



Preparing for Adulthood Parent/Carer Survey

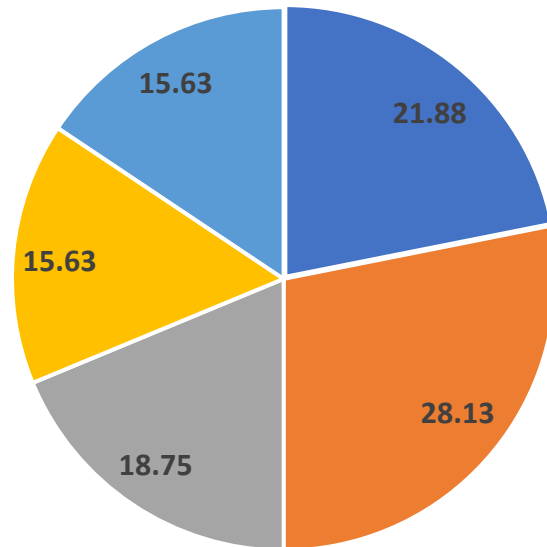
Spring/Summer 2022

Introduction

- The Bexley Voice Preparing for Adulthood survey is targeted at parents and carers of young people aged 14-20 years who live in and/or attend (attended) school in the London Borough of Bexley and who have/had either an EHCP or are/were identified as SEN.
- The purpose of the survey is to collate the views of parents and carers on the Preparing for Adulthood process in Bexley including their personal experience, how it works in practice, their level of knowledge, and their confidence and satisfaction in the PFA process.
- The first survey was undertaken in 2020. It provided a benchmark against which to measure future movements in responses and to measure progress against the key areas for improvement identified from the survey and incorporated into the Bexley PfA Strategy Action Plan.
- The 2021 survey did not generate sufficient responses to be able to draw any meaningful insights.
- The number of respondents to the 2022 survey is comparable to the 2020 survey and is a good representation of Bexley Voice parents and carers in the target population. Therefore, we are confident that the findings are statistically meaningful.
- The survey consisted of 10 questions and was open from April to the end of July 2022.
- All responses are anonymous and respondents' children and young people cannot be identified.
- The majority of respondents (c87.5%) were parents/carers of young people who have or had an EHCP.
- It is proposed to repeat the survey again in 2023.

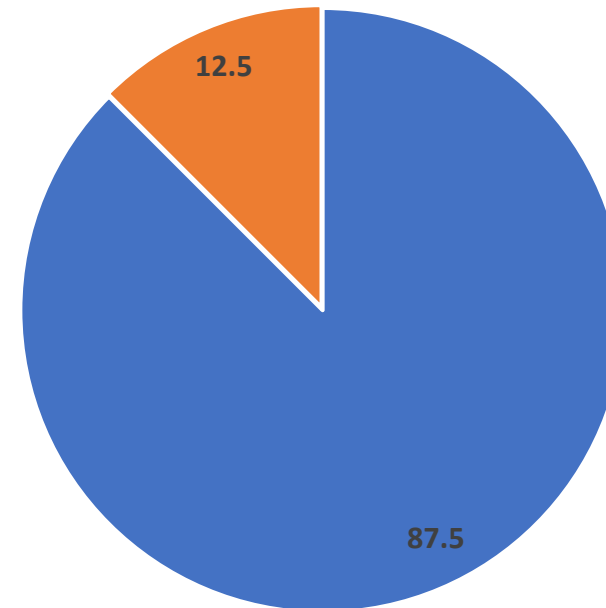
Summary of Respondents

Ages of Children/Young People



■ 13-14 ■ 15-16 ■ 17-18 ■ 19-20 ■ 20-21

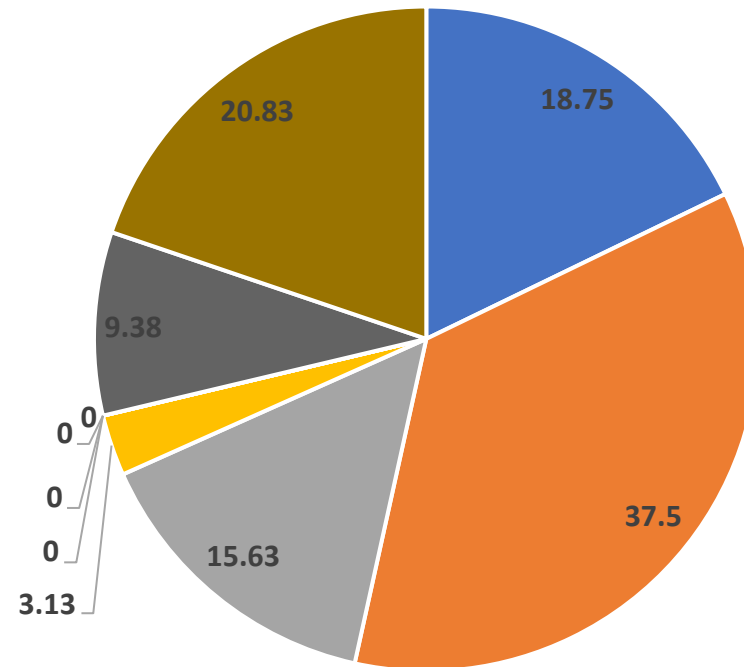
EHCP Status



■ EHCP ■ No EHCP

Summary of Respondents

Current Situation



- Mainstream
- Special
- FE and Training
- Home Ed
- Apprenticeship
- Supported Int
- Volunteer
- Employed
- NEET
- Other

Summary of Key Findings

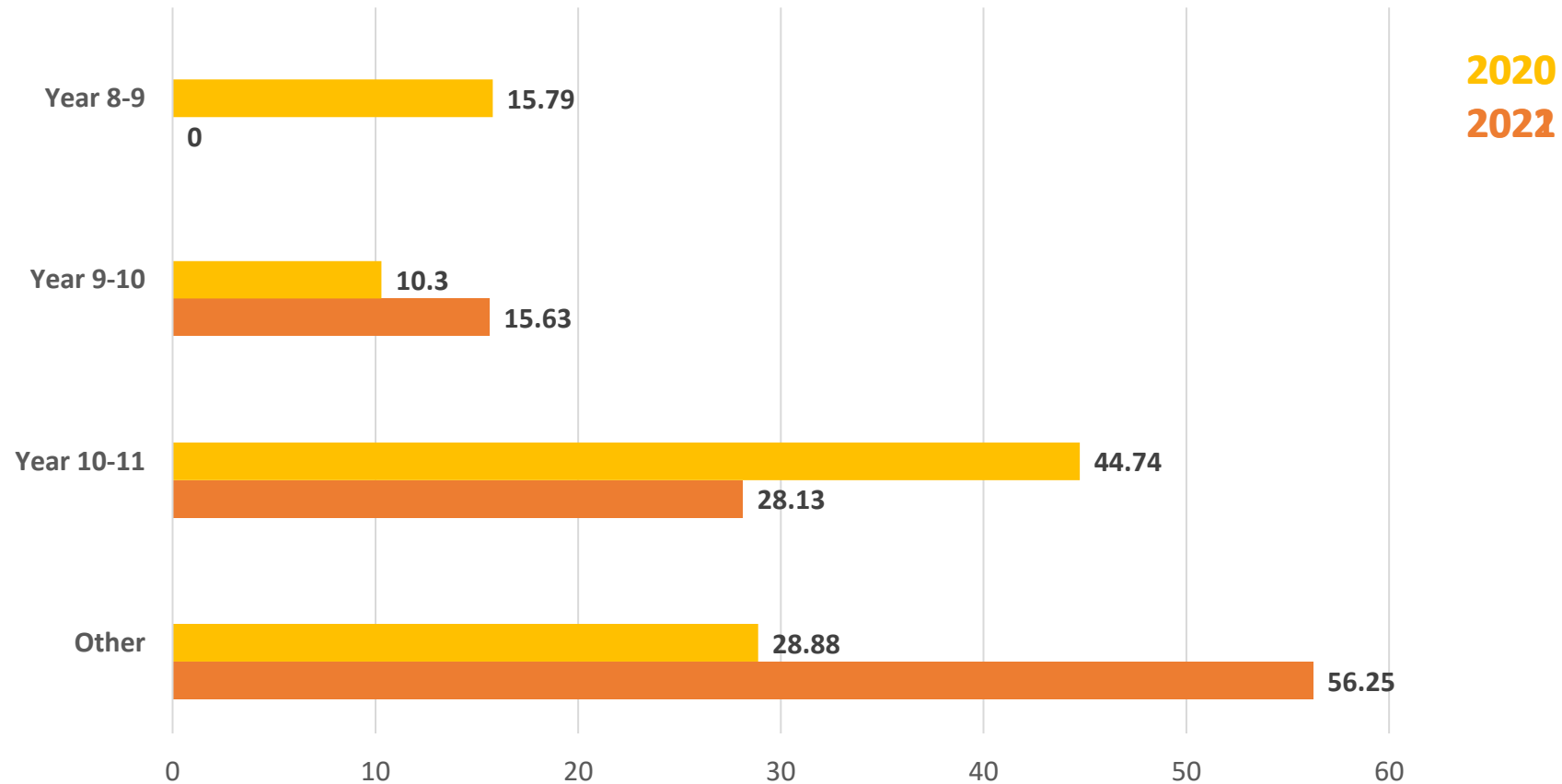
- Preparing for Adulthood (PfA) continues to be included in EHCPs for the majority for the first time in Years 10-11, not in Years 9-10 as would be expected. However, there is a slight increase in the percentage of cases where they are included in Years 9-10 compared to 2020. 0% were included in Years 8-9 in 2022 (15.79% in 2020).
- The percentage of respondents who reported that PfA was not included or discussed at all, or who had no awareness of the process, has almost doubled since 2020.
- Compared to 2020, there is very little change in levels of familiarity with the PfA process and pathways in Years 8-9. The majority of parents/carers are/were not familiar with the PfA process or the pathways available.
- The majority of parents/carers (90.3%) were not confident about the process at the outset.
- It remains the case that, for the majority, information about PfA is obtained from sources other than professionals in schools or the LA. The results show that Bexley Voice, parent/carer research or information from other parents/carers are the main sources of information. The percentage of respondents obtaining information from SENCO's/schools has declined compared to 2020.
- The Local Offer remains an under-utilised resource by parents/carers of young people going through the PfA process.

Summary of Key Findings

- Parents/carers again indicated that they found that Bexley Voice and other parents/carers were the most helpful in the PfA process. Only a small number found Bexley (CWD team/PfA team/Local Offer) most helpful.
- Since 2020, the percentage of parents/carers who found SENCOs/schools most helpful almost halved.
- Satisfaction levels with the PfA process for young people of all ages remains very low:
 - 36.84% of parents/carers of 14-18 year olds are satisfied with the process to date, a small increase from 2020 (c29%). However, the percentage of respondents who are very dissatisfied increased compared to 2020.
 - 16.67% of parents/carers of 19-21 year olds agreed with the statement; 'Transition into adulthood for my young person has been successful' (up from 0% in 2020). However, those who strongly disagreed with the statement more than doubled from 2020.

Responses

Q1 In which school year were the Preparing for Adulthood outcomes first included in your young person's EHCP (if they had one)?



Parent/Carer Comments

Not done/ Never/
Not done as yet
x 5
(EHCP and SEN)

They weren't done
despite having an
EHCP and an annual
review

My daughter is in
Year 10 – had no
PfA discussions
(Mainstream)

She's 18 and not
been included
yet. Have
requested
following advice.

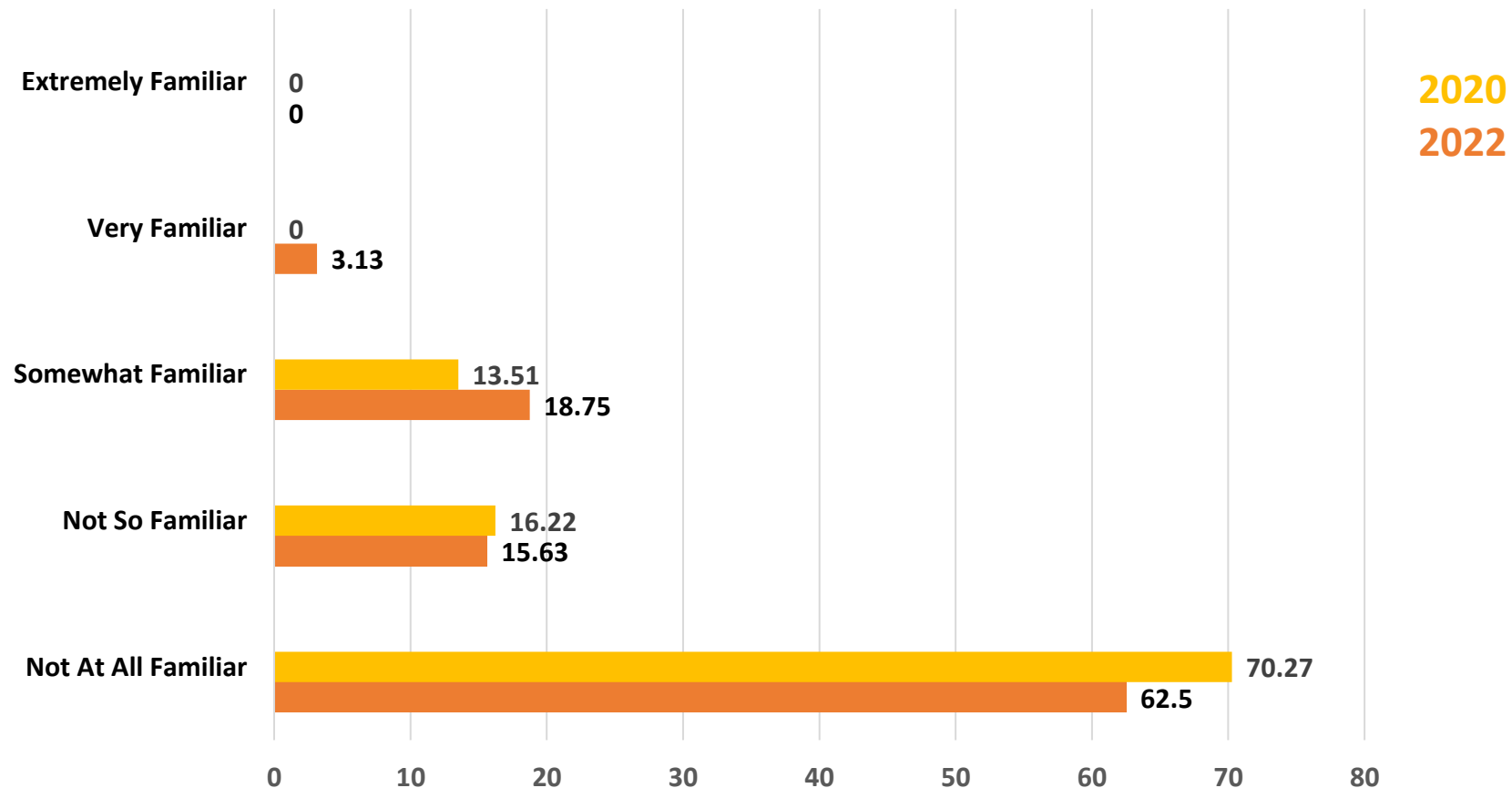
Never been
mentioned

Haven't had it yet and we
are coming up to the end of
year 9
(Special School)

Not heard about
PfA
(No EHCP in
Mainstream)

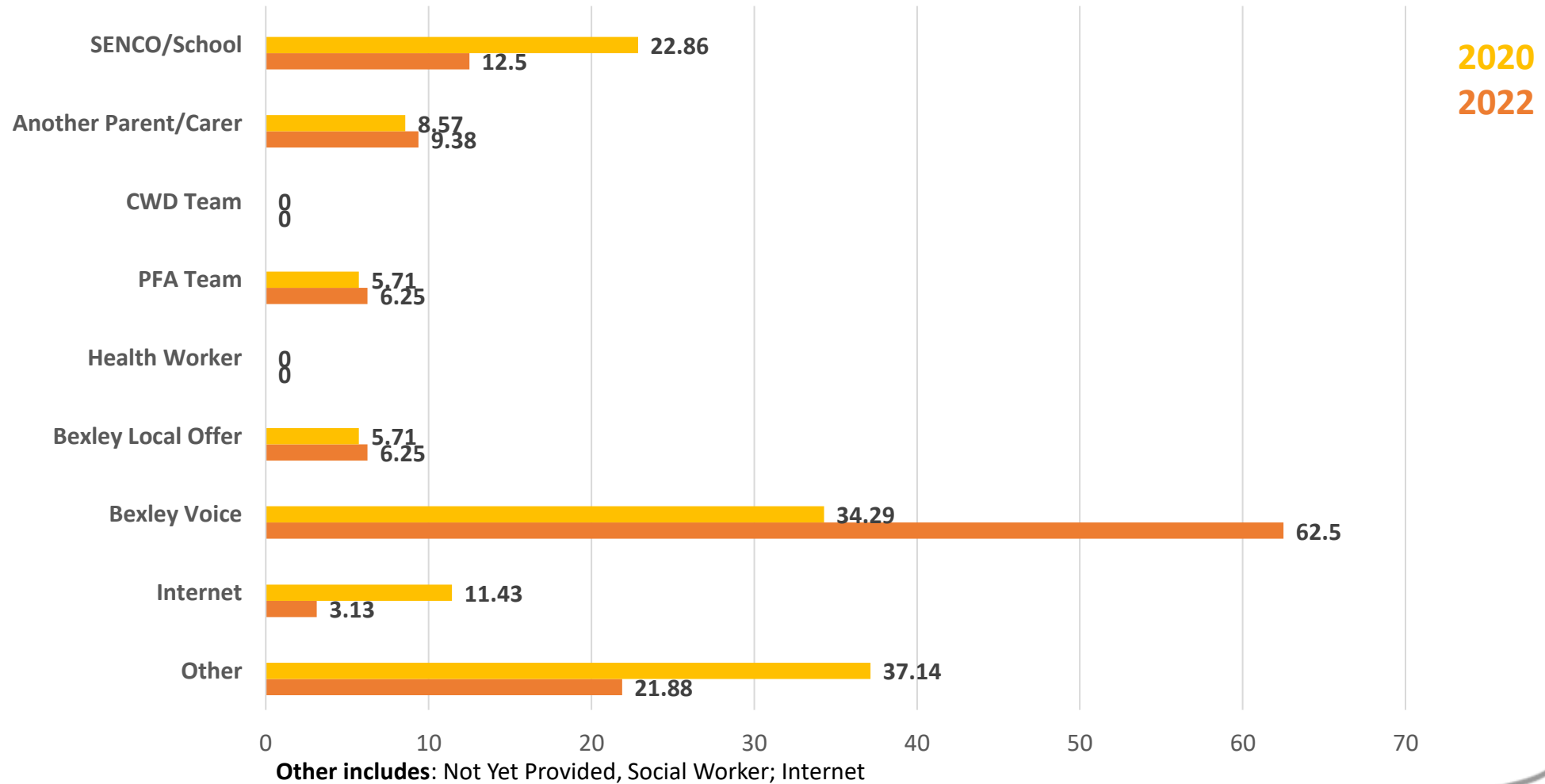
Responses

Q2 How familiar were you with the Preparing for Adulthood Process and the pathways available to your young person when they were in Year 8/9?



Responses

Q3 Where did you get information from about Preparing for Adulthood? Tick all that apply.



Parent/Carer Comments

Found out about PfA
myself

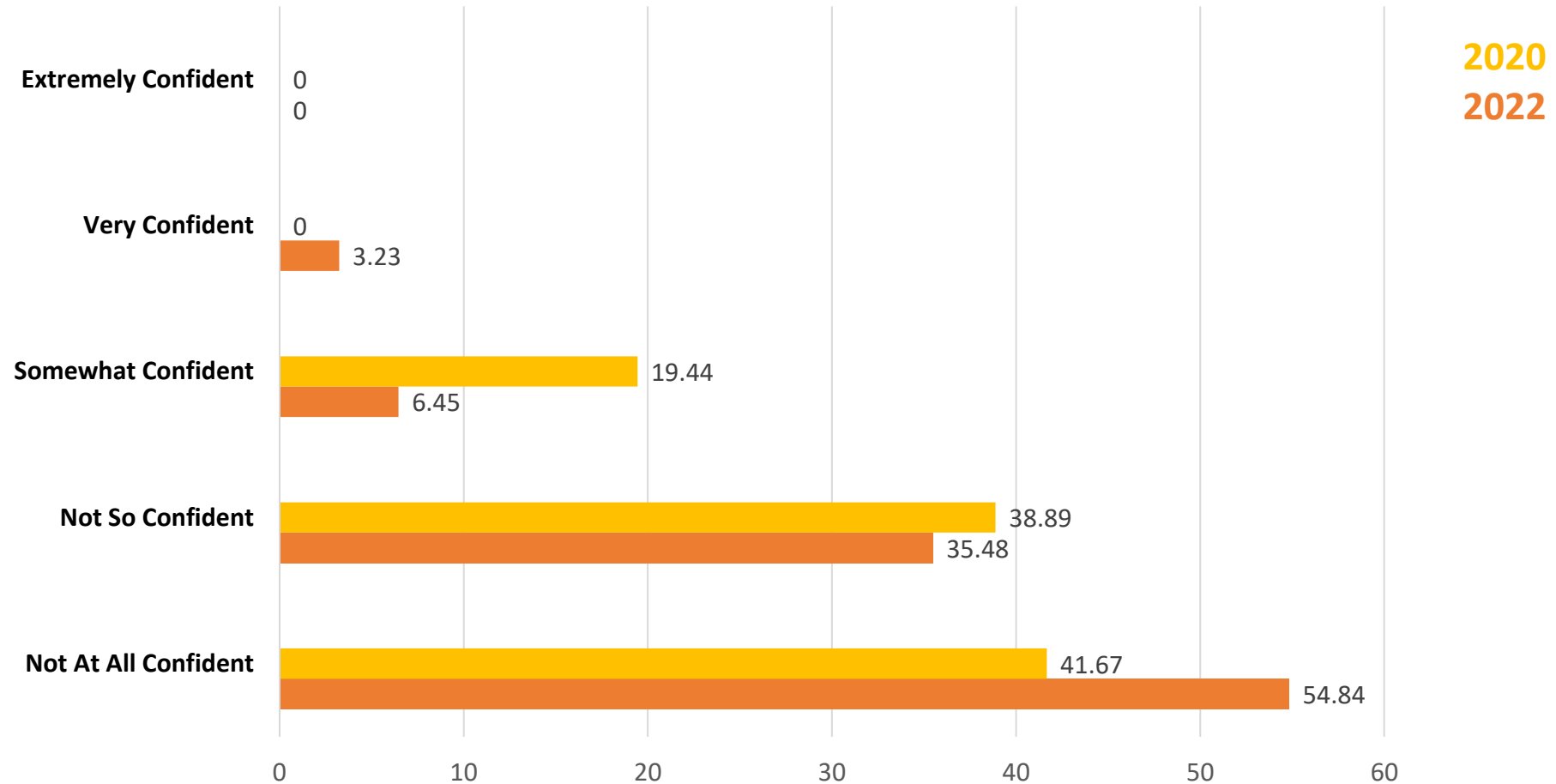
Not had any information
X4
(2x Mainstream, 1x
Special School)

Bexley Council
E-Newsletter
(Special School)

Hall Place Conference
September 2021
(Special School)

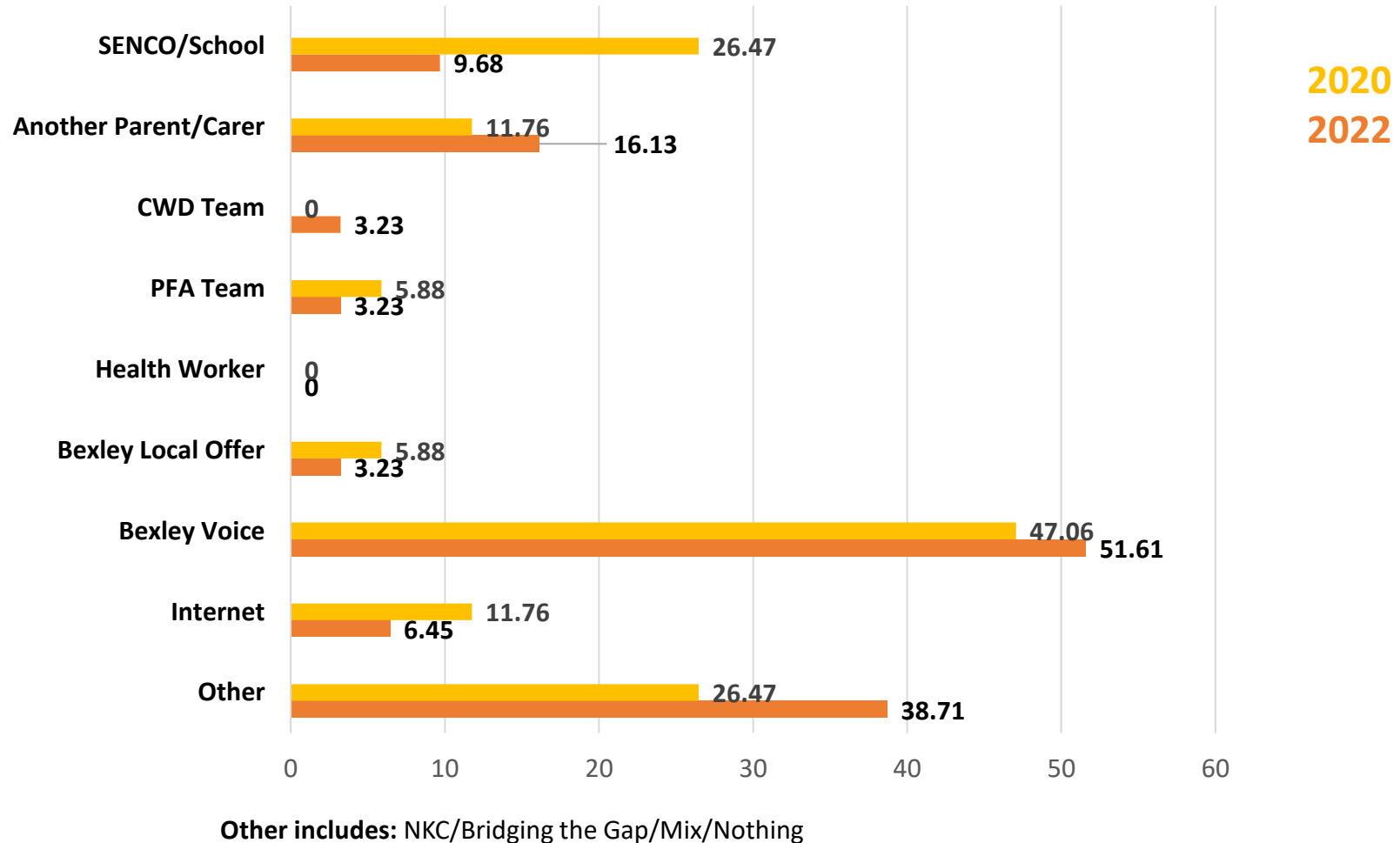
Responses

Q4 How confident did you feel at the outset of the Preparing for Adulthood process?



Responses

Q5 Which of the following have been most helpful or supportive to you during the process? Tick all that apply.



Parent/Carer Comments

Not had any contact or information x2 (Special School)

North Kent College

No one. Promised assessment but nothing happened (Special School)

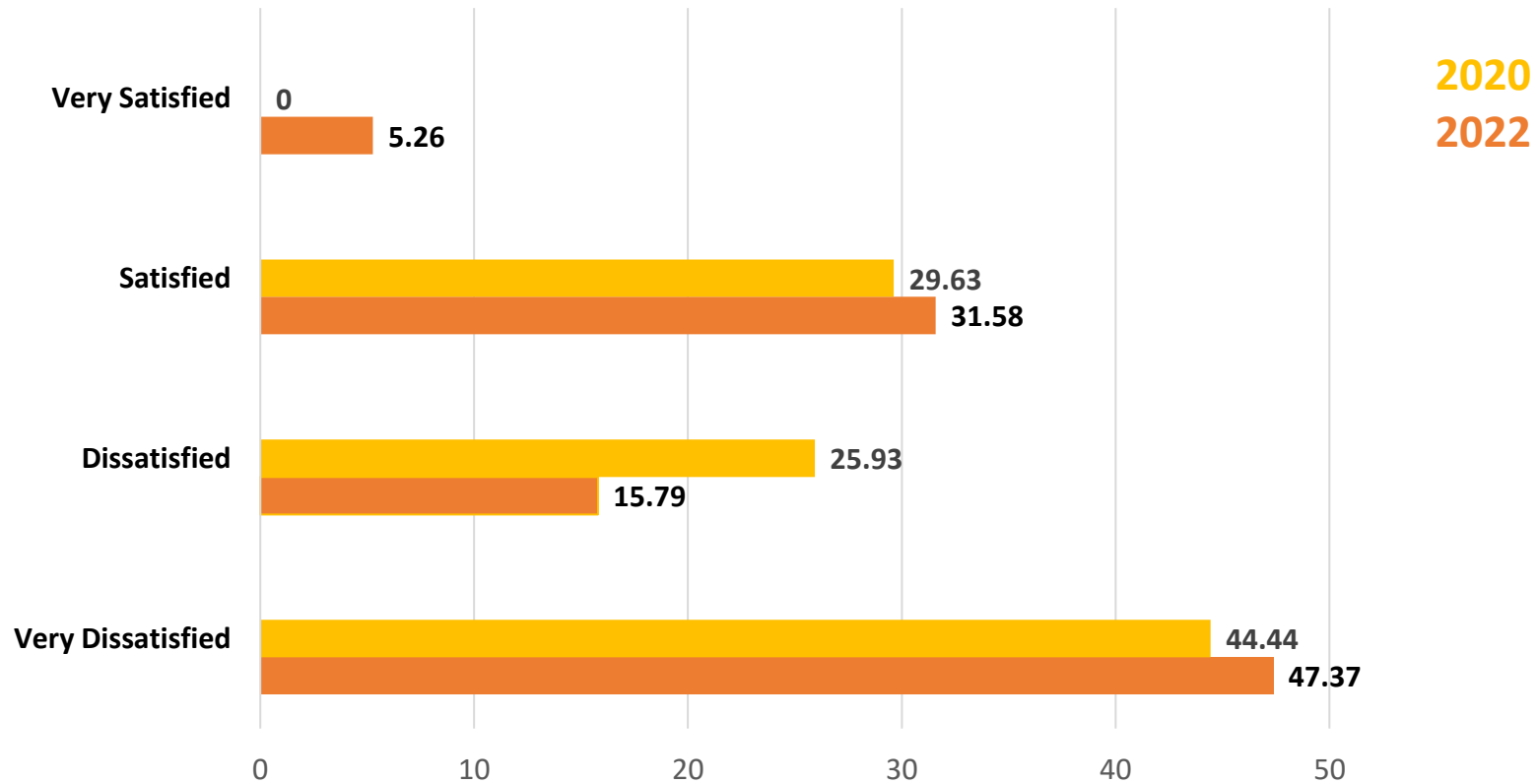
No support given

No one has been in touch or provided support

Bridging the Gap SE

Responses

Q6 For those with young people aged 14-18 (59.4% of respondents), what is your level of satisfaction with the process to date?



What Could be Done to Improve the Process?

More information to prepare parents and young people x4

Carry out assessments without being chased constantly

Got an EHCP in March but no mention of PfA (Special School)

Not had an annual review yet and he is starting year 10 soon (Special School)

Not had any contact with the PfA Team (Special School)

Very satisfied Bexley Voice workshops have been excellent to date

More proactive approach from LA PfA teams

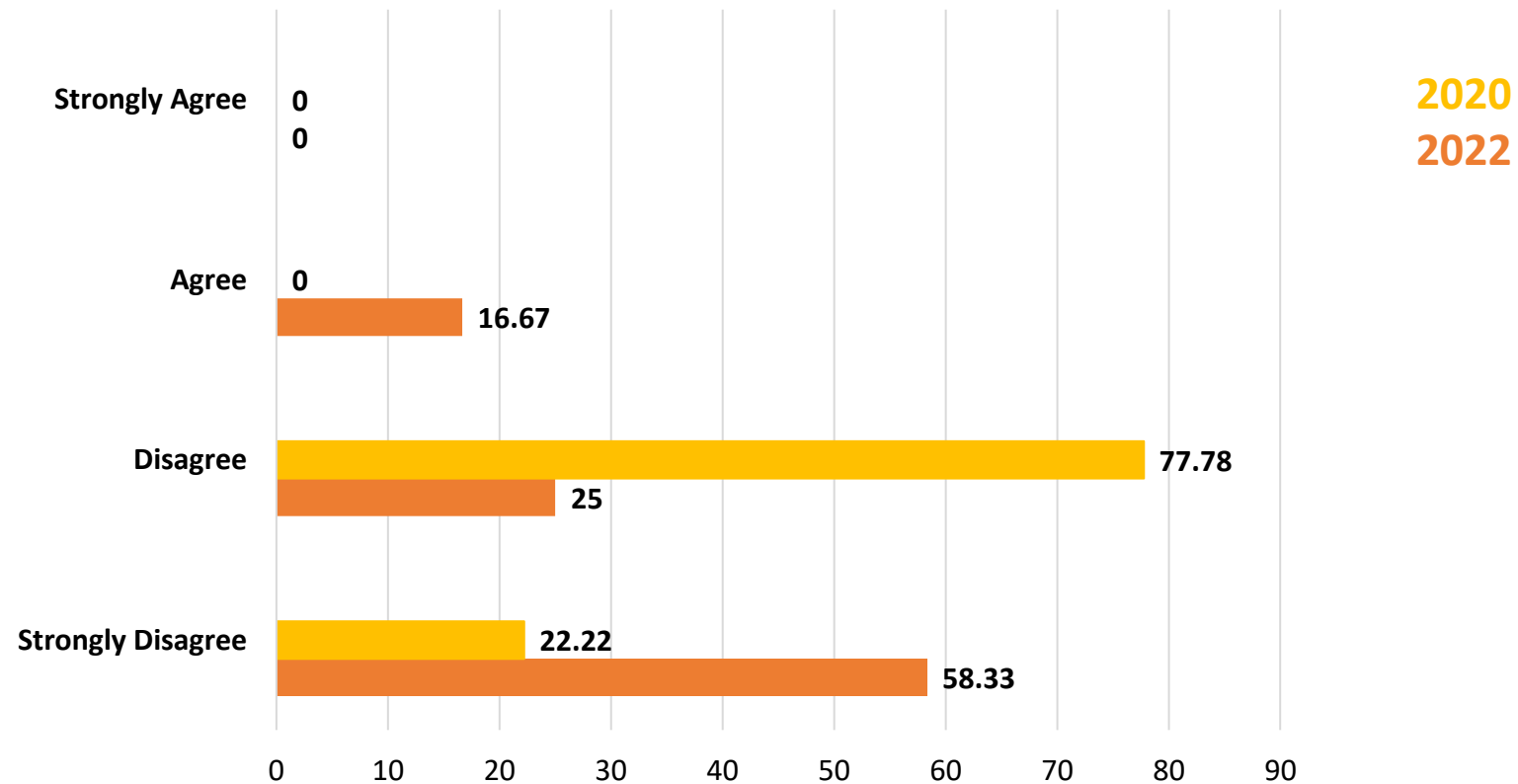
No one has been in touch. Tried to contact but no success (Mainstream)

More communication and engagement. No involvement and nearing the end of Year 10

I didn't know what this (PfA) is (Mainstream)

Responses

Q7 For those with young people aged 19-21 (c31.26% of respondents): To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? 'Transition into adulthood for my young person has been successful.'



What Could be Done to Improve the Process?

More collaboration between Children with Disabilities Team and Transition Team

A My Guide for transition from school to college

More support from Prospects

Have a Social Worker who can give advice and opportunities

School had no idea of any support available (for PfA)

Ensure young person with an EHCP is given information about PfA

Better support to enable better outcomes – we were left to sort it out ourselves

Early diagnosis and intervention and support to apply for an EHCP

More information from Social Workers

Most stressful and hardest year of our lives (Special School)

Actions Identified in 2020 and Included in the PfA Strategy Action Plan

- Information on the PfA Process and Pathways to be shared with parents and carers before the end of Year 8.
- Parents and carers to be directed to the Bexley Local Offer before the end of Year 8.
- Authors of all EHCPs Year 9 and above must include PfA Outcomes and Provisions including options for:
 - Further education
 - Apprenticeships
 - Supported Internships
 - Employment
- Parents and carers of young people with SEN support to be signposted to where they can get support to prepare for transition to further education, employment, supported internships and apprenticeships.

It is the view of Bexley Voice that these actions remain very relevant to address the issues highlighted in the survey responses.

Questions?

