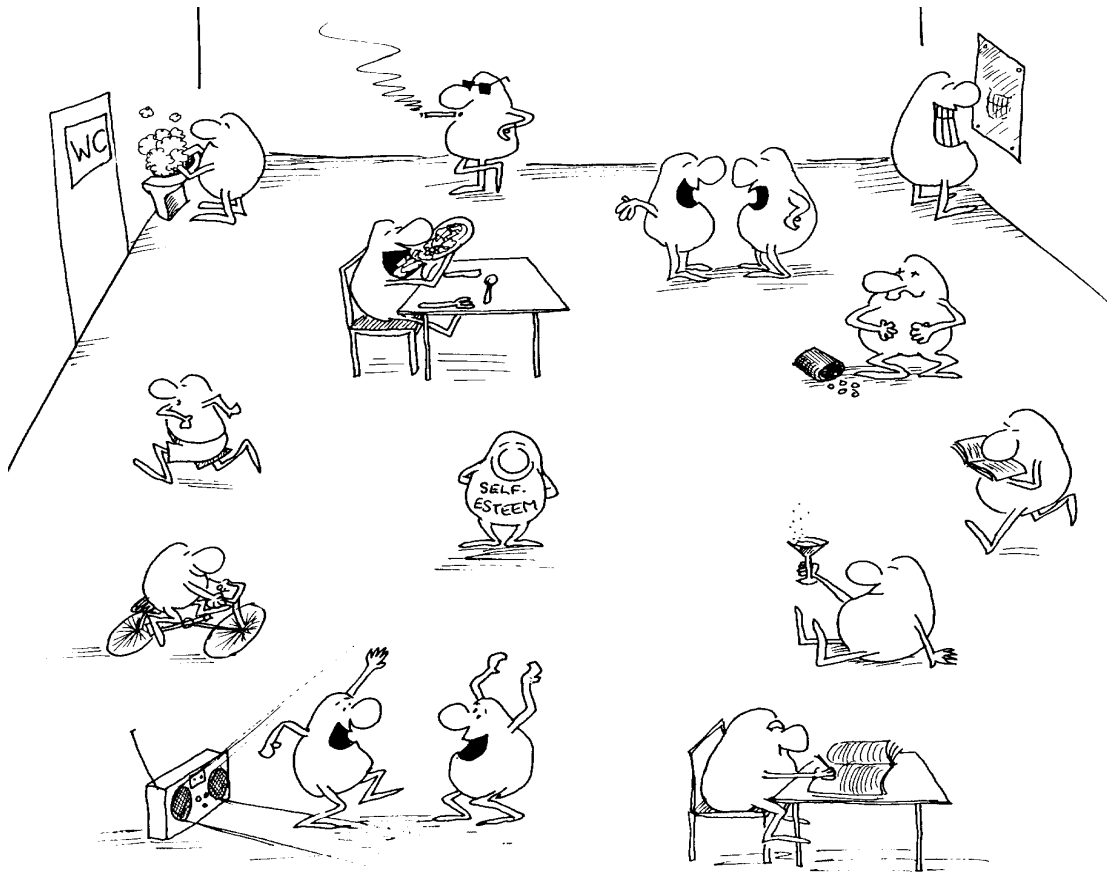




Every Child Matters in Derbyshire

Report 1	Being healthy
Report 2	Staying safe
Report 3	Enjoying and achieving
Report 4	Positive contribution
Report 5	Economic wellbeing



Every Child Matters

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report arises from a survey of young people in secondary schools in Derbyshire conducted in the Summer of 2009, following an earlier study in 2007. It was commissioned by Derbyshire County Council and led by Steve Ford (School Improvement Adviser).	7
This document gives a brief summary of the methods and samples; there is a fuller account given in complementary documents available from the Council.	7
The questionnaire was designed by advisers in Derbyshire in collaboration with local teachers and SHEU.	7
Each school was asked to provide at least 100 pupils per year group (about 4 classes) who are a representative cross-section of their school population.	8
To ensure that we had the opportunity to compare like with like, we identified 4 schools which also conducted the survey exercise in 2007 and 2009.	8
There seems to be a high degree of consensus among the pupils that they have learnt about the dangers of smoking (85%) and taking drugs (83%).	11
33% of pupils reported they felt afraid of going to school because of bullying at least 'sometimes'.	12

KEY POINTS

- These schools have had a chance to review and respond to their results, and so changes in these schools may not be seen in the whole Derbyshire samples (and vice versa). 8
- A relatively small proportion of pupils agreed that their school makes school areas safe for them (47%) and 37% of pupils either did not feel safe or were not sure that they feel safe at school. 11
- For many of the statements regarding learning about Staying Safe, Year 10 pupils were just as positive as the Year 8 pupils. 11
- For statements about being safe at school and bullying, the Year 10 pupils were less likely to agree than the Year 8 pupils; those Year 10 pupils who do not positively agree are split between those who are not sure and those who definitely disagree. 11
- Results for fear of bullying in Derbyshire in 2007 seemed rather higher than in the reference sample, but this difference is much smaller for the overall sample in 2009. 12
- Derbyshire pupils seem more likely to report instances of bullying (25%) than do those in the reference sample (20%). *This repeats a finding from 2007.* 12
- In the repeating sample, 26% of pupils reported they had been bullied at or near school in the last 12 months in 2009 which is slightly but significantly lower than in 2007 (30%). 12
- It is important to note that the proportion of pupils who sometimes feel afraid to go to school because of bullying exceeds the proportion who have actually experienced bullying in the last year. 12
- There is a positive sign in the repeating sample that reports of bullying behaviours are lower in 2009 (59%) than in 2007 (67%). 12
- Males were more likely than females to say 'fairly sure' or 'certain' about friends carrying weapons for protection. The most commonly reported weapon for the males was a knife or other item with a blade.. 14

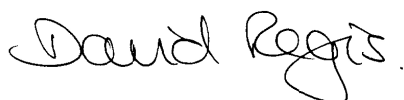
Foreword

Every Child Matters is the Government White Paper about caring for children. It describes five sets of outcomes for young people.

This report describes results from a consultation exercise with young people where, for each outcome area, they tell us what their lives are like, and how well we are looking after them.

Such a comprehensive data base provides everyone involved with young people, be they parents, professionals or volunteers, with the opportunity to reflect and consider whether service delivery is consistent with the survey findings; it offers opportunity to better engage with students because it improves the probability of relationships based on fact rather than supposition.

It is hoped that this report will encourage a wide-ranging debate that will define the actions to achieve good health for all the young people within Derbyshire.



Dr. David Regis

*Research Manager
Schools Health Education Unit*

■ Acknowledgements

Grateful thanks go to all the pupils in Derbyshire for their willingness and enthusiasm to take part in the survey. The help, and the time and effort spent, by the staff of the schools is also very much appreciated.

Ashgate Croft School	Ilkeston School
Belper School	Newbold Community School
Bennerley School	Parkside Community School
Chapel-en-le-Frith High School	Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Ashbourne
Dronfield Henry Fanshawe School	Swanwick Hall School
Highfields School	The Bolsover School
Hope Valley College	The William Allitt School

■ Contact

Steve Ford
School Improvement Adviser, Derbyshire County Council

steve.ford@derbyshire.gov.uk

John Hadfield House
Dale Road
MATLOCK
Derbyshire
DE4 3RD

Tel: 01629 580000

Introduction

This report arises from a survey of young people in secondary schools in Derbyshire conducted in the Summer of 2009, following an earlier study in 2007. It was commissioned by Derbyshire County Council and led by Steve Ford (School Improvement Adviser).

This document gives a brief summary of the methods and samples; there is a fuller account given in complementary documents available from the Council.

■ The Schools Health Education Unit

SHEU is the leading provider of school-based surveys in the areas of PSHE and health education. It was established in 1977 by John Balding, and continues his vision of providing local information to enable better discussion and planning. The Unit originated and developed within the University of Exeter, where it was based until 1998.

■ Method

The questionnaire was designed by advisers in Derbyshire in collaboration with local teachers and SHEU.

Items were drawn from a number of sources including:

- SHEU *Every Child Matters* questionnaire
- SHEU *Health-Related Behaviour* questionnaire, Version 23
- customised items previously used by other SHEU clients
- new items suggested by the group

■ Quality assurance

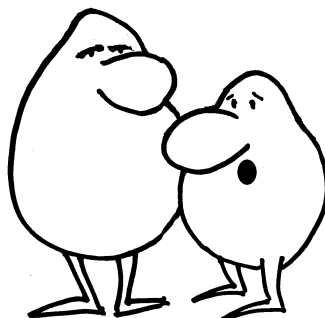
A seminar was offered to all participating schools to explain and discuss administering the survey to pupils, and representatives attended from each school. Further guidance was provided through written material supplied by e-mail and on paper with the questionnaire booklets.

■ Reporting and analysis

Analysis was carried out by the Schools Health Education Unit at Exeter using the statistical software package SPSS. Analysis took the form of simple frequency distributions and cross-tabulation.

Reporting from the survey has been carried out at different levels:

- The commissioners have a set of detailed tables based on the composite data set for the district, and supplementary tables and analysis.
- Each school has a similar set of tables, and a 'school report', a summary of their own data next to a summary of the whole Derbyshire data, together with a supporting text.



Samples

Each school was asked to provide at least 100 pupils per year group (about 4 classes) who are a representative cross-section of their school population.

This means that the survey would be representative of pupils of similar ages across the county. This does not take into account absentees¹.

The Derbyshire sample 2009

The completed sample size (excluding blank returns and scripts with inappropriate answers) was:

	Year 8	Year 10	All
Male	845	849	1694
Female	831	836	1667

Comparing Derbyshire figures in 2008 and 2009

The overall samples from 2009 can be compared with figures from 2007.

		Year 8	Year 10	All
2007	Male	485	449	934
	Female	466	462	928
2009	Male	845	849	1694
	Female	831	836	1667

Schools taking part in 2007 and 2009

To ensure that we had the opportunity to compare like with like, we identified 4 schools which also conducted the survey exercise in 2007 and 2009.

The 'repeat' sample

The combined sample of 'repeat schools' was:

Repeaters	Year 8	Year 10	All
2007	666	627	1293
2009	593	590	1183

- These schools have had a chance to review and respond to their results, and so changes in these schools may not be seen in the whole Derbyshire samples (and vice versa).

Reference samples

It is often interesting to compare local figures with results from elsewhere in the country. In this report, the Derbyshire sample has been compared with the SHEU aggregate sample from 2008.

	Year 8	Year 10	All
Male	14211	14079	28290
Female	15133	14810	29943
	29344	28889	58233



¹ Absent pupils will include those who are ill and any that habitually miss school. Therefore, some of the data recorded in the surveys may be biased. This will be a feature of any school-based survey. However, staff may already be more familiar with the characteristics of this absentee group than those of the section of the school population that complete the questionnaire. Moreover, we should not assume that the absentees are all poorly behaved; our work on bullying suggests that a number of shy, well-behaved pupils may be missing school and therefore biasing the results in the other direction.

National context

In 2003, the Government published a Green Paper called *Every Child Matters* alongside the formal response to the report into the death of Victoria Climbié. After a thorough consultation process, the Children Act 2004 became law. This legislation is the legal underpinning for *Every Child Matters*, which sets out the Government's approach to the well-being of children and young people from birth to age 19.

The aim of the *Every Child Matters* programme is to give all children the support they need to:

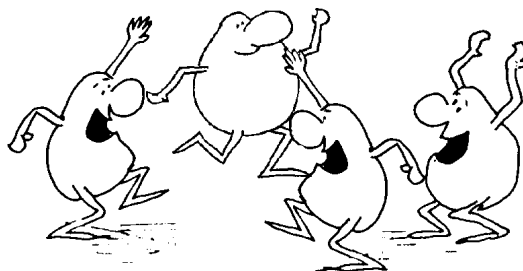
- be healthy
- stay safe
- enjoy and achieve
- make a positive contribution, and
- achieve economic well-being.

The *Every Child Matters* agenda has been further developed through publication of the *Children's Plan: Building Brighter Futures* in December 2007. The *Children's Plan* is a ten-year strategy to make England the best place in the world for children and young people to grow up. It places families at the heart of Government policy, taking into account the fact that young people spend only one-fifth of their childhood at school. Because young people learn best when their families support and encourage them, and when they are taking part in positive activities outside of the school day, the *Children's Plan* is based around a series of ambitions which cover all areas of children's lives.

The goals set out in the *Children's Plan* include:

- Enhance well being, particularly at transition points.
- Every child ready for success in school.
- Every child ready for Secondary School.
- Every young person with the skills for adult life and further study.
- Parents satisfied with the information and support they receive.
- Employers satisfied with young people's readiness for work.
- Child health improved.
- Child poverty eradicated by 2020.
- Significantly reduce number of young offenders

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/everychildmatters/about/>



■ Local context

The Derbyshire Service Plan 2009-2014 identifies how the Children and Younger Adults Department will continue its delivery of high quality services by contributing to the vision and priorities identified within both the Sustainable Community Strategy for Derbyshire and the Council Plan. The Plan is structured around the council's planning framework, which sets out an overarching priority for 2009-2014 **to tackle inequalities** and twenty two other thematic priorities.

In planning for the future, the council has identified a number of challenges that the authority and partners will need to address and has set a number of specific priorities to concentrate its effort on achieving in 2009/10.

Derbyshire County Council, Children and Younger Adults Department Service Plan, 2009-2014

Staying safe

Principles and priorities

Our aim is to ensure all children and young people are protected from harm and helped to develop safely.

The key principles are:-

- Services will share information to get help quickly to any child at risk of harm.
- Services will involve children and young people and parents and carers in the planning and review of services and parents and carers in decisions about their children.
- Services will offer support to families when they are having serious difficulties.
- Services will build strong links with services for adults to ensure parents get the help and support they need to keep children and young people safe.

Our key priorities are:

1. Protecting children from abuse. We will ensure that the Safeguarding Children Procedures are followed for all children and the recommendations of 'The Protection of Children in England: a Progress Report' written by Lord Laming are fully implemented
2. Reducing the severity and numbers of children who are bullied

Our Secondary Priorities are:

1. Further developing services to prevent and to tackle the impact of domestic abuse
2. Improving personal safety and reducing the number of children and young people injured or killed in accidents
3. Reducing the number of children and young people missing from home or from care.
4. Providing stable and consistent places for children in care to live in

STAYING SAFE

Pupils were offered a number of statements under this heading about the provision by the school. They answered as follows:

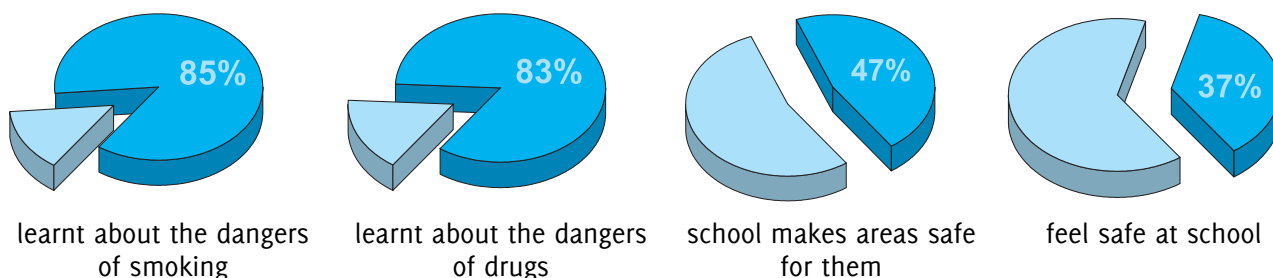
Responses from pupils to statements about Staying Safe

	Agree/ Strongly agree	Not sure	Disagree/ Strongly disagree
In school, I've learnt about the dangers of smoking	85	8	7
In school, I've learnt about the dangers of drinking alcohol	83	8	8
In school, I've learnt about the dangers of sniffing glue or solvents	67	16	17
In school, I've learnt about the dangers of using illegal drugs	84	8	7
I feel safe at school	63	23	13
I feel safe on the journey to and from school	75	16	8
The school tells me about risks and how to avoid them	59	26	15
The school makes sure the classrooms and corridors are safe for me	47	29	23
The school makes sure the playgrounds and fields are safe for me	50	27	22
This school takes bullying seriously	70	16	13
There are adults I can talk to at school if I feel threatened in any way	61	22	17

Looking at the above table, there seems to be a high degree of consensus among the pupils that they have learnt about the dangers of smoking (85%) and taking drugs (83%).

- A relatively small proportion of pupils agreed that their school makes school areas safe for them (47%) and 37% of pupils either did not feel safe or were not sure that they feel safe at school.

Percentage of Derbyshire pupils who agree that... (safety)



Comparison of Year 8 and Year 10 pupils

	Agree/ Strongly agree	Year 8	Year 10
In school, I've learnt about the dangers of smoking		87	82
In school, I've learnt about the dangers of drinking alcohol		85	82
In school, I've learnt about the dangers of sniffing glue or solvents		64	70
In school, I've learnt about the dangers of using illegal drugs		83	86
I feel safe at school		64	61
I feel safe on the journey to and from school		75	76
The school tells me about risks and how to avoid them		65	53
The school makes sure the classrooms and corridors are safe for me		51	44
The school makes sure the playgrounds and fields are safe for me		55	45
This school takes bullying seriously		77	64
There are adults I can talk to at school if I feel threatened in any way		67	55



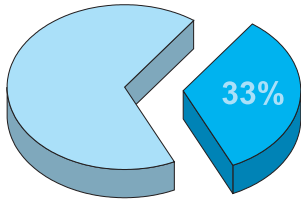
- For many of the statements regarding learning about Staying Safe, Year 10 pupils were just as positive as the Year 8 pupils.
- For statements about being safe at school and bullying, the Year 10 pupils were less likely to agree than the Year 8 pupils; those Year 10 pupils who do not positively agree are split between those who are not sure and those who definitely disagree.

■ Bullying

Within the secondary version of the Health Related Behaviour Questionnaire the question is also asked 'Do you ever feel afraid of going to school because of bullying?' Results from this questionnaire typically show in all year groups more females than males reporting fear of going to school because of bullying. See the publication 'Bully off' for further details.

33% of pupils reported they felt afraid of going to school because of bullying at least 'sometimes'.

The pupils are not asked in this question to declare what is understood by bullying.



25% of pupils reported they had been bullied at or near school in the last 12 months.

7% of pupils reported they had bullied someone else at school in the last 12 months.

- Derbyshire pupils seem more likely to report instances of bullying (25%) than do those in the reference sample (20%). *This repeats a finding from 2007.*
- In the repeating sample, 26% of pupils reported they had been bullied at or near school in the last 12 months in 2009 which is slightly but significantly lower than in 2007 (30%).

Q15. Percentage answering they felt afraid of going to school because of bullying.

All Derbyshire		
	Yr 8	Yr 10
Males	31	22
Females	43	35

- Results for fear of bullying in Derbyshire in 2007 seemed rather higher than in the reference sample, but this difference is much smaller for the overall sample in 2009.

- It is important to note that the proportion of pupils who sometimes feel afraid to go to school because of bullying exceeds the proportion who have actually experienced bullying in the last year.

Q16. Percentage answering they had been bullied at or near school in the last 12 months.

All Derbyshire		
	Yr 8	Yr 10
Males	27	20
Females	29	24

Q24. Percentage answering they had bullied someone else at school in the last 12 months.

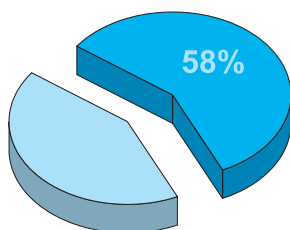
All Derbyshire		
	Yr 8	Yr 10
Males	7	10
Females	4	5



These results are obviously relevant to the national performance indicator **NI69** cited in the *Derbyshire Service Plan 2009-2014: Children who have experienced bullying*

From a list of 10 items, the pupils were asked to report if in the last month they had experienced bullying behaviour.

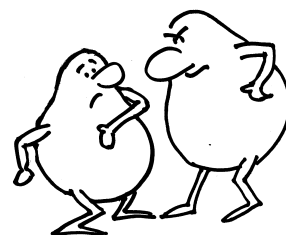
58% of pupils reported yes to at least one of the items in question 17.



- There is a positive sign in the repeating sample that reports of bullying behaviours are lower in 2009 (59%) than in 2007 (67%).

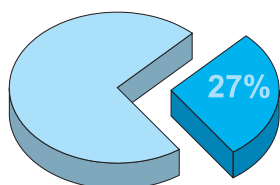
Q17. Percentage answering 'yes' to at least one of the items.

All Derbyshire		
	Yr 8	Yr 10
Males	56	59
Females	61	56



Pupils in this survey were also asked where it had occurred. The percentages of pupils in the whole sample for each location are as follows:

Males			Females		
1	Outside at school (playtime / lunchtime)	28	1	During lesson time	25
2	In a classroom (playtime / lunchtime)	24	2	In a classroom (playtime / lunchtime)	25
3	During lesson time	20	3	Outside at school (playtime / lunchtime)	25
4	In the corridors	20	4	In the corridors	22
5	Going to or from school	10	5	At or near home	12
6	At or near home	9	6	Going to or from school	10
7	In the toilets	3	7	In the toilets	4

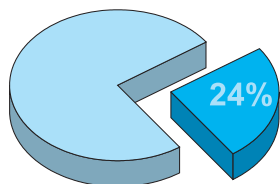


Bullied outside at school

And then we enquired about possible reasons for being picked on or bullied:

Q22. Do you think you are being picked on or bullied for any of the following?

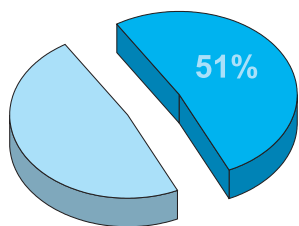
Males			Females		
1	The way you look	20	1	The way you look	27
2	Size or weight	14	2	Size or weight	17
3	Clothes you wear	9	3	Clothes you wear	11
4	Other	7	4	Other	10
5	Your sexuality	5	5	Colour, race or religion	3
6	Disability	4	6	Your sexuality	3
7	Colour, race or religion	3	7	Disability	2



Bullied because of the way they look

Q23. Have you seen anyone being picked on or bullied for any of the following?

Males			Females		
1	Size or weight	50	1	Size or weight	52
2	The way they look	46	2	The way they look	52
3	Clothes they wear	29	3	Clothes they wear	35
4	Their sexuality	27	4	Their sexuality	25
5	Disability	23	5	Disability	20
6	Colour, race or religion	20	6	Colour, race or religion	17
7	Other	4	7	Other	4



Witnessed bullying for size/weight



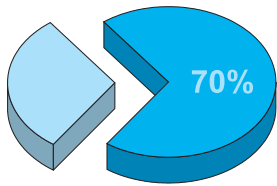
■ Perceived local safety

70% think their safety at school is at least *good*, and 48% think their safety when going out after dark is at least *good*. The table below shows settings by the proportion who think that the safety there was *poor* or *very poor*.

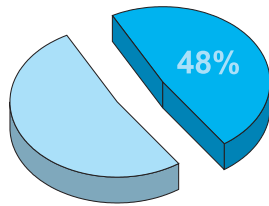
Q25. Safety poor or very poor.

Males			Females		
1	Going out after dark	18	1	Going out after dark	21
2	At school	8	2	At school	6
3	Going to and from school	6	4	Going to and from school	5
4	Going out during the day	5	3	Going out during the day	3

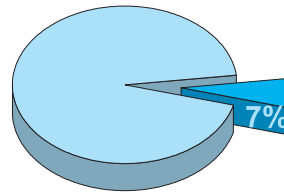
Percentage of Derbyshire pupils who agree that safety is ...



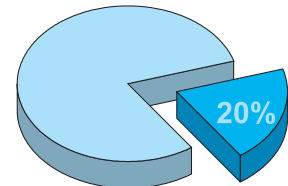
Good at school



Good going out after dark

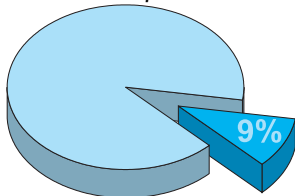


Poor at school



Poor going out after dark

Victims and protection



9% of pupils say they have been a victim of violence or aggression in the area where they live (Question 26).

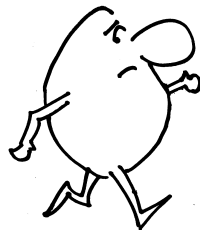
The following table shows the results of the question about whether pupils or their friends who carry weapons for protection when going out.

Q27. Percentage of pupils who carry weapons, or whose friends do

	Year 8		Year 10		Total
	Males	Females	Males	Females	
No	78	84	72	82	79
Not sure	13	11	16	12	13
Fairly sure	4	2	4	4	4
Certain	4	3	8	2	4

- Males were more likely than females to say 'fairly sure' or 'certain' about friends carrying weapons for protection. The most commonly reported weapon for the males was a knife or other item with a blade.

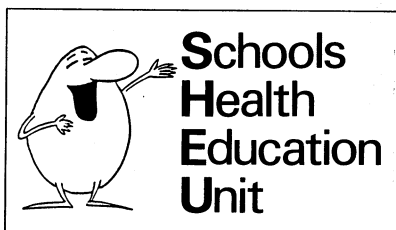
These results are similar to those seen in the reference sample.



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This report was prepared for **Derbyshire County Council** by Dr. David Regis



3 Manaton Court ,Matford Park, EXETER, Devon EX2 8PF
Tel. (01392) 66 72 72 Fax. (01392) 66 72 69
e-mail: sheu@sheu.org.uk
www: www.sheu.org.uk