



# Caithness & North Sutherland Safe Highlanders

## Evaluation Report

September 2018



## **1. INTRODUCTION**

The main objective of the Safe Highlanders is to educate children about all aspects of safety in a fun and enjoyable way. This is provided by eight minute sets designed to deliver safety messages to children.

The sets included in 2018 were:

- Fire Scotland - Fire Safety
- Maritime and Coastguard Agency – Water Safety
- SSEN – Electrical Safety
- Hi-Mats – First Aid
- Police Scotland – Road Safety
- High Life Highland – Internet Safety
- Youth Action Team – Drug and Alcohol Awareness
- SEPA – Environmental Safety

## **2. RESEARCH**

Primary research was undertaken by means of two questionnaires consisting of ranked, and open ended questions. Questionnaires were given out to pupils to evaluate the event, and teacher questionnaires evaluated how well they thought the event had run.

Questionnaires were completed after the event and handed back in relation to school area; this enabled a higher response rate with 221 pupils and 12 teachers completing a questionnaire.

The questionnaires from the 221 pupils (103 boys/118 girls) were collected, analysed and presented into charts representing the responses for each of the questions. The 12 teacher responses have been presented in tables, which highlight similar responses.

## **3. FINDINGS**

The findings found that most of the pupils enjoyed the event, with 96% of pupils finding the event good or very good, a 2.2% increase on 2017. Only 4% said they thought it was okay, down from 6.2% in 2017. Nobody said that they did not enjoy it.

Pupils appear to be significantly happier this year with Fire Safety, with significant improvements on last year. The Service introduced a “Hazard Room” which teachers said was a vast improvement. Road Safety, and the Drug and Alcohol set both continue to be very popular, with ratings of Good or Very Good reaching 97% and 95% respectively.

The Internet Safety set, which has been very popular for a number of years is now starting to show signs of needing an update, with 10% of pupils feeling that it was in most need of improvement. Feedback included that it could be more interactive. However, some feedback would be difficult to implement such as going into detail about specific websites.

Whilst Environment was generally well received, some felt that the interactive play mat wasn't suited to their age, and that an interactive activity better suited to their age would be preferable.

The majority of teachers found the event well organised and that they had plenty time to get everything in place. They found that the pupils overall highly enjoyed the event.

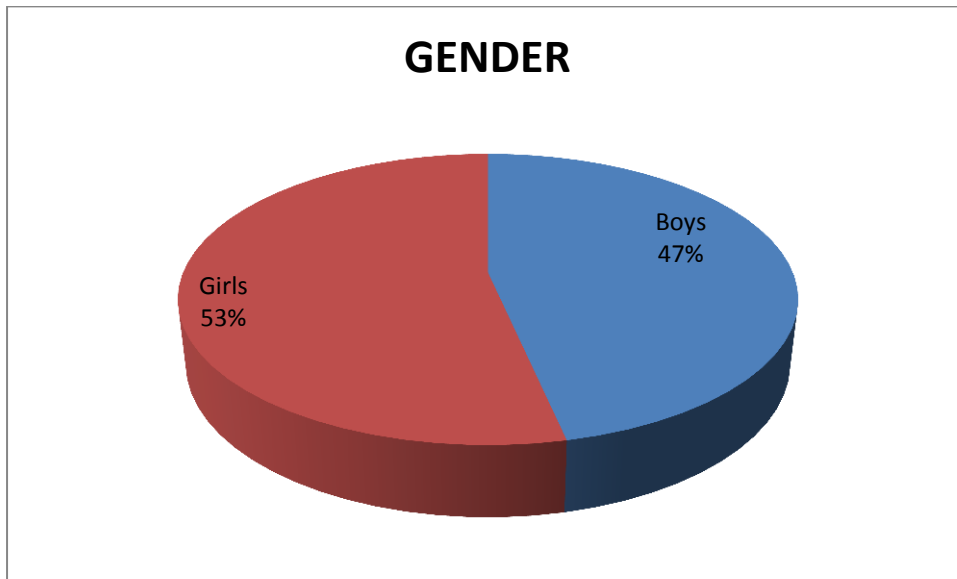
The issue of time did come up on a few teacher evaluations, though to a lesser extent compared to previous years. The event coordinator spoke to a number of teachers during the event to explain that extending to 10 minutes would push back the finish time of the afternoon sessions by over half an hour, which would in turn mean some pupils not making it back to school to catch their buses home. This appears to have improved their understanding of the decision to retain the 8 minute limit on sessions.

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

Overall the Safe Highlander 2018 event has been deemed as a success from pupils and teachers and that it has raised safety awareness amongst the school children who attended.

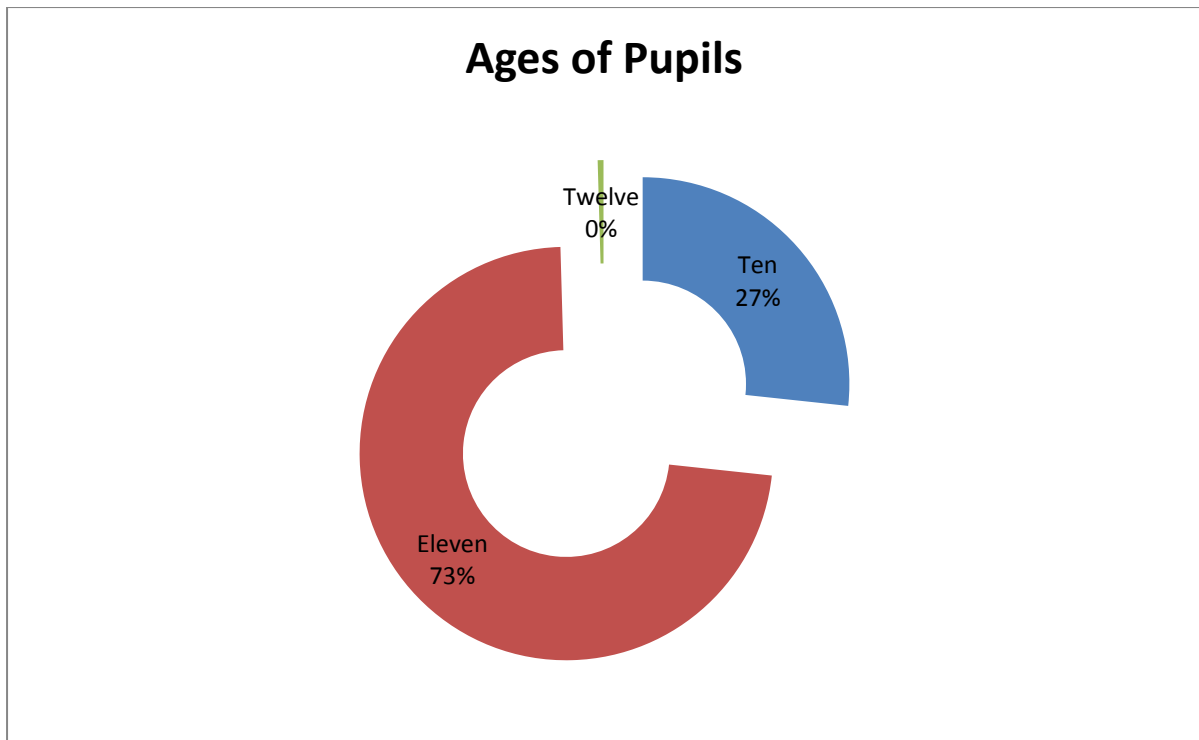
## GENDER

The gender split a slight increase of girls on the previous 2 years; 53% vs 47% boys.



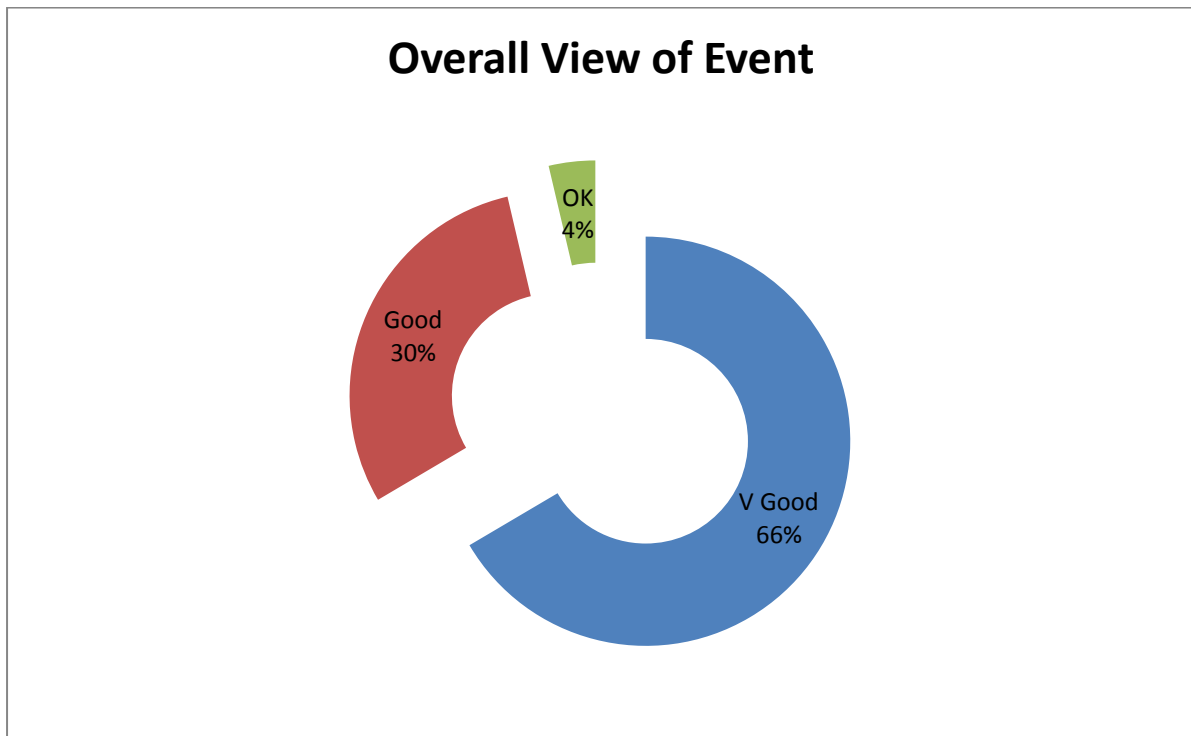
## AGE OF PUPILS

As expected for P7, most pupils were aged 11.

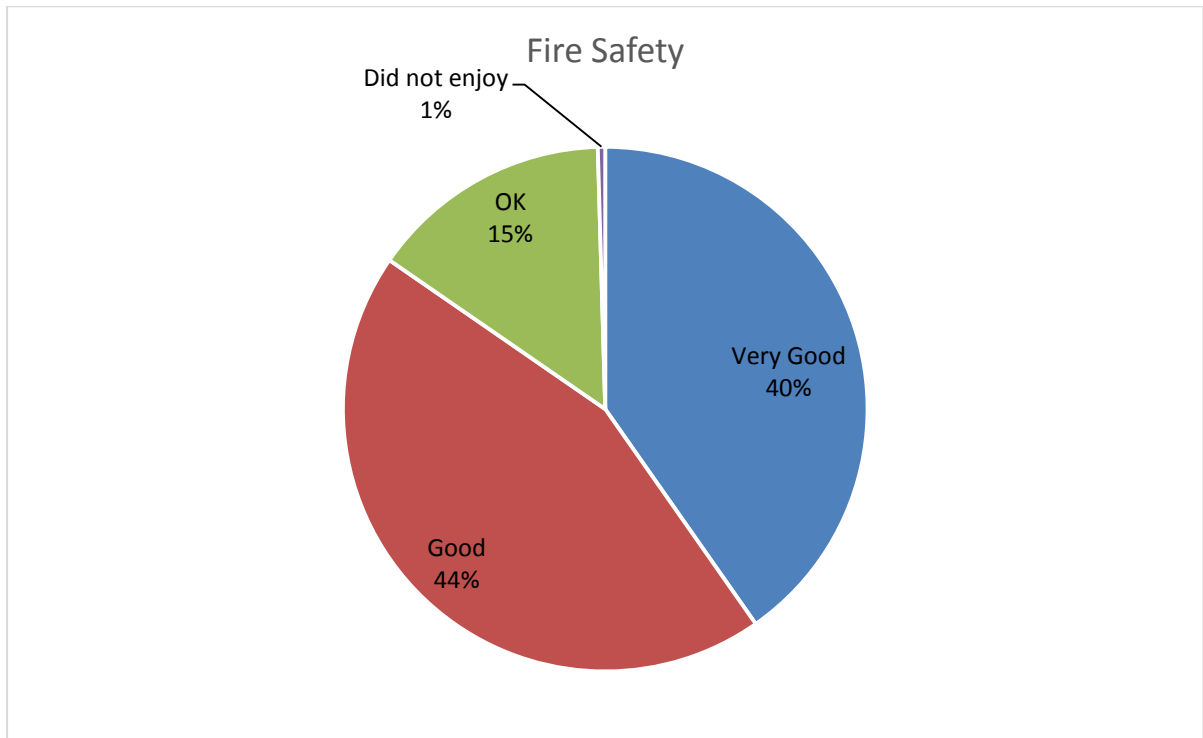


## OVERALL EVENT

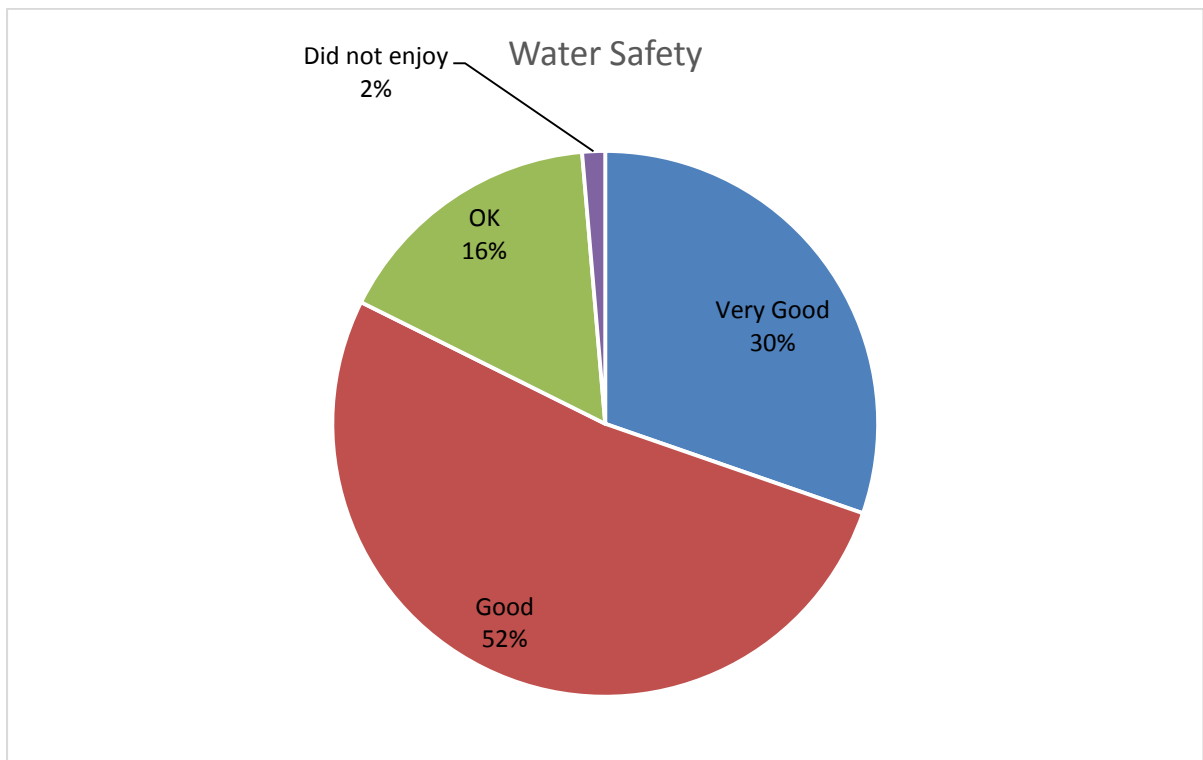
As can be seen from the chart below, 66% of pupils thought the event was “Very Good.” Only 4% thought that it was ok, (6% in 2017) and nobody said that they didn’t enjoy it. It is therefore clear that most pupils enjoyed the event.



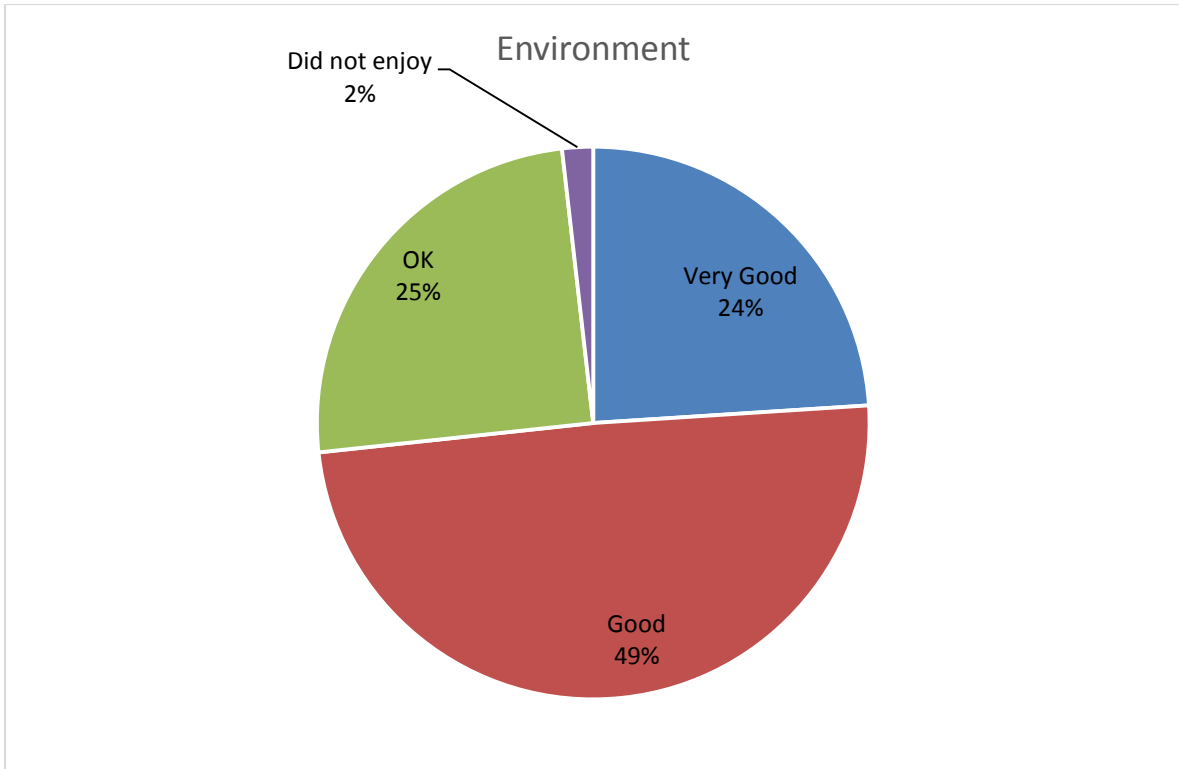
## THE SETS



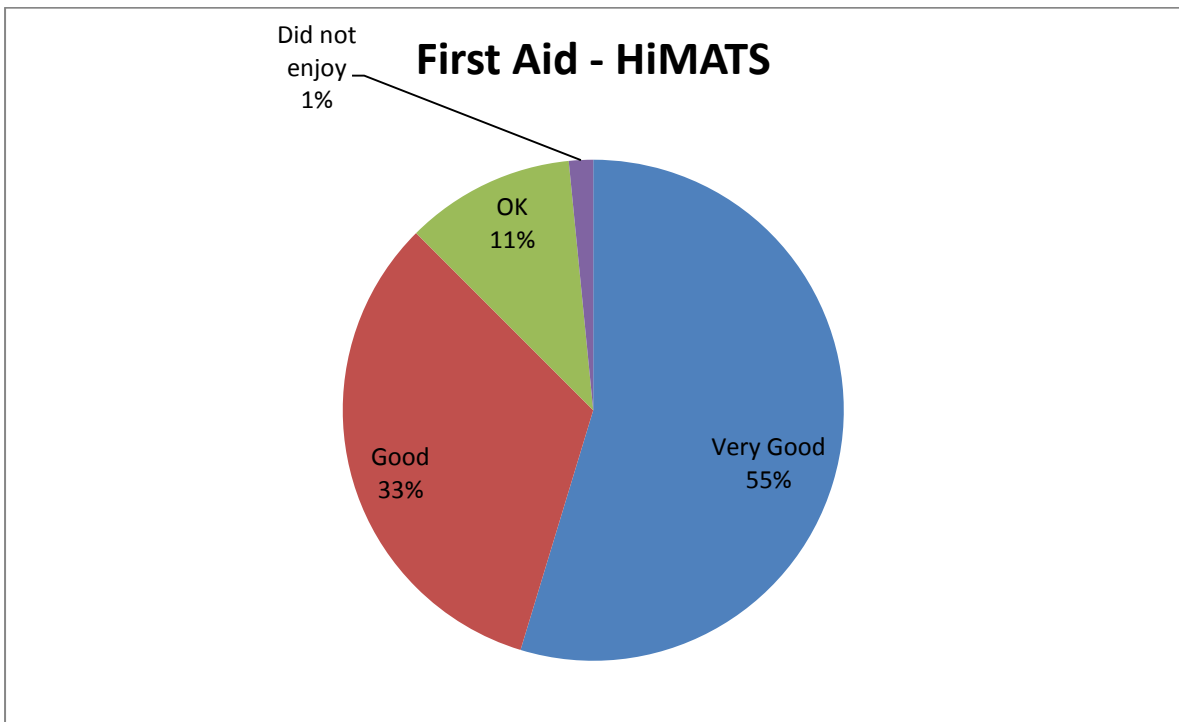
In response to feedback from 2017, a Hazard Room was created for Fire Safety. It was clearly the most improved, with 40% rating it as "Very Good" compared to 31% last year.



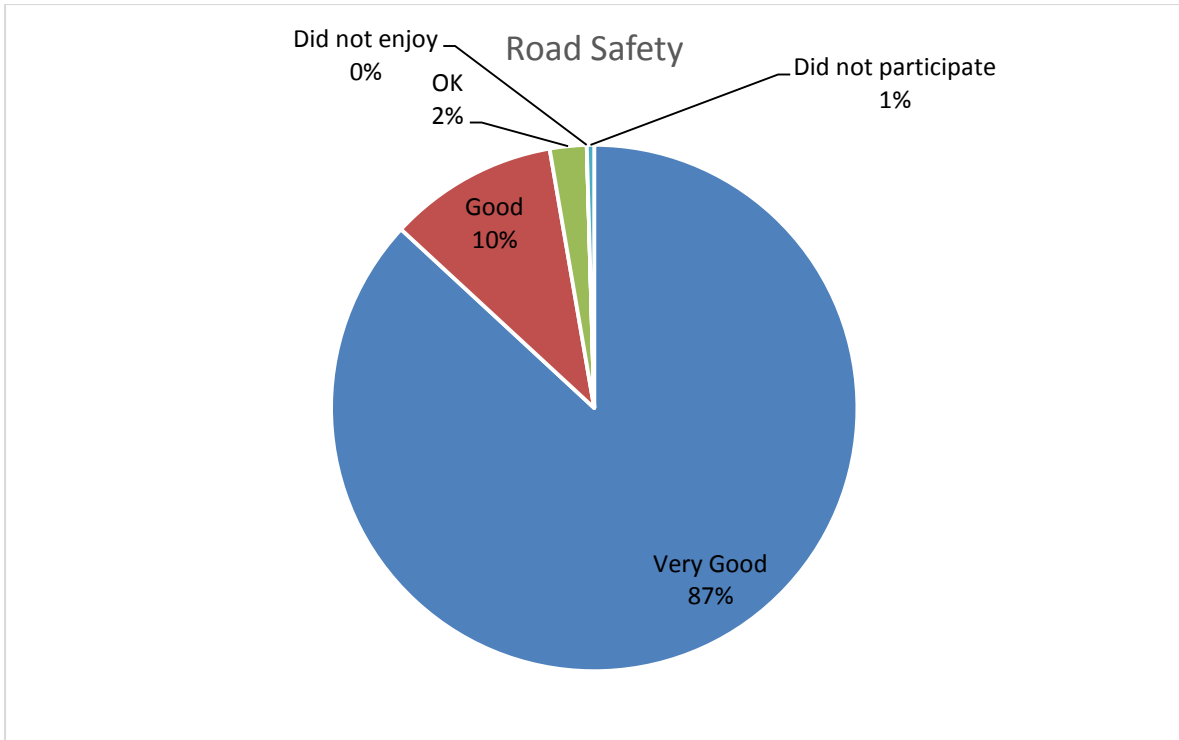
Generally a popular set, though a couple of pupils commented that they felt the session was a little rushed.



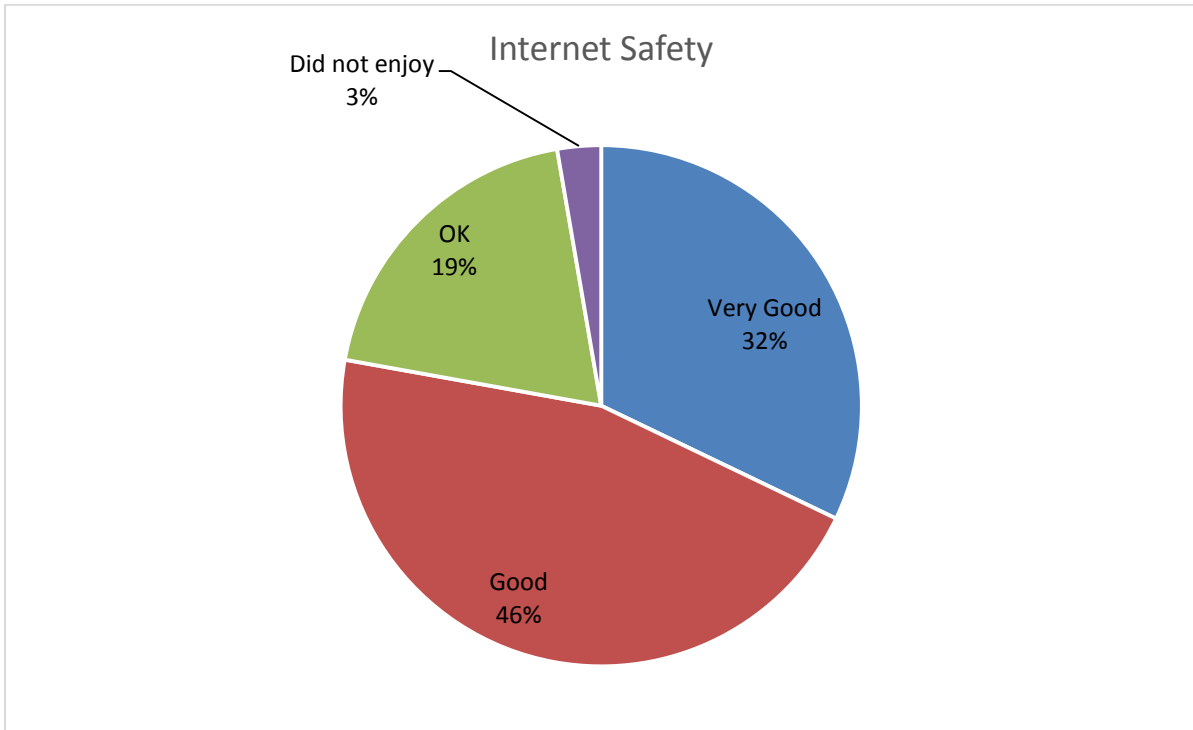
The Environment set by SEPA was rated similarly to last year. Some pupils felt that it could have been a little bit more exciting.



As with last year, First Aid was very popular and many commented on how relevant they felt it was. 88% felt it was Good or Very Good both years. The criticism of time allowance appears to most affect this set.

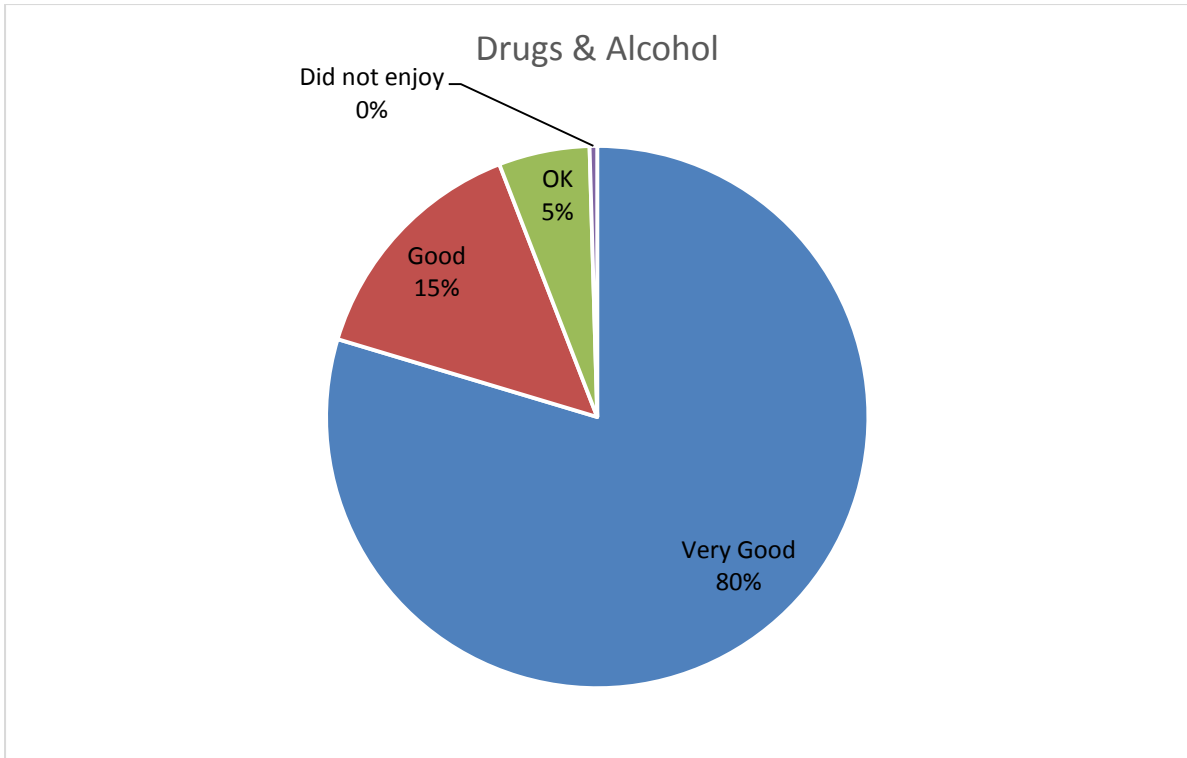


Once again, Road Safety was the most popular set with 97% rating it Good or Very Good – exactly the same as last year, and the one that most said had the greatest impression on them.

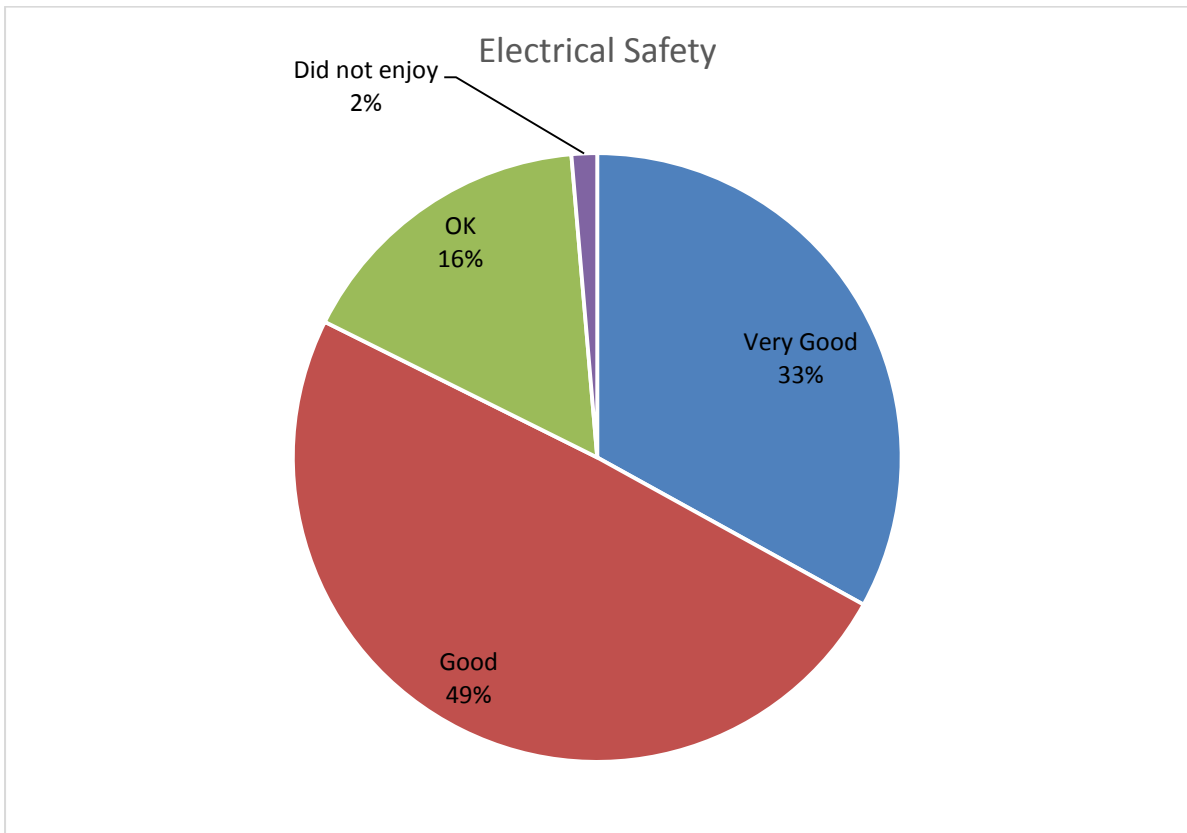


Internet Safety is now beginning to show signs that it is in need of a refresh. Its popularity in terms of Good and Very Good ratings has dropped from 88% to 78%. Pupils felt that it could be more interactive.

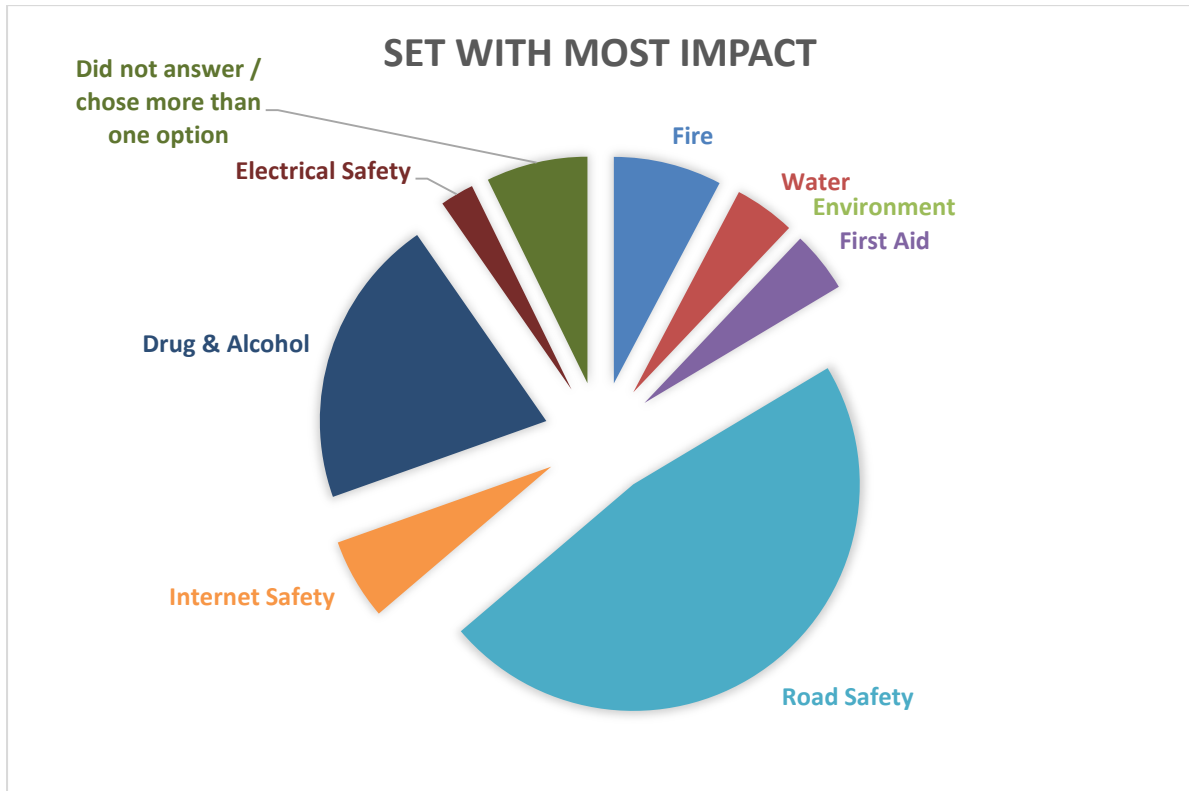




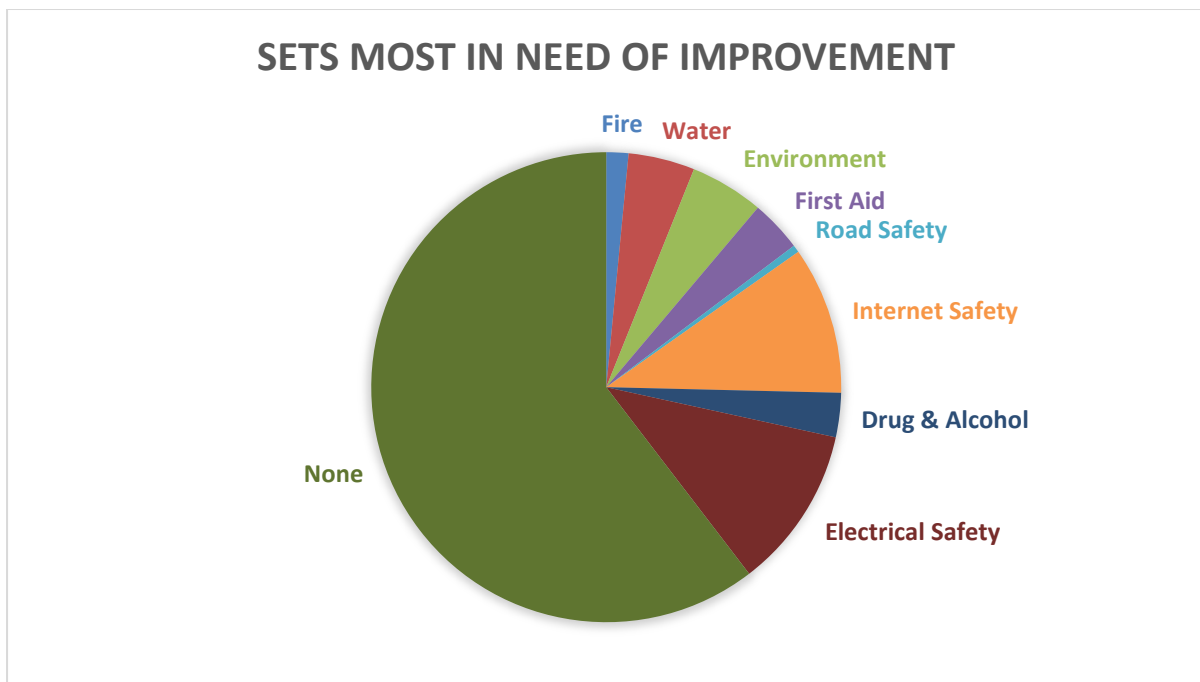
Second only to Road Safety, 95% of pupils rated the Drug & Alcohol set as Good or Very Good. One pupil did however comment that not everyone got a turn at all of the activities.



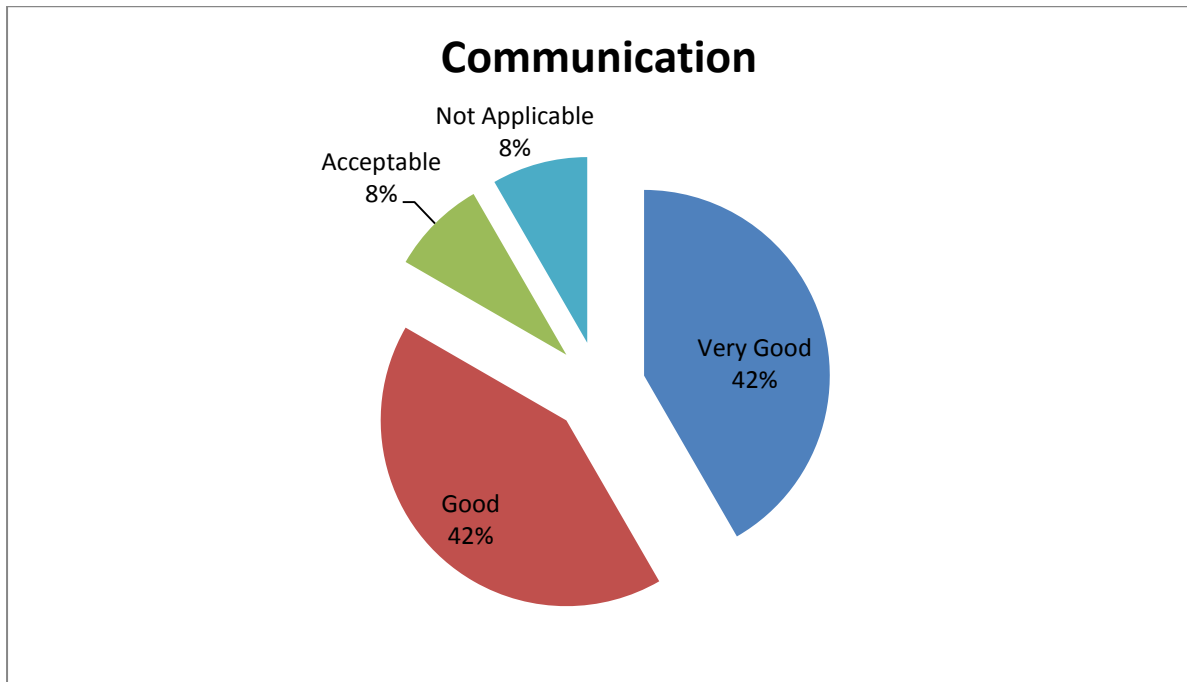
Most young people enjoyed watching the video with SSEN. As with last year, a few commented on feeling uncomfortable watching the video, whilst some others felt it could have been more interactive.



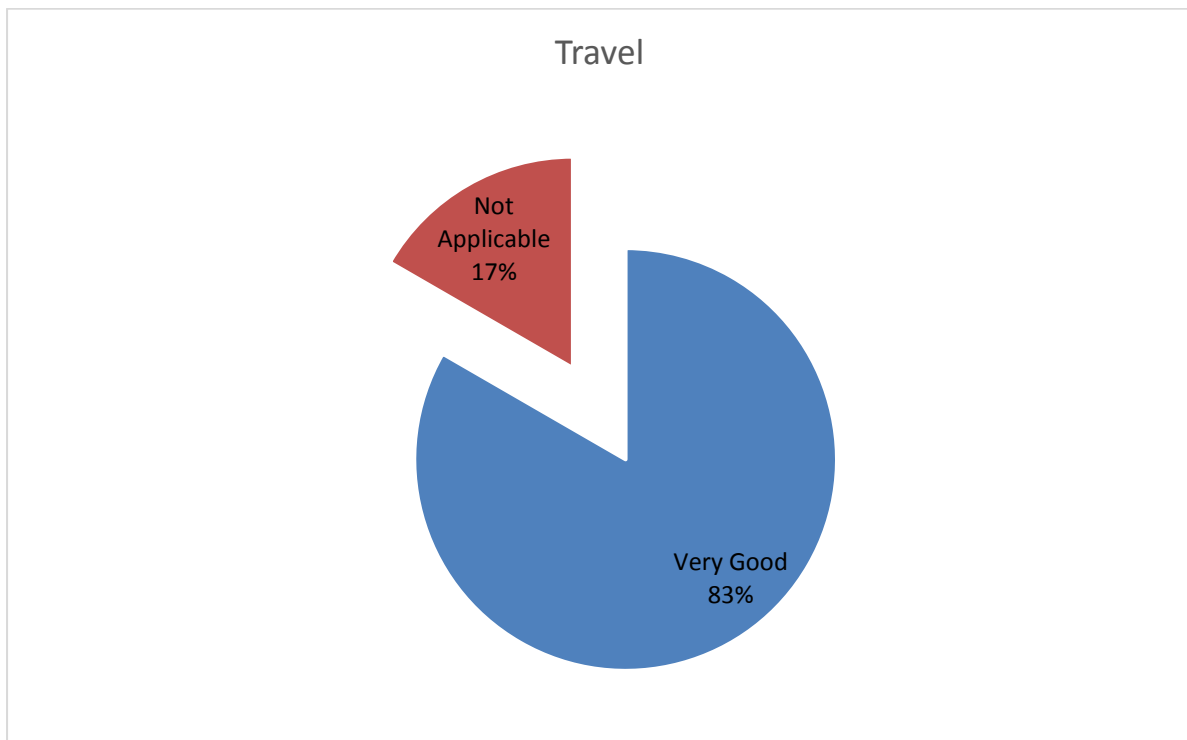
As was the case in 2017, Road Safety clearly had the greatest impression due to the dramatic car & dummy staged accident, with Drug & Alcohol Awareness following. Nobody rated Environment as having the greatest impact, feedback elsewhere in the questionnaire indicated that pupils would have liked more excitement from the set suitable to their age range. 60% said that there was no improvement needed to the sets.



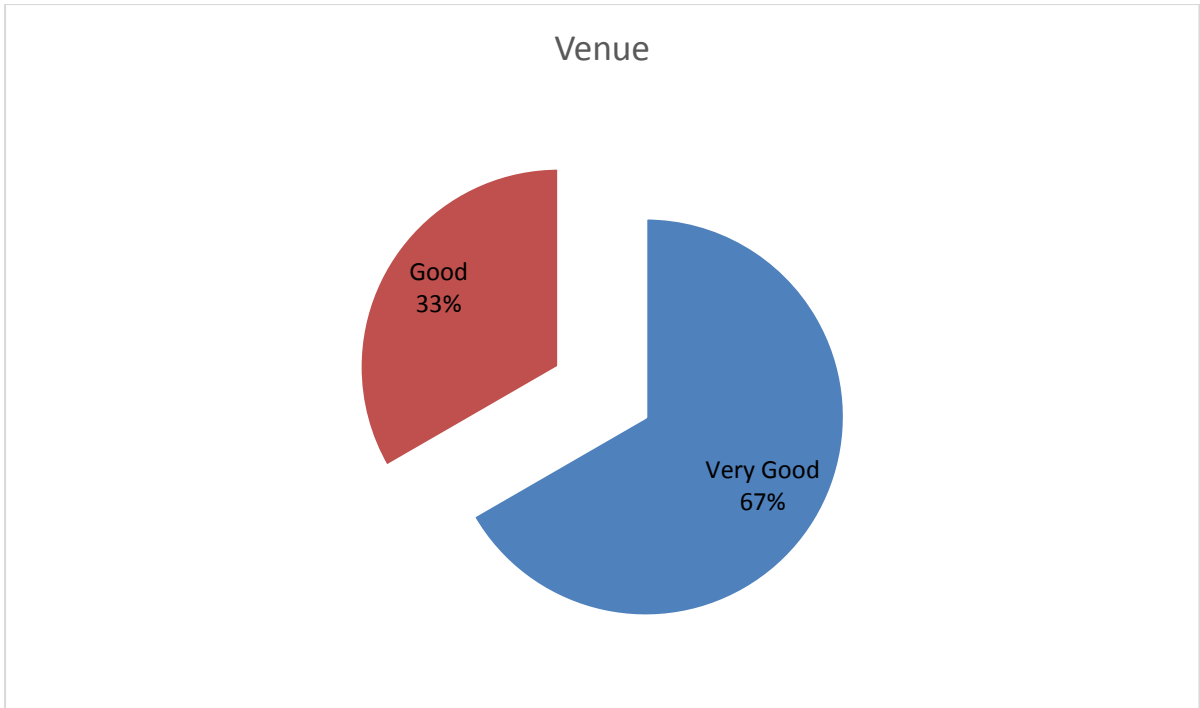
## APPENDIX 2 – TEACHER RESPONSES



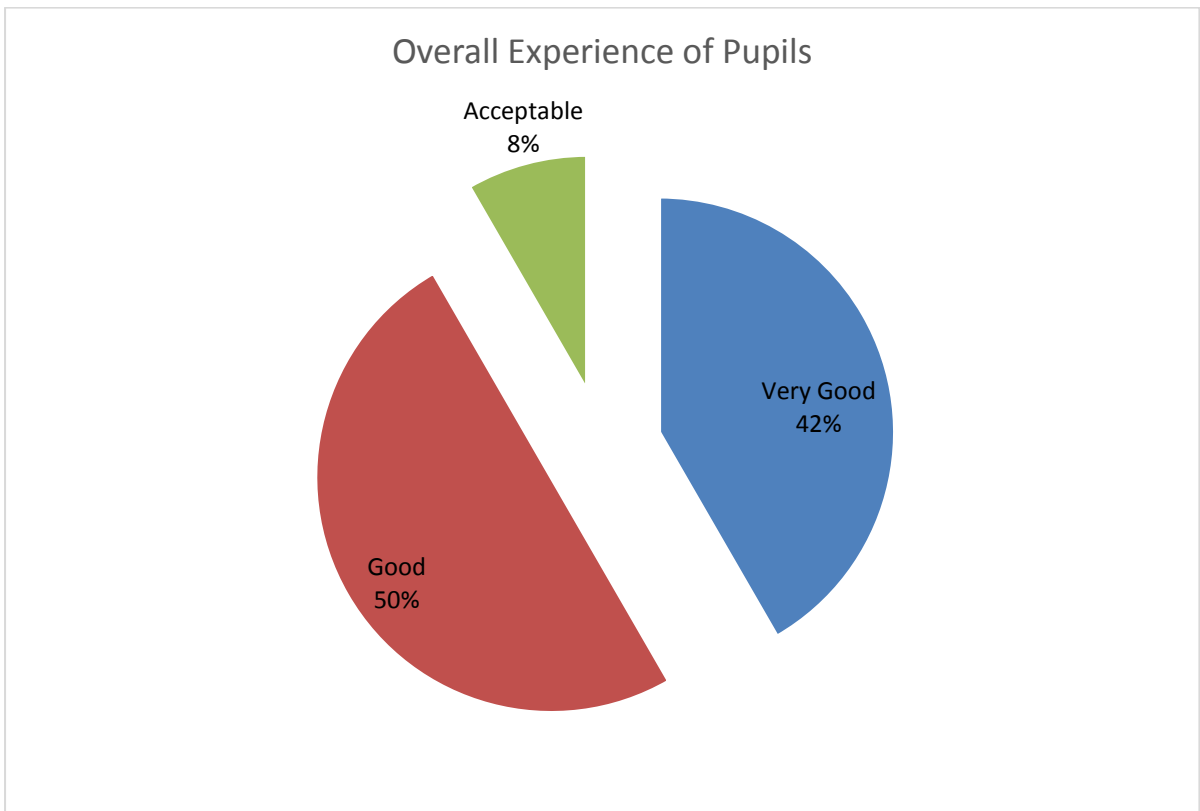
The majority of schools found that plenty of notice was given, and that communication was well managed.



All schools in receipt of transport rated it as Very Good. Newton Park and Noss walked.

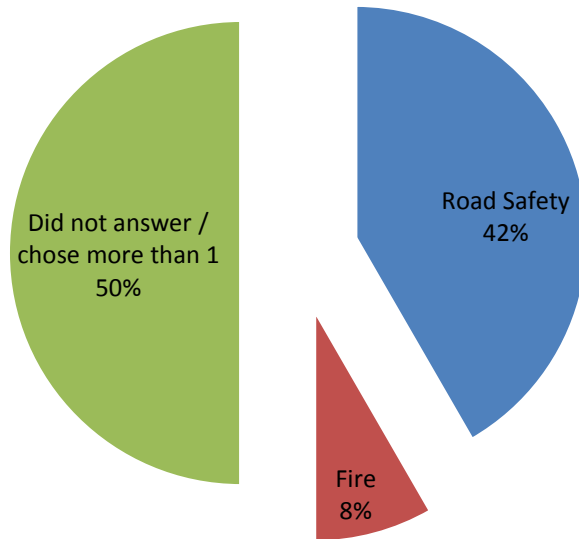


All teachers found that Wick Assembly Rooms to be either good or very good. Consideration will need to be given in 2019 to a wheelchair user from Pennyland Primary.



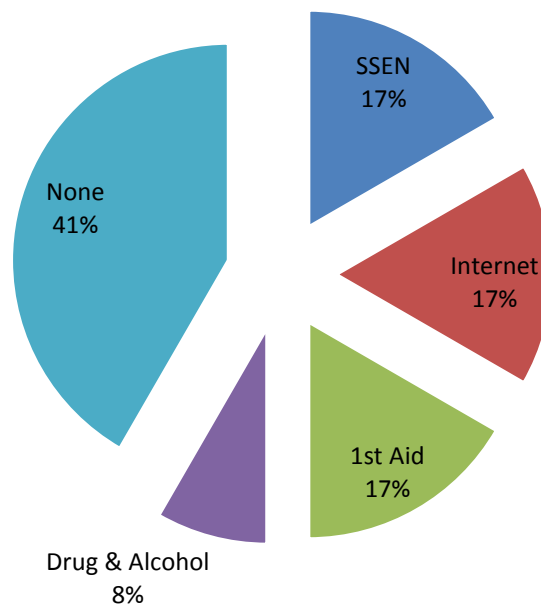
Most teachers felt that the overall experience for pupils was a positive one. Feedback given in previous years about session times was a lesser issue (albeit not completely eliminated) as the event coordinator spoke to as many teachers as possible to explain why time was set to 8 minutes (to avoid issues for pupils getting back to school in time for buses home).

### Set with the most impression



Most teachers felt that Road Safety had a significant impact. Many did however choose multiple other sets in addition to this, indicating that the question may need re-wording next year to get a clearer view. Teacher feedback as regards improvement reflected the pupils in that Internet Safety is now in need of a refresh. First Aid feedback was due to time, which can't be changed.

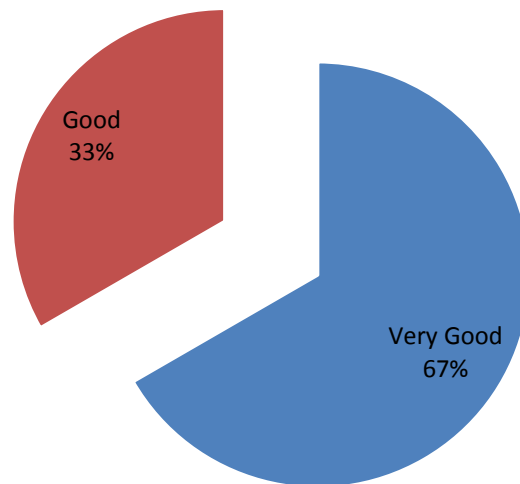
### Sets in need of improvement



All teachers found the event worthwhile to their pupils. See comments below:

- Must be difficult to cram so much in
- This is the highlight of the pupils' year
- Great improvements of Fire Safety

### How worthwhile was pupil experience?



Teachers found the sets appropriate to the theme of "Safe Highlanders." Further comments:

- Safe Highlanders is relevant to everyday life
- Please re-introduce the "Bogus Photographer."
- Farm Safety would be a good addition to the North.

### How appropriate were the scenarios?

