‘hang out’ space for teens widely used. Usually either go to Tea Tree Gully, Park, Norwood or City.”
– Female, 17 years

“Not a lot of lights at night in the walking trails.”
– Female, 18 years

“I wish the Campbelltown library was open more...”
– Female, 19 years

“Too many cars on streets causing streets to become cluttered and hard to maneuver.” – Male, 22 years

“Not much to do for young adults. No entertainment for example Norwood and Tea tree Plaza have Cinemas. There is no place that has everything all in one.”
– Male, 23 years

“Not enough of an arts scene. We need performing arts spaces that are accessible and affordable for independent artists (many of whom are young people who want to work in their city).” – Male, 23 years

“The roads sometimes don’t feel suited for the amount of traffic we get.” – Female, 24 years

“Not much to draw people out. Though getting better.”
– Female, 24 years



Values and Future

What do you like MOST about being a young person?

Common responses included:

- Freedom
- Less responsibility
- Not having to pay bills, mortgage, taxes etc.
- Not having to work
- Spending time with friends, socialising
- Having fun
- Physical health and fitness
- Energy levels
- Opportunities, experiences, choices
- Participating in activities
- Learning
- Being able to make mistakes
- Having adults in their life who provide for, support them, set boundaries and manage responsibilities.

Quotes:

“Being able to spend more time with family and friends and being able to go out more and play sports, however the homework and assignments are a little bit pushing me to do this less” – Male, 12 years

“My joints aren’t crunchy and I can run for a long time” – Female, 13 years

“Not having to go to work, not worrying about financial things.” – Male, 13 years

“I like being able to go out with my friends without having to worry about adult things like finances and income because I am in a good family situation and can do most things freely.” – Female, 14 years

“I don’t have to work all the time and I have protection from my parents.” – Male, 14 years

“Getting a lot more freedom, and opportunities. If I’m lucky, older people will be a bit more understandable if I make a mistake.” – Female, 15 years

“I like that I have my whole future in front of me and I can dream and make plans. Also, that as a teenager I have some responsibilities and freedoms but I’m not completely responsible for myself and my clothes, food, shelter, etc.” – Female, 15 years

“Freedom and fitness, you have a free trial on life as a young person. You can develop much easier.” – Male, 15 years

“My ability to have freedom and an increased amount of responsibility however also being guided through life by my parents, friends and family.” – Female, 17 years

“Being able to do many youthful things and being in relatively good health.” – Female, 22 years

“I’m part of a generation that doesn’t make me feel ashamed of my sexuality, my thoughts concerning politics, or my skills and qualities.” – Male, 23 years



What do you like LEAST about being a young person?

Common themes:

- Not being taken seriously, not being listened to
- Being treated like a child, being looked down on
- Lack of money
- Not being able to drive
- Lack of freedom
- Having to gain permission to do things, feeling of being controlled
- School, homework
- Pressure / stress / expectations
- Financial stress (particularly for respondents aged 18+ years)

Quotes:

"Being treated differently because we are younger."

– Female, 12 years

"Being told that we have no stress. some young people with mental health concerns get ignored because of age."

– Male, 12 years

"People don't take me seriously or take my opinion on board. I also don't have as much freedom as I would like. others who are older think that they're much more superior to me." – Female, 13 years

"Not having much money to spend for myself and having to go to school instead of spending time preparing for the jobs I want to do." – Male, 13 years

"I hate feeling too young to do specific things but also too old to be a kid." – Female, 14 years

"Coming home to homework etc. after 7 hours at school which builds pressure with other after school activities" – Male, 14 years

"Fewer rights and obligated to dedicate a minimum of half of my waking hours to school." – Male, 15 years

"I can't get a job, no one wants to give me experience to get a job... all resources for neurodivergent people are for little kids, my generation is pressured to do something about climate change, I get sexualised just for being young." – Non-Binary, 16 years

"The stress of having to balance school, work, extra-curricular activities and hobbies." – Female, 17 years

"Not being taken seriously, being dismissed on the basis of my age without any recognition of what I am actually saying, decisions being made for me rather than by me." – Male, 17 years

"Extremely difficult to live independently (high rents, cost of living etc.)" – Male, 21 years

"As someone who is on the slighter higher age limit of a young person (22yo), I feel a lot of pressure from people to have my life figured out - career wise etc." – Female, 22 years

"Some older people don't listen to young people's opinions. My generation may not be able to afford a home." – Male, 23 years



What are the top issues young people are facing currently?

Most common responses:

- Mental Health (33%)
- Bullying (including cyberbullying, discrimination, abuse) (16%)
- Social media (11%)
- Stress (including school and homework pressures) (19%)
- Vaping (5.5%)
- Housing, being able to afford a home in the future
- Lack of autonomy
- Loneliness
- Relationships, developing friendships, social confidence
- Insecurities
- Identity
- Home environment
- Having a voice, being taken seriously, having a say in the future (politics, world issues etc.)
- Older generation's perception/ treatment of young people
- Financial stress, cost of living crisis
- Climate change
- Puberty
- School phone ban
- Laziness, motivation
- Physical health
- Peer pressure
- Parents (including pressure/ expectations, relationships, control)
- Addictions, drugs, alcohol, smoking
- Young people not having places they can go/ hang out
- Influence of Andrew Tate

Quotes

"I think the kids are scared to make friends."

– Female, 12 years

"Pressure to get a phone and social media, fitting in with friends, doing well in everything."

– Male, 12 years

"Social media and the pressures around that. Also body image which can greatly effect mental health of many." – Female, 13 years

"Their right to speak and have a voice in what is happening in parliament." – Male, 13 years

"Making GOOD friends." – Female, 14 years

"I think one of the top issues young people are currently facing is mental health issues. They can happen to anyone for all sorts of reasons. Lots of young people don't have support with their mental health because they feel completely alone and don't trust many people with knowing about their problems, don't have people they can talk to, or want to deal with it on their own." – Female, 14 years

"Teenagers all being painted with the same brush and being looked at negatively by the older generation." – Male, 14 years

"The future (housing crisis, inflation, jobs)"

– Male, 14 years

"...people assume all teenagers are the same (unresponsible, up to no good etc) whereas everyone is their own person and many are actually not misbehaving." – Male, 14 years

"That they are being persuaded wrongly by social media and that young kids aren't experiencing their childhood and being on screens instead."

– Female, 15 years

"Peer pressure to vape and take harmful substances."

– Male, 15 years

"I feel that many young people face many mental health problems; due to the growing online platform, stresses from school and surrounding environment. As well as up holding their level of maturity and grades in order to get into the now changing future (where jobs are being taken over by robots and AI)."

– Female, 16 years

"Pressure and dealing with issues previous generations have left for us." – Female, 16 years

"Finding their way in the current madness of the world. what to choose as a career and what culture and community to choose to be a part of."

– Male, 17 years

"Existential dread in the face of climate change and the lack of action being taken by governments to prevent it." – Female, 20 years

"Housing crisis, climate inaction, and affordable education." – Male, 23 years

"Housing. This is a great area but house prices are far too expensive." – Female, 24 years

What area(s) do you feel young people need more support in?

The top response to this question was Mental Health (43%) followed by School (24%).

Other common responses included:

- Stress
- Future planning
- Emotional development / dealing with emotions
- Adulting skills / how to live in the real world
- Job skills / getting a job
- Seek support / asking for help
- Sex education
- Identity
- Finance and money
- Transport
- Transition to adulthood
- Time management
- Having a voice
- Physical health
- Social media/ internet (staying off of social media, reducing screen time)
- Places to hang out/ recreate

Quotes

“Asking for help often, speaking about it more to trusted adults.” – Female, 12 years

“Kids nowadays just want to have more freedom so if somehow it became safe enough for kids to be able to have more freedom would be great” – Female, 12 years

“Feeling navigation and opening up about feelings to my friends and family” – Female, 12 years

“Mental health as people are doubting their ability and who they are as a person even though they don’t realise that being unique and different is good.”
– Female, 13 years

“With school especially when you just moved to high school.” – Female, 13 years

“For young people to feel safe... to call someone for help if they need it or stay safe with your needed ones.” – Male, 13 years

“More activities in community for teenage kids.”
– Male, 14 years

“Social places, a lot of young people have trouble going places as they feel they might be judged or unsafe” – Female, 15 years

“Living in the real world, learning to manage money and a household.” – Female, 16 years

“Actually being listened to and making the necessary changes. Inflation is my biggest worry and I doubt I will have a future if this continues.”
– Non-Binary, 16 years

“Extra resources on things like how to manage finance, how to live alone and life skills.”
– Female, 17 years

“Mental health. Work, school uni. Being over worked. And unable to work due to over studying etc. transport as well is terrible.” – Female, 18 years

“Study, pressure and stress. Transitioning from high school to university. It’s smooth sailing in high school, but I found starting at uni first year was an enormous step up and there were a lot of unanswered questions I learned the hard way.” – Female, 20 years

“Help in advocating for the things we believe in.”
– Female, 22 years

“Mental health services need to be more accessible, more financial support from the government during studying years - when I studied my first degree and was receiving youth allowance I was literally receiving \$23 a fortnight (during pre-covid times)... it was important for me to really focus on getting good grades and not dividing my time between work and study...” – Female, 22 years

“Finding secure housing and access to land release just for under 30 year olds.” – Female, 24 years

“Resilience/mental health (having more professionals so waiting lists are shorter), some kind of intergenerational program that links young people needing housing with older people in big houses they can’t look after on their own (which would help with housing/money/mental health).” – Female, 24 years

OTHER

If you could ask Council to do one thing, what would it be?

Common Responses:

- There were a number of general and specific issues raised which referenced improving infrastructure in the council area (for example improve the Glynde intersection, improvements to local sporting facilities, footpaths or road improvements on certain roads)
- Less in-fill
- Plant more trees / increase greenery
- Clean up areas
- More ovals, parks or public spaces
- More events, activities or programs
- Improvements at school (including removing the phone ban)
- Improving public transport
- Not destroy / remove bike jumps
- Improve access to mental health services (including cost, knowledge of how to access, education)

The following is a snippet of many different suggestions shared:

Quotes

“Get more cool books for kids my age and create a dog park I can take my dog to that is next to a cool playground that’s not babyish.” – Male, 12 years

“More support for the LGBTQIA+ community, mental health, self image.” – Male, 12 years

“Make more places for young people (teens) to hang out.” – Male, 12 years

“I would want the council to look into people’s (all students and people in the community) mental health annually.” – Female, 13 years

“Provide resources to help young people find help for example at libraries have posters or handouts to help people find phycologists or just someone to talk to.” – Female, 13 years

“Encourage more opportunities for young adults and teenagers to explore careers where ever that may lead to. For example providing more work opportunities other than umpiring sport.” – Male, 13 years

“Upgrade the skate park, add mountain bike oriented dirt jumps and a pump track.” – Male, 14 years

“Create more spaces for teenagers to hang out!” – Female, 15 years

“Free gym for teenagers and free badminton courts.” – Male, 15 years

“A small recreational site in Hectorville like a swimming pool or movie theatre.” – Male, 15 years

“Please redo a lot of the roads because some of them are so bumpy and there are so many potholes.” – Male, 16 years

“Generally would love for the council to be more public with what they do.” – Male, 16 years

“Hold more family friendly events and fundraisers to increase community engagement.” – Female, 17 years

“Maybe improve the bus system if they can.” – Female, 18 years

“Please have the library open longer, more 8pm closes and open more on weekends and a tea/coffee station would be great too. I would choose the library as my study spot if this was the case.” – Female, 19 years

“Put on more fun events directed for youth/ young adults (as most YAC events seam more aimed at children).” – Female, 19 years

“More study relief pack things haha I love them especially the handwritten letters.” – Female, 19 years

“Set up more of the autism speed friending sessions.” – Female, 20 years

“...I really enjoyed the Shrek in the park event that happened a while ago - I would love to see more events like this...maybe doing some events that are targeted more specifically towards 16-25yo.” – Female, 22 years

“Commit to work towards solving the housing crisis and take on board what young people say they need in that regard.” – Male, 23 years

“Thanks for all you already do and the ways you listen. Please continue to help us connect with the other generations around us because this will benefit everyone.” – Female, 24 years

Any final comments, concerns, thoughts, ideas or suggestions you would like to pass on to us?

The following is a snippet of some responses received:

Quotes

“Build bike jumps, there are not enough bike jumps.”
– Male, 12 years

“I want more shops that you could pass by with your friends after school once a week sort of like the Parade at Norwood.” – Non-Binary, 12 years

“I love the fact you’re giving us young people a chance to express our opinions and thoughts. I would love to see another one in the future as I enjoy completing them even if it doesn’t come with a reward. I love that you decided to pair up with our school for this as well.”
– Male, 13 years

“I think people won’t be able to pay for groceries or food soon because of the rise in prices for any simple thing.” – Female, 14 years

“There should be free period products in all bathrooms.” – Female, 14 years

“Do more for the struggling parts of the community.”
– Male, 15 years

“Make a bus route to the hills.” – Male, 15 years

“It’s good that a council is sending out a survey like this.” – Female, 16 years

“More public transport schedules/availability.”
– Female, 16 years

“Modernise the area :), examples to base off are Rose Park, Burnside, St Peters.” – Female, 16 years

“I enjoyed this survey as it gave me a place to voice my opinions.” – Female, 17 years

“Potentially grow the local community and bond people. Have more movies in the park or things like this.”
– Female, 19 years

“Grow the local library for more area to study.” – Female, 19 years

“Thank you for doing this survey.” – Female, 25 years

“Add more basketball courts.” – Male, 25 years



THANK YOU!

Campbelltown City Council and the Campbelltown Youth Advisory Committee would like to thank the 623 young people who took the time to complete the 2023 Campbelltown Youth Survey. Thank you also to our local schools, organisations and Community for their support in sharing the 2023 Campbelltown Youth Survey with young people.

The responses and feedback received has been invaluable and will help to shape the work that Campbelltown City Council, the Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) and Youth Crew does in the future.

For more information or to stay up to date, you can follow us on social media or get in touch:

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 www.facebook.com/CampbelltownYouth

 www.instagram.com/campbelltownyouth/

Reference list

ARACY (Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth)

www.aracy.org.au/the-nest-in-action/the-common-approach

Report Card 2018: The Wellbeing of Young Australians

www.aracy.org.au/documents/item/560

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www.campbelltown.sa.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0039/898644/Youth-Survey-Report-2020-V3.pdf

