

Coronavirus and Me: Merthyr Tydfil



Comisiynydd
Plant Cymru
Children's
Commissioner
for Wales

Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION	3
Explains the background to the consultation and how you can use this data in your local authority	
WHO TOOK PART	7
Shows the breakdown of participation in your local area against some personal characteristics.	
COMBINED DATA	12
This shows combined data from both the 7-11 and the 12-18 surveys. Some tables also combine data from the accessible survey. This has been done for questions that were the same across all surveys.	
7-11 SURVEY	16
This section shows responses from the 7-11 survey questions only.	
12-18 SURVEY	19
This section shows responses from the 12-18 survey questions only.	
ACCESSIBLE SURVEY	25
This section shows responses from the accessible survey only. This survey was shorter and used symbols to support understanding of written text.	



Introduction

Coronavirus and Me Consultation

On 13th May 2020 the consultation 'Coronavirus and Me' was launched to find out about the experiences of children and young people in Wales. This consultation captured information about the lives of over 23,700 children between the ages of 3-18, and ran for a two-week period during which restrictions to keep communities in Wales safe had been in place for two months.

The purpose of the Coronavirus and Me consultation was to make sure that children and young people experience their right under the UNCRC to express their view and participate in decisions that affect their lives.

The consultation was carried out in partnership between four organisations:

- Welsh Government
- The Children's Commissioner for Wales
- The Welsh Youth Parliament
- Children in Wales

Consultation tools

The consultation consisted of three separate surveys:

- 7-11 survey
- 12-18 survey
- accessible survey using symbols to support text (ages 7-18)

Each of these surveys were developed and tested with young people and were hosted on the web platform, Snap Surveys. Each survey was also routed so that a child responding to the survey would be asked specific questions depending on previous answers. So for example, a year six child would be asked questions about transition to secondary; a child who is usually home educated would be asked specific questions about their education rather than about school. In addition to the survey there was also an open-ended activity where children could express experiences through writing or drawing. There were over 200 of these responses, mostly completed by children under 7.

The consultation was informed by an Equalities Impact Assessment and a Data Protection Impact Assessment, and participants were informed of the purpose of sharing data through a privacy notice written in clear and accessible language. Respondents also received details of support services available for children; this information was integrated into the survey and appeared next to questions about well-being, mental health and worries, as well as at the end of the survey.



Further information about how the Children's Commissioner for Wales handles data is available in the organisation's privacy policy and data protection policy.

Reporting of National Data

The Children's Commissioner for Wales published an overview report of the national findings on the 8th June 2020, just over a week after the survey closed. This is available here:

<https://www.childcomwales.org.uk/coronavirus-and-me-results/>

A further, detailed report is being developed with the intention that the important insights children have shared will be used to inform decisions taken on a national level. A key purpose of this report is to ensure that Welsh Government takes actions that put children's rights and views at the centre of what they do next to keep children healthy, happy and safe.

What is included in this local authority report?

This report shows the responses from respondents living in this local authority area only.

Information included is:

- a breakdown showing the characteristics of young people taking part in the survey in the authority;
- a breakdown of responses to the majority of the quantitative questions asked in the survey;
- information that can be directly compared with overview report of the national findings, so that local authorities can assess the experience of children in their area against the national average.
- Information that is not included is:
- any of the responses to open ended comment questions, as these are still being analysed and a full qualitative analysis will be completed in July;
- any of the qualitative analysis from the picture responses as these are few in number by each authority and could mean that responses are identifiable to individuals;
- any breakdown of responses by equalities data, as this analysis is still underway - full analysis will be completed in July;
- responses to quantitative questions that were not included in the national overview;
- responses to quantitative questions that have only a small number of responses as these responses have a small sample so are not as informative on a local authority level and it is also possible that this could be linked to individuals (for example, questions about traineeships, or experiences for young people not usually in education, which were only answered by very low numbers per authority);
- any information that could identify a respondent;



- any safeguarding concerns relating to individuals. The Children's Commissioner's office screened all open text comments during the live survey period to identify and act upon immediate safeguarding concerns.

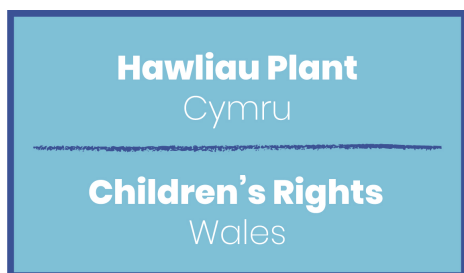
Local authorities should inform the Children's Commissioner's office, via post@childcomwales.org.uk, if they would like further more detailed information following the analysis of the full data set.

How local authorities should use this information

This data is owned by the Children's Commissioner for Wales. The Children's Commissioner for Wales does not permit local authorities to publish this data as a standalone document. The Children's Commissioner for Wales would also strongly discourage authorities from publishing this data in a way that compares experiences of children in one authority with those in another authority.

This data is being shared with local authorities so that it is used to improve the lives of children and young people within the authority. Data should be used to inform local policies and local decision making. The Children's Commissioner for Wales would encourage authorities to use this data to inform decisions taken about available services, statutory provision and additional support and information for children and young people. Data could also be used to highlight any significant differences in an authority against the national findings, both to identify particularly positive experiences, or additional support that children in the authority may require. Where figures or information are used or published by the authority in documents or online, these should be clearly attributed to the Coronavirus and Me consultation 2020, Children's Commissioner for Wales.





Children's Commissioner for Wales Coronavirus and Me Consultation: Local Authority Data

Data filtered for: *Merthyr Tydfil*

©Children's Commissioner for Wales

Who took part

This section shows combined data from all three surveys (7-11; 12-18; accessible). Tables show what proportion of respondents completed each survey and other characteristics of respondents, including some equalities data. Whilst some equalities data has been collected, this has been limited so that the survey was accessible and quick for children to complete.

DOA. Choose the survey right for you

These shows the responses just from Merthyr Tydfil Local Authority

Counts Analysis %...	
Base: All respondents	416 100%
I want to do the survey for children aged 7-11	205 49%
I want to do the survey for young people 12-18	200 48%
I want to do a survey that has pictures to help me read	11 3%

©Children's Commissioner for Wales

D1_COMB. How old are you?

As well as giving data on age, this question was used to determine which subsequent questions the respondent was asked, as indicated in the questions below. For example, respondents aged 10 or 11 were subsequently asked if they were in Year 6 and those that selected 'yes' were then asked questions about transition to secondary school.

Counts Break % Respondents	Survey version			
	Base	7-11	12-18	picture version
Base: All respondents	414	203	200	11
7	47 11%	44 22%	- -	3 27%
8	28 7%	27 13%	- -	1 9%
9	25 6%	25 12%	- -	- -
10	41 10%	40 20%	- -	1 9%
11	68 16%	67 33%	- -	1 9%
12	53 13%	- -	51 26%	2 18%
13	49 12%	- -	48 24%	1 9%
14	31 7%	- -	30 15%	1 9%
15	34 8%	- -	33 17%	1 9%
16	24 6%	- -	24 12%	- -
17	10 2%	- -	10 5%	- -
18	4 1%	- -	4 2%	- -

D2_COMB. Are you

Counts Break % Respondents	Total	Survey version		
	Base	7-11	12-18	picture version
Base: All respondents	407	203	193	11
Boy	184 45%	106 52%	75 39%	3 27%
Girl	212 52%	95 47%	109 56%	8 73%
Trans (Trans is a word some people use if their identity is different to their sex at birth.)	3 1%	1 0%	2 1%	- -
Prefer not to say	8 2%	1 0%	7 4%	- -

D3_COMB. Do you have a disability?

Counts Break % Respondents	Total	Survey version		
	Base	7-11	12-18	picture version
Base: All respondents	416	205	200	11
Yes	40 10%	14 7%	23 12%	3 27%
No	367 88%	185 90%	174 87%	8 73%
Prefer not to say	9 2%	6 3%	3 2%	- -

D4_COMB. How do you describe your ethnic group:

Counts Break % Respondents	Total	Survey version		
	Base	7-11	12-18	picture version
Base: All respondents	414	204	199	11
White Welsh or British	368 89%	188 92%	172 86%	8 73%
White from another country	24 6%	7 3%	16 8%	1 9%
Asian Welsh or British	6 1%	2 1%	4 2%	- -
Asian from another country	3 1%	1 0%	2 1%	- -
Black Welsh or British	2 0%	1 0%	- -	1 9%
Black from another country	- -	- -	- -	- -
Any other ethnic group	- -	- -	- -	- -
Not sure	7 2%	3 1%	3 2%	1 9%
Prefer not to say	4 1%	2 1%	2 1%	- -

D7_COMB. Before staying at home because of coronavirus, where did you go for education?

As well as giving information on the education profile of respondents, this question determined which subsequent questions the respondent was asked. For example, those selecting 'I am usually educated at home' were not asked questions about school, and were instead asked questions about how their experiences of home education had changed. Similar tailored questions were applied for those selecting the other options.

Counts Analysis % Respondents	Total	Survey version		
	Base	7-11	12-18	picture version
Base: All respondents	414 100%	204 49%	199 48%	11 3%
I go to school	396 100%	203 51%	183 46%	10 3%
I go to college or university	11 100%	- -	11 100%	- -
I am usually educated at home	6 100%	1 17%	4 67%	1 17%
I'm doing a traineeship or apprenticeship	1 100%	- -	1 100%	- -
I am not in education	- -	- -	- -	- -

Combined data

This section shows combined data from both the 7-11 and the 12-18 surveys. Some tables also combine data from the accessible survey. This has been done for questions that were the same across all surveys.

Q1_COMB. How are you feeling about Coronavirus today?

Counts Break % Respondents	Total	Survey version		
	Base	7-11	12-18	picture version
Base: All respondents aged 7-18yrs	405	205	200	-
I am not worried	155 38%	86 42%	69 35%	-
More worried than last week	49 12%	24 12%	25 13%	-
Same as last week	156 39%	73 36%	83 42%	-
Less worried than last week	45 11%	22 11%	23 12%	-

Respondents were then asked to answer the following question

How have you been feeling during the Coronavirus crisis?

	Most of the time	Some of the time	Not very often
Happy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worried	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sad	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Safe	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q3_COMB. How have you been feeling during the coronavirus crisis? Happy

Counts Break % Respondents	Total	Survey version		
	Base	7-11	12-18	picture version
Base: All respondents aged 7-18yrs	376	181	195	-
Most of the time	201 53%	112 62%	89 46%	-
Some of the time	133 35%	52 29%	81 42%	-
Not very often	42 11%	17 9%	25 13%	-

Q3_COMB. How have you been feeling during the coronavirus crisis? Worried

Counts Break % Respondents	Total	Survey version		
	Base	7-11	12-18	picture version
Base: All respondents aged 7-18yrs	373	178	195	-
Most of the time	45 12%	22 12%	23 12%	- -
Some of the time	154 41%	66 37%	88 45%	- -
Not very often	174 47%	90 51%	84 43%	- -

Q3_COMB. How have you been feeling during the coronavirus crisis? Sad

Counts Break % Respondents	Total	Survey version		
	Base	7-11	12-18	picture version
Base: All respondents aged 7-18yrs	371	178	193	-
Most of the time	54 15%	19 11%	35 18%	- -
Some of the time	137 37%	66 37%	71 37%	- -
Not very often	180 49%	93 52%	87 45%	- -

Q3_COMB. How have you been feeling during the coronavirus crisis? Safe

Counts Break % Respondents	Total	Survey version		
	Base	7-11	12-18	picture version
Base: All respondents aged 7-18yrs	380	187	193	-
Most of the time	317 83%	169 90%	148 77%	- -
Some of the time	54 14%	16 9%	38 20%	- -
Not very often	9 2%	2 1%	7 4%	- -

Q5_COMB. How confident do you feel about your learning during this time?

Counts Break % Respondents	Total	Survey version		
	Base	7-11	12-18	picture version
Base: All respondents	359	171	178	10
Not at all confident	39 11%	13 8%	26 15%	- -
Not confident	53 15%	15 9%	37 21%	1 10%
Neither	83 23%	32 19%	49 28%	2 20%
Confident	113 31%	66 39%	45 25%	2 20%
Very confident	71 20%	45 26%	21 12%	5 50%

Q15_COMB. Where are you getting your information on Coronavirus?

Counts Break % Respondents	Total	Survey version		
	Base	7-11	12-18	picture version
Base: All respondents aged 7-18yrs	405	205	200	-
Parents or family	294 73%	165 80%	129 65%	- -
School	53 13%	39 19%	14 7%	- -
Talking to friends	88 22%	37 18%	51 26%	- -
Posts from friends or people you follow on social media	67 17%	13 6%	54 27%	- -
Posts from news accounts on social media (e.g. the BBC)	127 31%	28 14%	99 50%	- -
TV	269 66%	136 66%	133 67%	- -
News websites or apps	137 34%	48 23%	89 45%	- -
Other	6 1%	5 2%	1 1%	- -
I'm not getting any information	11 3%	6 3%	5 3%	- -

7-11 Survey

This section shows responses to the 7-11 survey survey only

Q7. Are you in Year 6?

This question was only asked to respondents that were aged 10 or 11, it was asked in order to ensure that questions around transition were only asked to Year 6 pupils.

Counts	
Analysis %...	
Base: All respondents aged 7-11yrs	107 100%
Yes	59 55%
No	48 45%

Q8. What support will you need when you go to secondary school in September? (choose as many as you like)

This question was only asked to respondents that selected Yes to the previous question (Q7 above).

Counts	
Analysis %...	
Base: All respondents in year 6	55 100%
Talking about any worries I have with my Year 6 teacher before I go	14 25%
Information through the post	21 38%
Talking to older pupils in my secondary school	14 25%
Saying goodbye to my primary school	39 71%
Visiting my secondary school before school starts	37 67%
Support to feel confident and safe when I return to school	26 47%
Other	6 11%

Q16. What opportunities are you getting to use Welsh at the moment? (Tick all that apply)

Before this question respondents selected what language they usually learnt in, so that differences for those in Welsh medium and English medium education could be identified (as seen in the table below). Those in English medium education were also asked whether they usually learnt Welsh and this question was only asked if they selected yes. This means that this data does not include respondents who do not usually learn or use Welsh in school (e.g. some children in SEN settings).

Counts Break % Respondents	Total	What language do you usually learn in?	
	Base	I usually le- arn in We...	I usually le- arn in Eng...
Base: All respondents aged 7-11yrs who usually learn in Welsh or are learning Welsh	147	15	132
I use Welsh with my family	19 13%	7 47%	12 9%
I use Welsh with my friends	7 5%	4 27%	3 2%
I do activities and work from school	98 67%	12 80%	86 65%
I watch Welsh videos on social media/Youtube/TV or films	5 3%	2 13%	3 2%
I use a website (like BBC, Dysgu Cymraeg, or S4C Clic)	10 7%	3 20%	7 5%
I read Welsh books	14 10%	8 53%	6 5%
I use Urdd resources	2 1%	1 7%	1 1%
I use an app (like Duolingo)	12 8%	1 7%	11 8%
I am not getting opportunities to use my Welsh	41 28%	3 20%	38 29%
I would like more support	12 8%	1 7%	11 8%

Q17. Are you playing more or less often since schools closed on the 20 March?

Counts	
Analysis %...	
Base: All respondents aged 7-11yrs	202 100%
More	103 51%
Less	54 27%
About the same	45 22%

Q9A. What changes have affected your learning outside school the most? (choose all that apply)

This question was asked of all children who had previously selected that they were usually educated in a school setting.

Counts	
Analysis %...	
Base: All respondents aged 7-11yrs educated in setting	120 100%
Not being able to go outside as much	82 68%
Not being able to meet friends or groups	107 89%
Libraries being closed	21 18%
Leisure centres being closed	53 44%
Community centres being closed	28 23%
Parks being closed	82 68%
Museums, galleries and castles being closed	28 23%
Not being able to see a tutor or join a class outside school	49 41%
Nature reserves and outdoor space being closed	56 47%

12-18 Survey

This section shows responses from questions only asked in the 12-18 survey. Further detail from the 12-18 responses is included in the Combined Data section.

YPQ2A. Staying at home because of the coronavirus has changed our lives in lots of ways. Which changes have had the MOST impact on how you feel? Choose up to three

Counts Analysis %...	
Base: All respondents aged 12-18yrs	198 100%
Not being able to visit family members	133 67%
Being able to leave the house less	44 22%
Changes to your physical activity and how often you exercise	34 17%
Not being able to spend time with friends	144 73%
Not being able to take part in your usual activities or hobbies	49 25%
Changes to how you or your family shop for food	19 10%
School or college closing	85 43%
Other	6 3%

YPQ8A. Which of the following sentences are true for you? (select as many as you like)

Counts Analysis %...	
Base: All respondents aged 12-18yrs	199 100%
I do not have any worries about my education	26 13%
I'm worried about how this could affect my exam results	97 49%
I'm worried about falling behind with learning	112 56%
I'm sad about missing out on experiences I was looking forward to	95 48%
I'm worried about starting a new year or a new school in September	61 31%
I don't feel motivated to do school work at home	84 42%
I don't understand the school work I'm sent	57 29%
I'm worried about changes to my friendships when I go back	68 34%
I'm worried to changes to my school or teachers when I go back	47 24%
Other	5 3%

©Children's Commissioner for Wales

YPQ13. How do you feel about exams being cancelled? (choose the best option for you)

Before asking this question respondents aged between 14-18 were asked if they were expecting to take exams this summer. This question was only asked to those who selected yes.

Counts	
Analysis %...	
Base: All respondents aged 12-18yrs	67 100%
Happy	13 19%
Sad	3 4%
Worried	14 21%
Uncertain	32 48%
Angry	5 7%
Other	- -

©Children's Commissioner for Wales

YPQ27. What opportunities are you getting to use Welsh at the moment? (Tick all that apply)

Before this question respondents selected what language they usually learnt in, so that differences for those in Welsh medium and English medium education could be identified (as seen in the table below). Those in English medium education were also asked whether they usually learnt Welsh and this question was only asked if they selected yes. This means that this data does not include respondents who do not usually learn or use Welsh in school (e.g. some young people in post-16 education; some children in SEN settings).

Counts Break % Respondents	Total	What language do you usually learn in?	
	Base	I usually le- arn in We...	I usually le- arn in Eng...
Base: All respondents aged 12-18yrs who usually learn in Welsh or are learning Welsh	154	8	146
I use Welsh with my family	11 7%	3 38%	8 5%
I use Welsh with my friends	8 5%	3 38%	5 3%
I do activities and work from school	103 67%	5 63%	98 67%
I watch Welsh videos on social media/Youtube/TV or films	7 5%	2 25%	5 3%
I use a website (like BBC, Dysgu Cymraeg, or S4C Clic)	13 8%	3 38%	10 7%
I read Welsh books	7 5%	1 13%	6 4%
I use Urdd resources	- -	- -	- -
I use an app (like Duolingo)	32 21%	2 25%	30 21%
I am not getting opportunities to use my Welsh	40 26%	1 13%	39 27%
I would like more support	8 5%	1 13%	7 5%

YPQ28. What ways are you relaxing during social distancing?

Counts	
Analysis %...	
Base: All respondents aged 12-18yrs	197 100%
Creating things (e.g. construction kits, lego, modelling, making jewellery etc.)	40 20%
Exercise or other physical activity	108 55%
Drawing or painting	72 37%
Online Gaming (on a computer or electronic device)	127 64%
Making a film or taking photographs	28 14%
Playing games with other members of your household	80 41%
Talking to friends online	147 75%
Started a new hobby	32 16%
Mindfulness or relaxation techniques	21 11%
Other	13 7%

YPQ29. Are you relaxing more or less often since schools closed on the 20 March?

Counts	
Analysis %...	
Base: All respondents aged 12-18yrs	197 100%
More	114 58%
Less	41 21%
About the same	42 21%

YPQ9A. What changes have affected your learning outside school the most? (choose all that apply)

This question was asked of respondents that had selected that they were educated in a setting.

Counts	
Analysis %...	
Base: All respondents aged 12-18yrs educated in setting	40 100%
Not being able to go outside as much	21 53%
Not being able to meet friends or groups	33 83%
Libraries being closed	3 8%
Leisure centres being closed	13 33%
Community centres being closed	4 10%
Parks being closed	15 38%
Museums, galleries and castles being closed	5 13%
Not being able to see a tutor or join a class outside school	10 25%
Nature reserves and outdoor space being closed	8 20%

©Children's Commissioner for Wales

Accessible Survey

This section shows results from the accessible survey only. Further information from this survey is also shown in the Combined Data section.

AQ1. How worried are you about coronavirus today?

Counts Analysis %...	
Base: All respondents	11 100%
More worried than last week	1 9%
The same as last week	4 36%
Less worried than last week	1 9%
I am not worried	5 45%

AQ2. What help do you need MOST during this time?

Counts Analysis %...	
Base: All respondents	10 100%
More information about things to do at home	6 60%
More help with your school work	4 40%
More information about coronavirus	3 30%
Support for you to feel happy and healthy	3 30%
Support for families to get the food they need	2 20%
Something else	1 10%
I don't need help	2 20%

AQ3. What have you been doing to keep healthy?

Counts	
Analysis %...	
Base: All respondents	11 100%
Exercising	9 82%
Speaking with friends and family	8 73%
Playing	6 55%
Art and music	5 45%
School work	5 45%
Learning something new	4 36%
Reading and writing	3 27%
Mindfulness	2 18%
Something else	1 9%

AQ4. How have you been feeling about coronavirus?

Counts	
Analysis %...	
Base: All respondents	11 100%
Happy	4 36%
Sad	5 45%
Safe	5 45%
Worried	5 45%

AQ5a. Do you know where to get help if you need support to feel happy and well?

Counts	
Analysis %...	
Base: All respondents	11 100%
Yes	8 73%
No	1 9%
Not sure	3 27%

AQ6a. Coronavirus has changed how you learn. How confident do you feel about your learning during this time?

Counts	
Analysis %...	
Base: All respondents who learnt about coronavirus at school, college or apprenticeship	10 100%
Not confident at all	- -
Not confident	1 10%
Neither	2 20%
Confident	2 20%
Very confident	5 50%

AQ7a. How does your school give you or your family information?

Counts Analysis %...	
Base: All respondents who learnt about coronavirus at school, college or apprenticeship	10 100%
An app (like Class Dojo)	7 70%
Phone	5 50%
Email	4 40%
School Website	4 40%
Another website (like Purple Mash or Active Learn)	3 30%
Hwb	3 30%
Something else	2 20%
The school has not contacted me	- -

©Children's Commissioner for Wales

AQ8. Where do you get information about coronavirus?

Counts	
Analysis %...	
Base: All respondents	11 100%
TV	7 64%
Family	6 55%
Social media	5 45%
Websites or apps	5 45%
Friends	1 9%
School	- -
Something else	- -
I am not getting any information	- -

AQ9. How often are you playing since schools closed?

Counts	
Analysis %...	
Base: All respondents	10 100%
Playing more often	6 60%
Playing less often	3 30%
Playing the same amount	1 10%