

# HORNBY YOUTH VOICE PROJECT FINDINGS REPORT EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

OCTOBER 2023

Our aim with this project is to hear the collective response of as many of the youth in Hornby as possible, and to accurately report back what these views are to help inform the community of what's on top for young people today.

Our project was underpinned by seven core questions to unpack what is most important for young people today.

From the responses, we discovered six major themes:



## COMMUNITY

Community plays a pivotal role in fostering connection among young people by providing a sense of belonging, shared values, and opportunities for meaningful face-to-face interactions and connection. This creates a network of peers and mentors who can offer guidance, understanding, and emotional support, enriching their social lives and personal development.



## GAP

Our youth feel the generation gap between youth and adults is growing, demonstrated in the differences in perspectives, values, and communication styles, resulting in misunderstandings for our young people.



## CONNECTION

In a world increasingly driven by social media, the need for face-to-face connection among young people remains vital. It allows them to develop genuine relationships, practice effective communication skills, and experience the richness of in-person interactions that digital platforms cannot replicate.



## PRESSURE

The pressure faced by young people, whether from academic expectations, or social comparisons significantly impact their mental health. Excessive pressure is leading to stress and anxiety, undermining their self-esteem and hindering their ability to make well-informed decisions and pursue their goals.



## MENTAL HEALTH

We heard about a lack of face-to-face connection among young people in our digital world, worries about their mental health and that of their peers, and their feelings of isolation, loneliness, and anxiety.



## ACCEPTANCE

Acceptance plays a profound role in the lives of young people and is highly valued by them, it nurtures their self-esteem, fosters a sense of belonging, and empowers them to embrace their unique identities and perspectives. When young individuals feel accepted for who they are, it enhances their mental health, enabling them to navigate life with greater confidence and resilience.