



Aussie Hands

INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUILDING PROJECT

SURVEY RESULTS 2021

Survey Development



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Objective: To narrow the scope of topics for the online resource toolkit and decide upon 6-9 topics to address in the Online Resource Toolkit.

Process:

1. Questions developed by the project team.
2. Questions presented to the Steering Committee for feedback and changes made accordingly.
3. Pilot survey sent to Steering Committee, feedback received, and changes made accordingly.
4. Survey launched 15 March 2021 & distributed via the Aussie Hands membership email database (EDM), Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn and was followed up with regular reminders.
5. Survey closed 5 April 2021, after being open for 3 weeks.

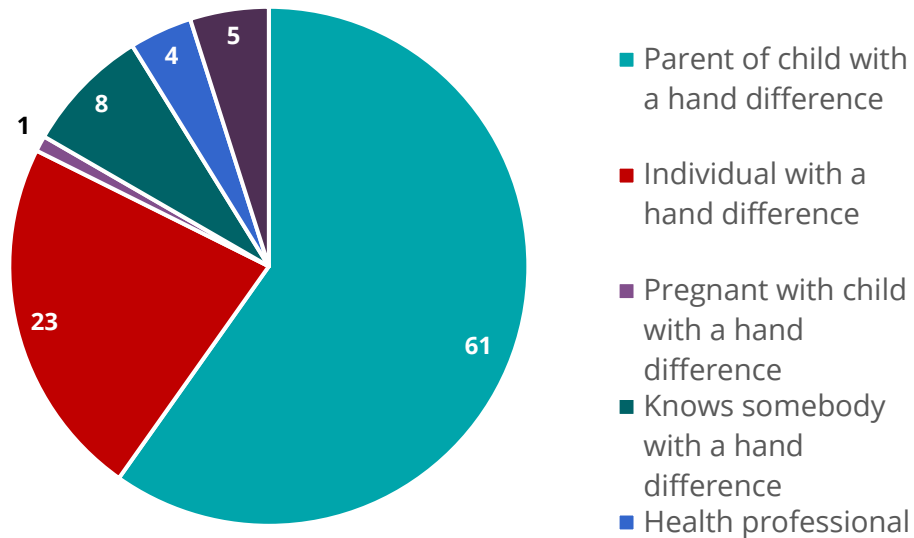
Who responded?



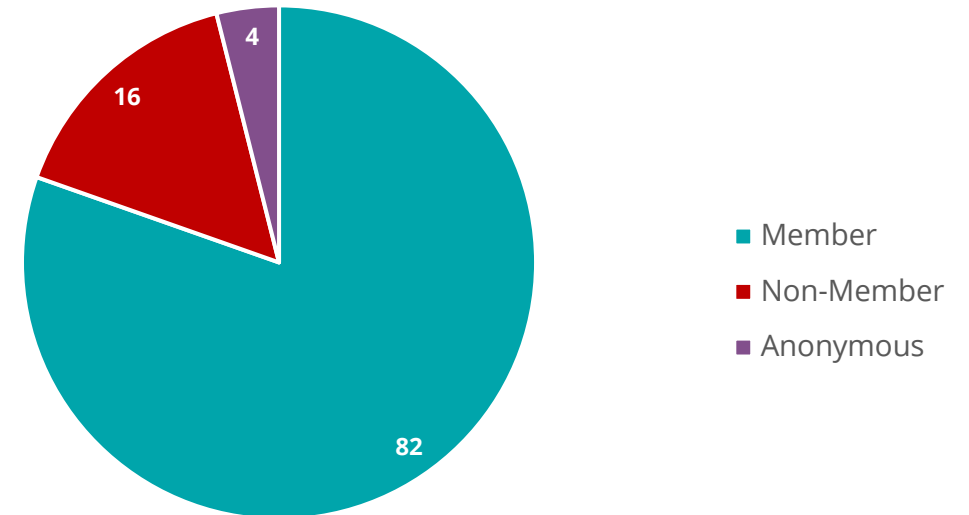
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The survey had a total of 102 responses, a few of which were duplicates due to the survey test run (approximately three).

Situation of Respondent



Membership Status of Respondent



Main Challenges

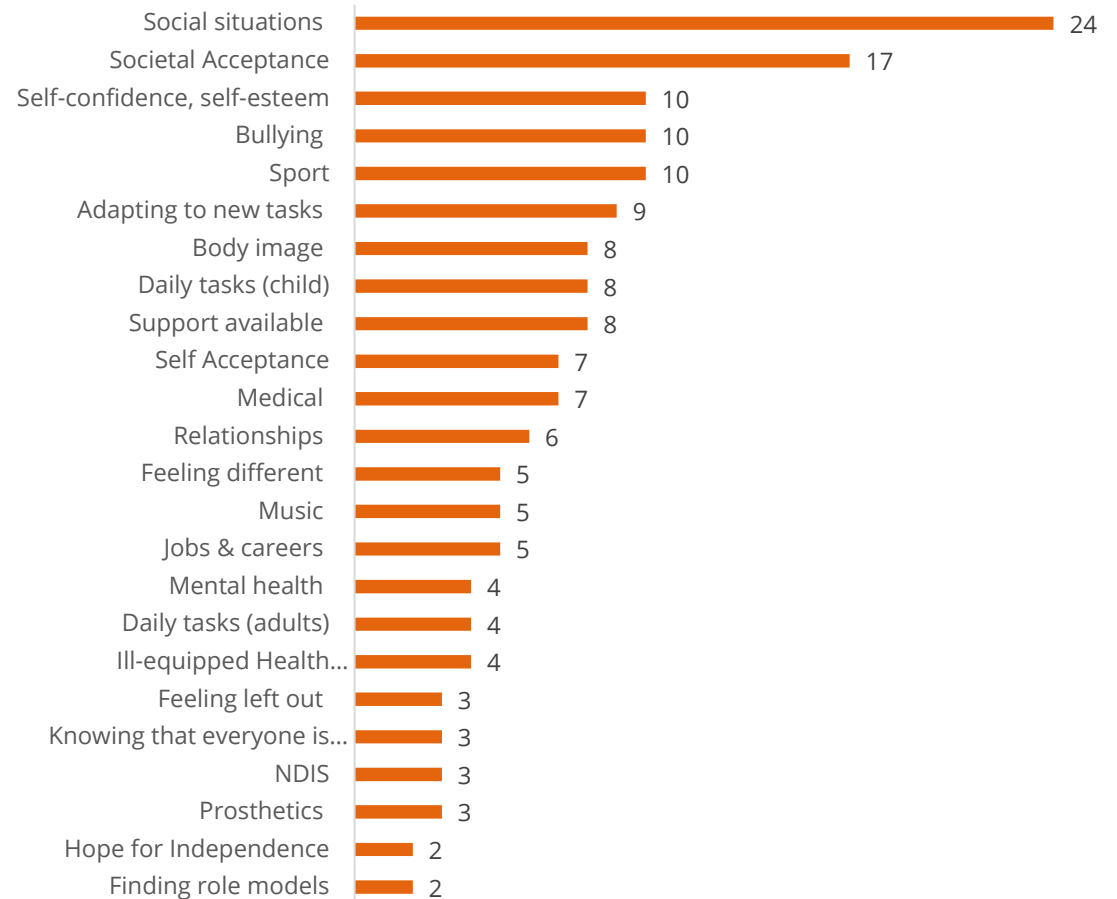


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Before asking members to select from the potential topics, we wanted to know the first challenges regarding having a limb difference that came to mind.

We asked, *“What major concerns or challenges have you or someone you know with a hand difference experienced?”*

Note: “Other” represents topics that were only brought up once. There were 15 in total.



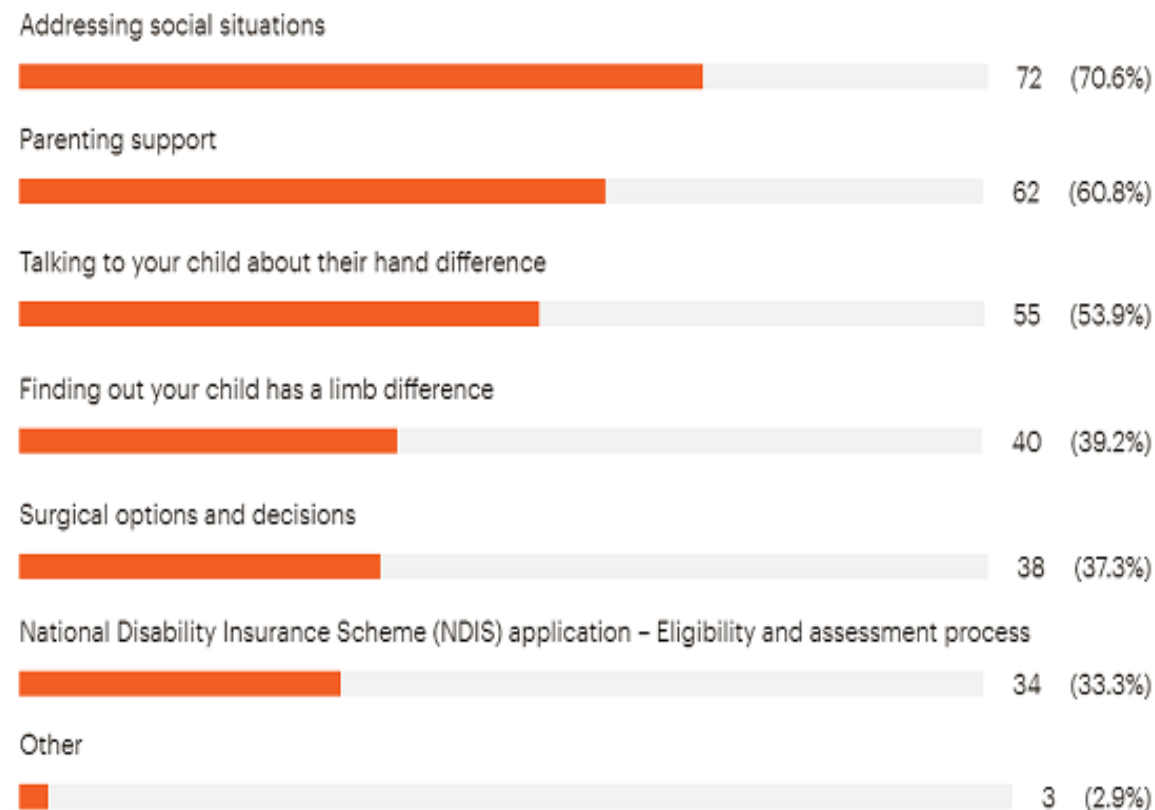
New and Expecting Parents



We asked the Aussie Hands community to choose three topics that they thought would be most useful for families that have (or are expecting) and baby with a hand difference.

Our significant answers were:

- Addressing social situations
- Parent support
- Talking to your child about their hand difference
- Finding out your child has a limb difference
- Surgical options and decisions
- NDIS application



Early Childhood

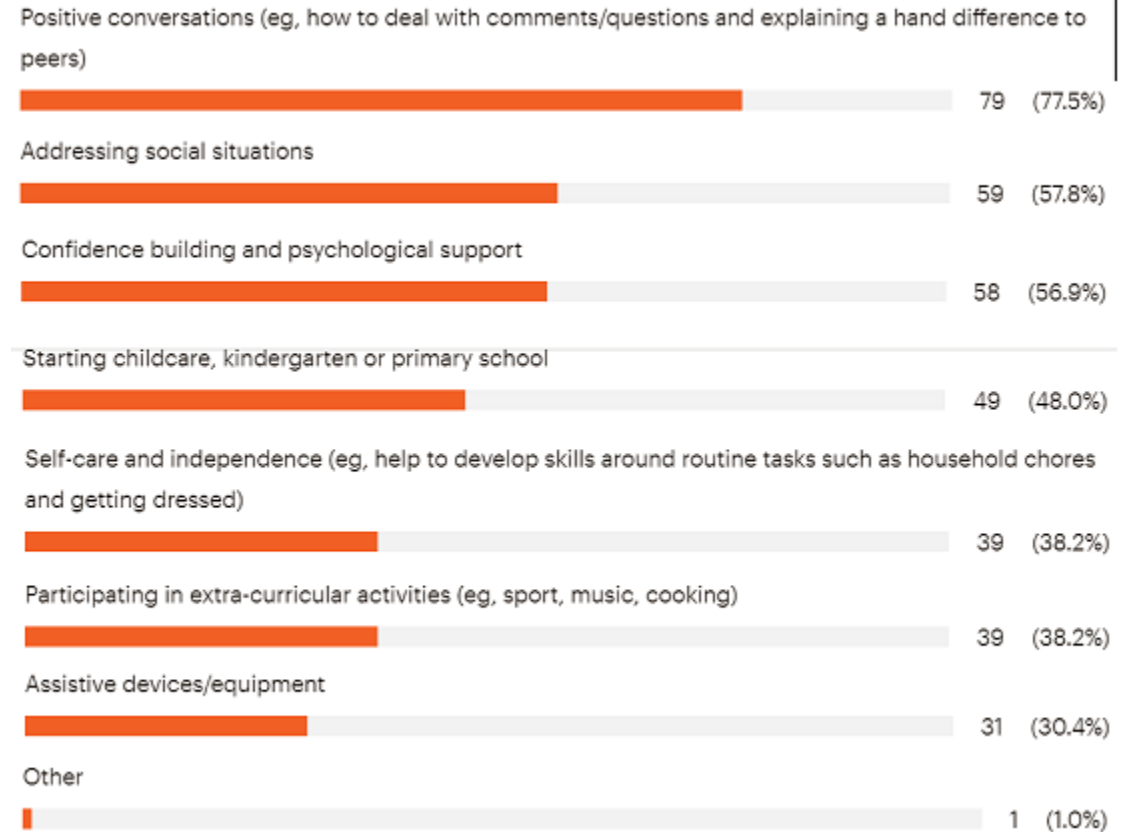


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We asked the community to select three topics that they thought would be most useful for individuals with hand difference who are in childcare, kindergarten or primary school.

Our significant answers were:

1. Positive conversations
2. Addressing social situations
3. Confidence building and psychological support
4. Starting Childcare, Kindergarten or Primary school
5. Self care and independence
6. Extra-curricular activities
7. Assistive devices/equipment



Teenage Years

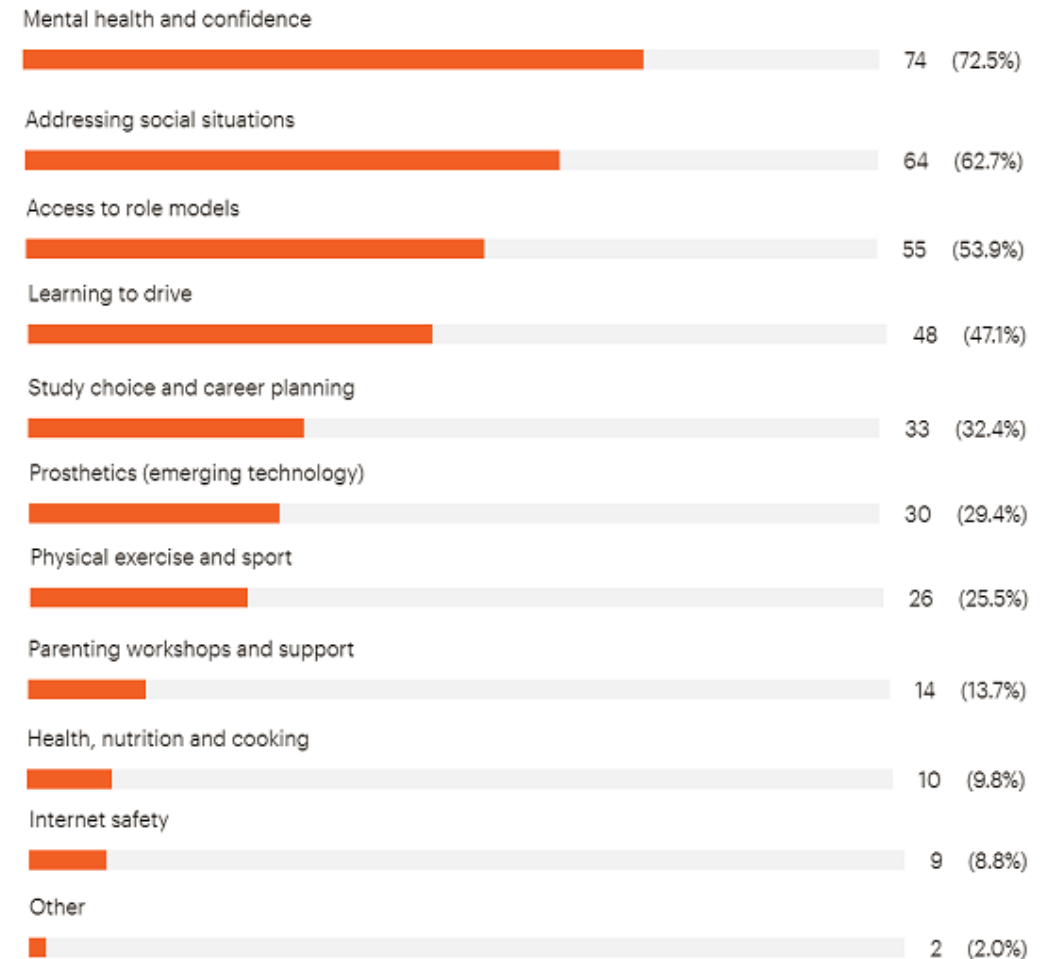


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We asked the community to select three topics that would be most useful for teenagers with a hand difference.

Our significant answers were:

1. Mental Health and Confidence
2. Addressing social situations
3. Access to role models
4. Learning to drive
5. Study Choice and career planning
6. Prosthetics (emerging technology)
7. Physical exercise and sport



Other concerns



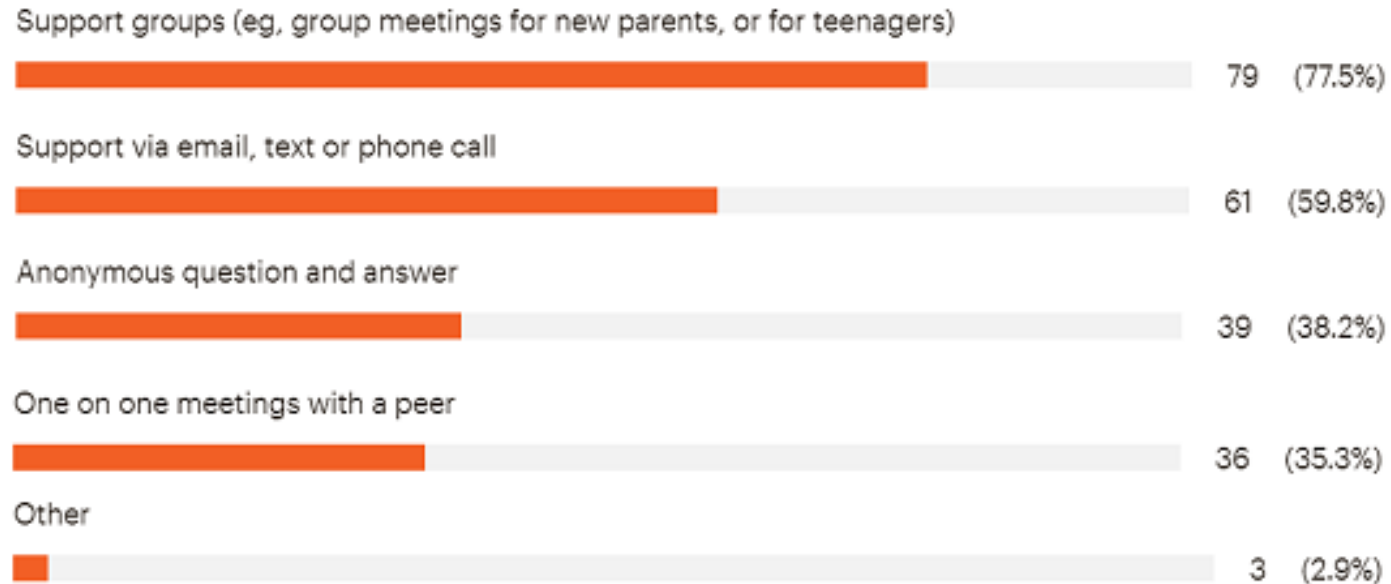
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Role models/leaders in the community (x4)	Music	Parent: Aussie Hands article that said it was okay for me to grieve for my child's limb difference meant the world to me.	Everyday tasks tips: clothing, gloves
NDIS - accessing information (x2)	Dealing with stereotypes		Medical eg: Physio, OT
Travelling solo (x2)	Understanding that everyone is different	Resources > references to positive literature/books/journals	Self-confidence, self-esteem
Peer support (x4)	Positive thinking	You decide if you want a prosthesis and don't be forced	More awareness of hand difference

Peer Support Network



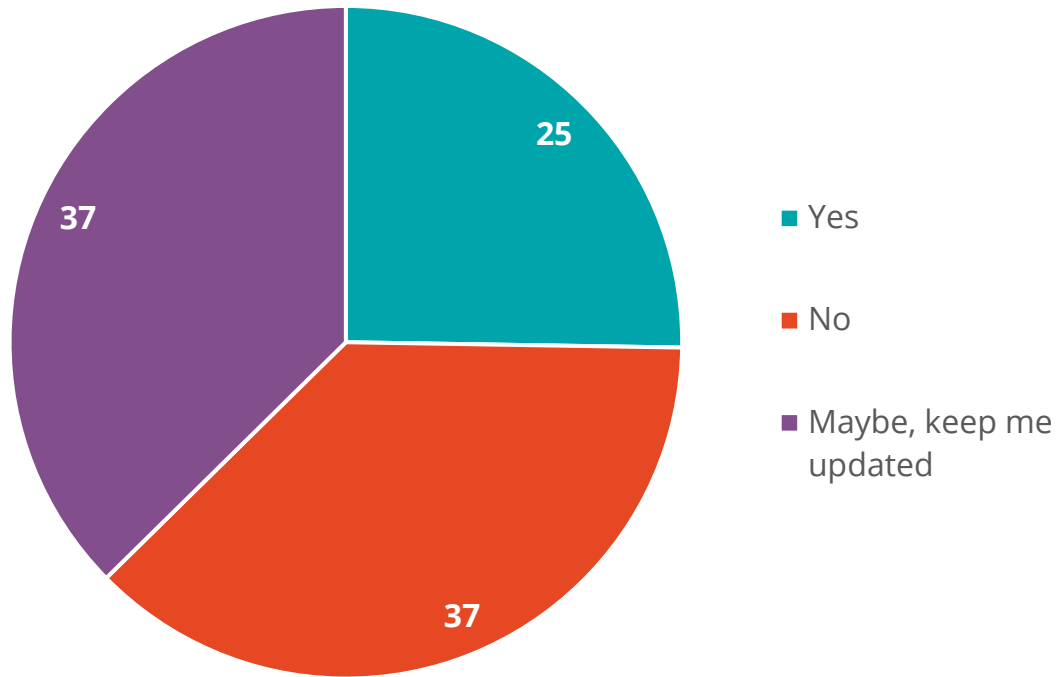
We asked the community to indicate what they would expect from a peer support network.



Peer Support Network



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The survey response is a positive start to building a Peer Support Network. 25 people indicated that they would like to be a peer mentor, with a further 37 indicating that they are interested.

Note: Duplicates have been removed.

Summary



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- Addressing social situations was a popular topic in all age groups.
 - Handling social situations such as fitting in, bullying and talking about their hand difference were also concerns brought up by members independently.
- Confidence building and mental health was in the top 3 for both teenagers and early childhood.
- Access to role models was both a popular topic selected by members, as well as one that was often brought up independently.
- Support for new parents is important to many members.

Conclusion



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Using the results from the survey and other research as documented, we recommend these module categories and nine topics:

New & Expecting Parents	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1 Finding Out My Child Has a Hand Difference2 Telling Others3 Getting Connected
Early Childhood	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1 Starting School & Participating in Activities2 Making Friends & Building Confidence3 Self Care & Independence
Teenage Years	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1 Mindfulness2 Role Models3 Life Skills

Limitations



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- Only 4 respondents who are health professionals
- Most of the respondents were parents, and therefore input from people with lived experience (e.g., for the teenage years module) is lacking