

Sale Lions Park Masterplan



CONSULTATION SUMMARY

14 Jan 2026

Contents

- Introduction** 3
- How we gathered information** 4
- Survey Results** 5
- Dotmocracy** 20
- Drawings** 21
- Model Building** 23
- Summary** 24



Introduction

Working with Wellington Shire Council, a consultation process was conducted over several days across October and November, to gather feedback and insights from the community for the Masterplan of Lions Park.

Consultation methods including school consultation, girl guides workshop, girls only workshop, and an online survey open for the whole community were undertaken. A total of 110 people were engaged with across the full consultation process.

As part of this consultation, dedicated sessions to speak directly with young women in the community were held. This project seeks to increase participation in physical activity and public life for young women, recognising the importance of inclusive spaces for young women and girls. Given the drop-off in girls' and women's participation in sports and recreation, this consultation sought to address those barriers and support a more welcoming and inclusive park environment.

The consultation provided a valuable snapshot of the community's preferences, concerns, challenges, and aspirations for the future of Lions Park. It also collected stories and local knowledge, offering unique perspectives on the area, as well as vital information about girls needs in public space.

The primary purpose of the consultation was to gather community input to guide and inform the direction of the Masterplan and Youth Space of Lions Park, ensuring it meets the needs and expectations of the Sale community.



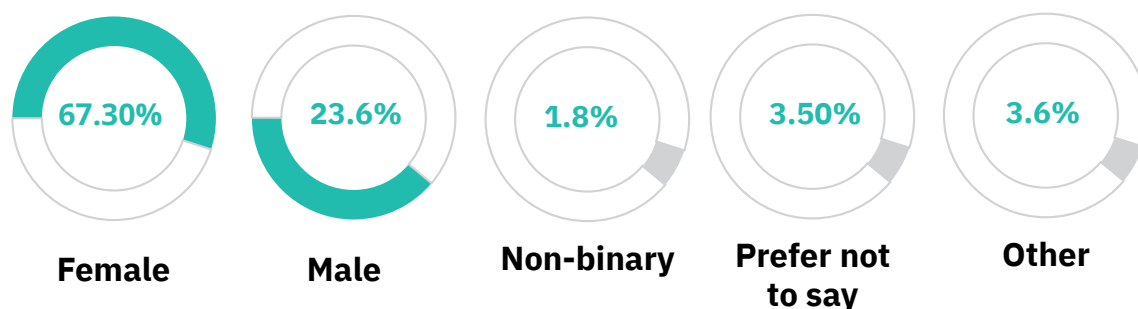
How we gathered the information

	Participants	Age Group
School Consultations		
Sale College (Boys Group)	12	10-16
St Thomas Primary School (Boys and Girls)	49	7-16
Girls Focus Group		
Sale Girl Guides Workshop	16	10-16
Sale College (Girls Group1+2)	16	10-16
Online Consultation		
Broader Community	17	5-60+
TOTAL PARTICIPANTS	110	

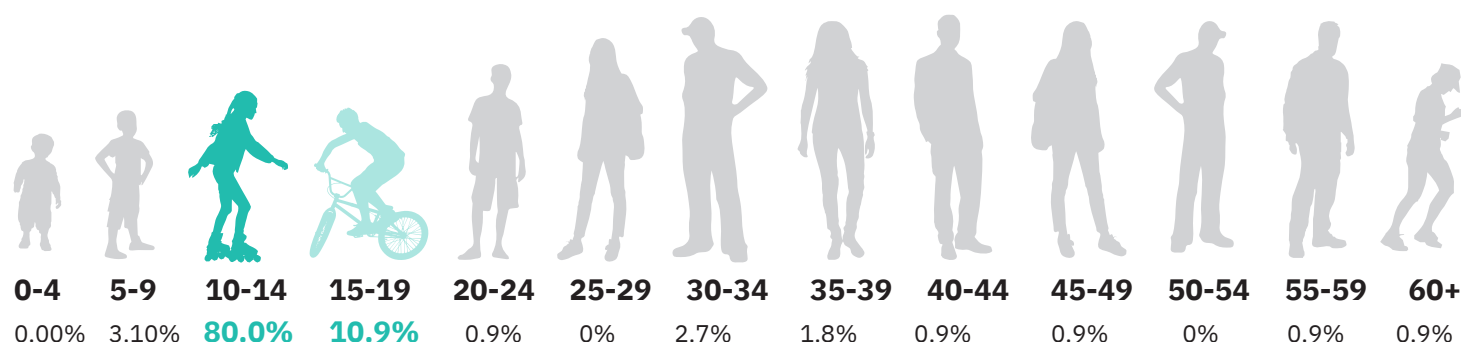


Participants

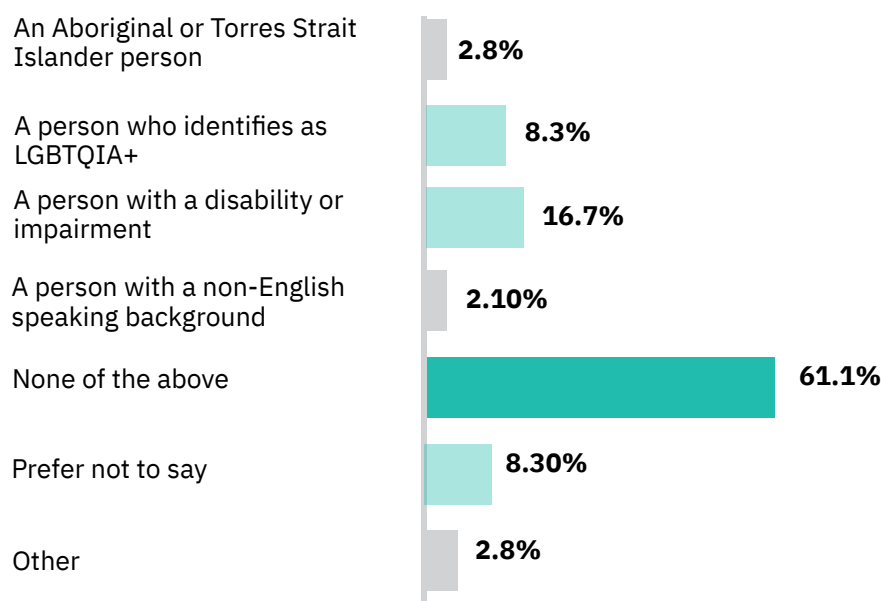
Gender



Age Group



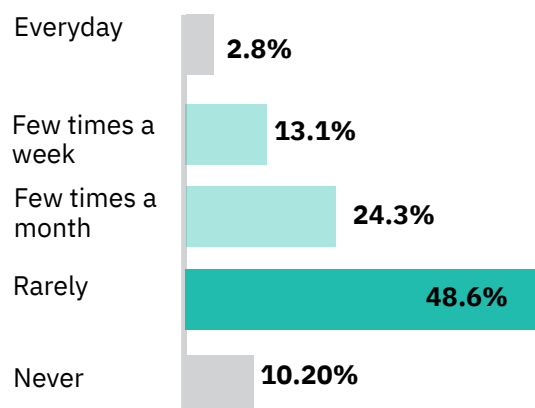
Identity



About the Existing Park

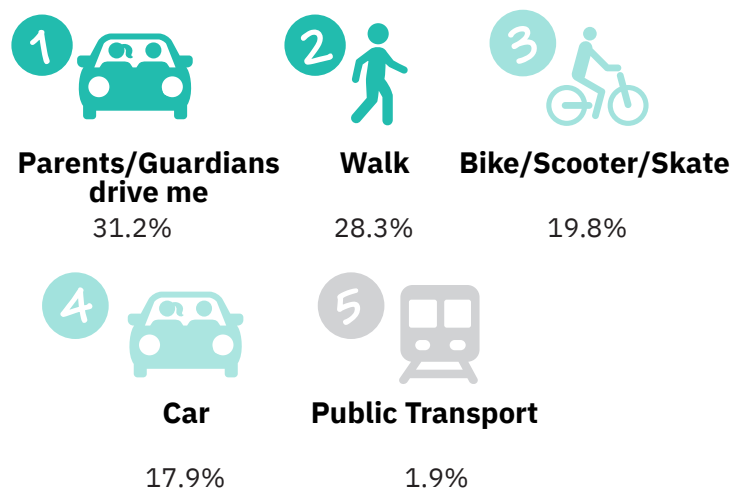
How often

How often do you visit Lions Park?

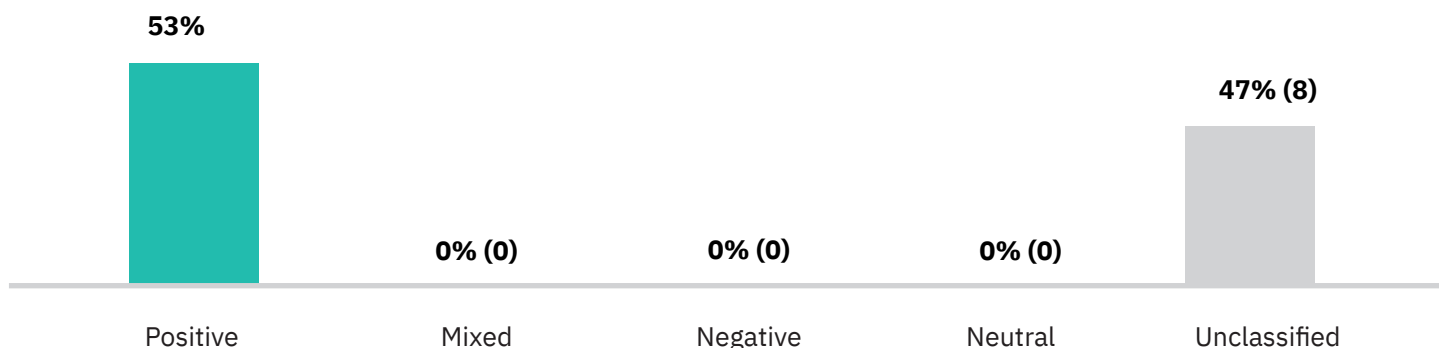


Methods of Travel

How do you get to the Lions Park?



What do you like about Lions Park?



Key themes mentioned:

1. Pump Track & Riding Facilities (≈52 mentions)

- Pump track and riding loop are the most frequently mentioned features
- Popular for biking, scootering and general riding
- Valued as a fun, active space that supports repeated use
- Seen as a key attraction for older children and teenagers

2. Playground Equipment & Play Value (≈39 mentions)

- Strong appreciation for the playground overall
- Frequent mentions of swings and monkey bars
- Recognised as catering to a range of ages

3. Oval & Open Space (≈24 mentions)

- Large grassed areas valued for: Running, Ball games, Informal play
- Appreciated for flexibility and space

4. Athletics Track / Running Track (≈17 mentions)

- Used for running, training, and fitness
- More prominent in broader community survey and boys only responses

5. Nature, Walking & Outdoor Environment (≈10 mentions)

- Walking around the park
- Trees and outdoor setting
- Positive perception of the open, outdoor feel

About the Future Space

Improvement

What could be improved at Lions Park?

Community Overall:

Key ideas mentioned:

• Improve play equipment	37
• Improve pump track and paths	30
• Improve toilets and amenities	20
• Add more shade	15
• Add seating	15
• Improve safety	15
• Improve sports and active recreation facilities	13

Girls Focus Group:

Key ideas mentioned

• Improve play equipment	18
• Improve pump track	15
• Add more shade	12
• Add seating and social space	12
• Improve safety	12
• Improve toilets and amenities	8
• Competitive recreation elements	1

What to add?

What would you like to see added at Lions Park?

Community Overall:

Key ideas mentioned:

1. Sports Courts & Active Recreation (26 mentions total)
 - Basketball court – 10 mentions
 - Gaga pit – 6 mentions
 - General ball-game areas – 5 mentions
2. Larger / Enhanced Pump Track & Bike Features (5 mentions total)
 - Bigger pump track – 2 mentions
 - More loops and ramps – 3 mentions
3. Flying Fox, Swings & Climbing Structures (35 mentions total)
 - Flying fox – 13 mentions
 - More swings – 12 mentions
 - New climbing structures – 4 mentions
 - Adventure-style play (general requests) – 6 mentions
4. Water Play & Splash Elements (9 mentions total)
 - Water play zone – 5 mentions
 - Mist or splash features – 3 mentions
 - Cooler play options for summer – 1 mention
5. Shade, Seating & Social Spaces (13 mentions total)
 - More shaded areas – 3 mentions
 - Places to sit and gather – 6 mentions
 - Picnic-friendly features (picnic tables, BBQs, café/ snack options) – 4 mentions
6. Other:
 - Inclusive pathways and access – 3 mentions

Girls Focus Group:

Key ideas mentioned:

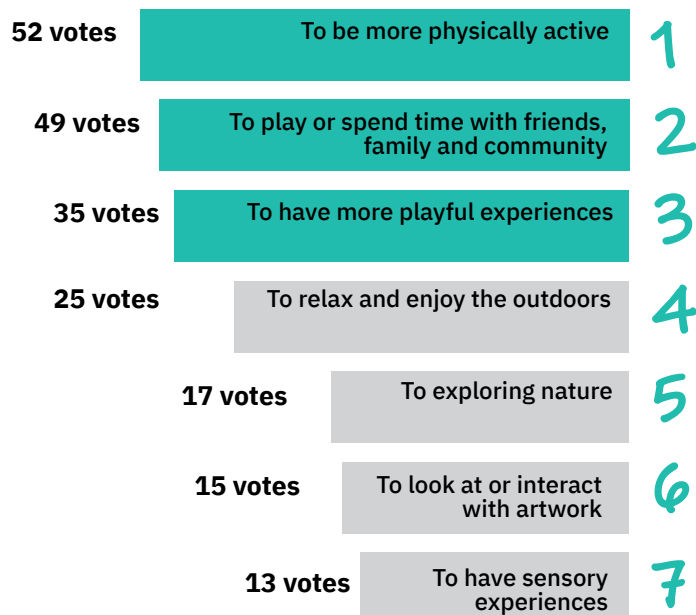
1. Adventure-Style & Active Play (4 mentions total)
 - Adventure / obstacle / ninja-style play – 3 mentions
 - General active recreation features – 1 mention
2. Play Equipment (1 mention total)
 - More swings – 1 mention
3. Water Play & Splash Elements (2 mentions total)
 - Water play zone – 1 mention
 - Mist or splash features – 1 mention
4. Shade, Seating & Social Spaces (4 mentions total)
 - Places to sit and gather – 1 mention
 - Picnic-friendly features (BBQs, picnic tables, café/snack spaces) – 3 mentions
5. Accessibility & Inclusive Design (1 mention total)
 - Accessible play equipment – 1 mention

About the Future Playspace

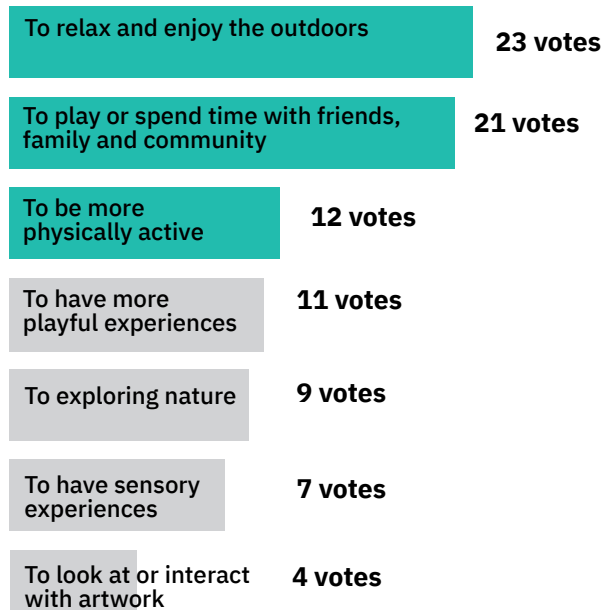
Experience

What experience would you like to have more of at Lions Park?

Community Overall



Girls Focus Group:



Other mentions:

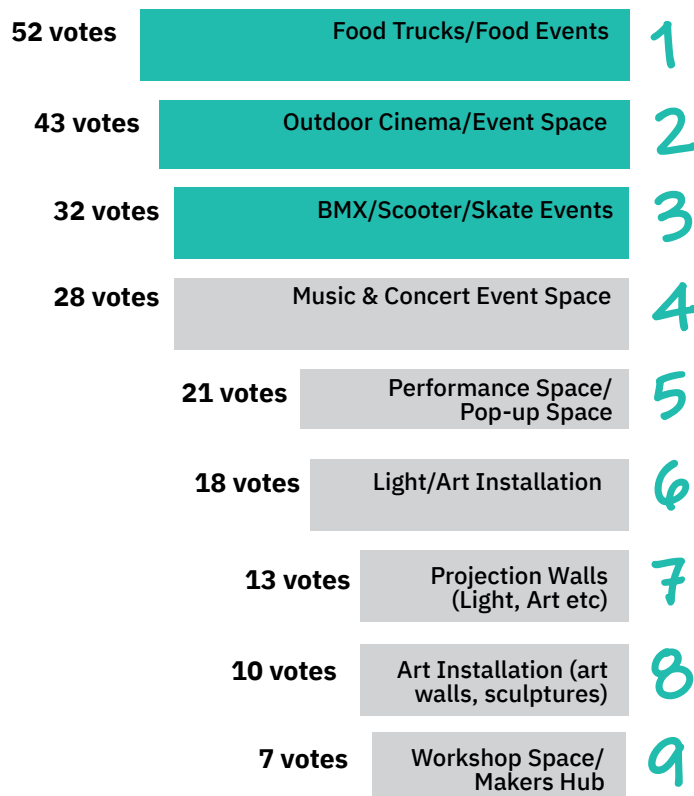
- Pump Track/Bike Riding 2
- Something more exciting 1

About the Future Playspace

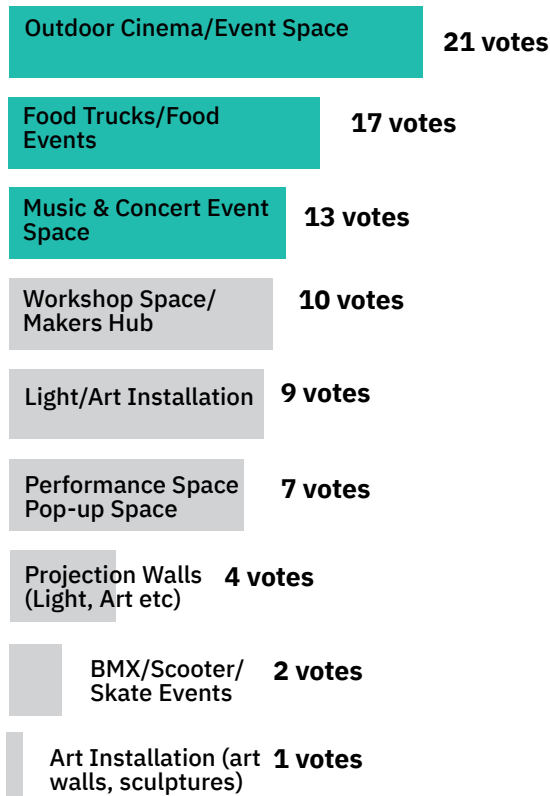
Activation

What active recreational elements do you think are important to include at Lions Park?
(Number your top 3)

Community Overall



Girls Focus Group:



Other mentions:

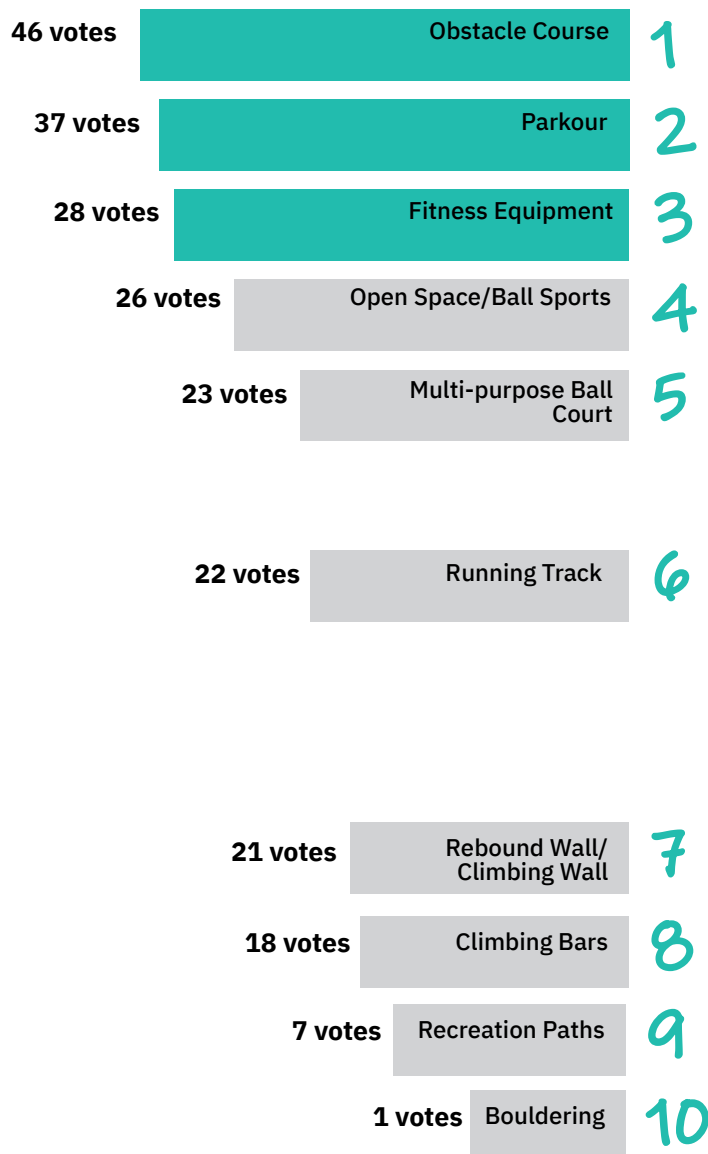
- 4 Square Tourney 1
- Market 1
- All day basketball tournament 1
- Down Ball 1

About the Future Playspace

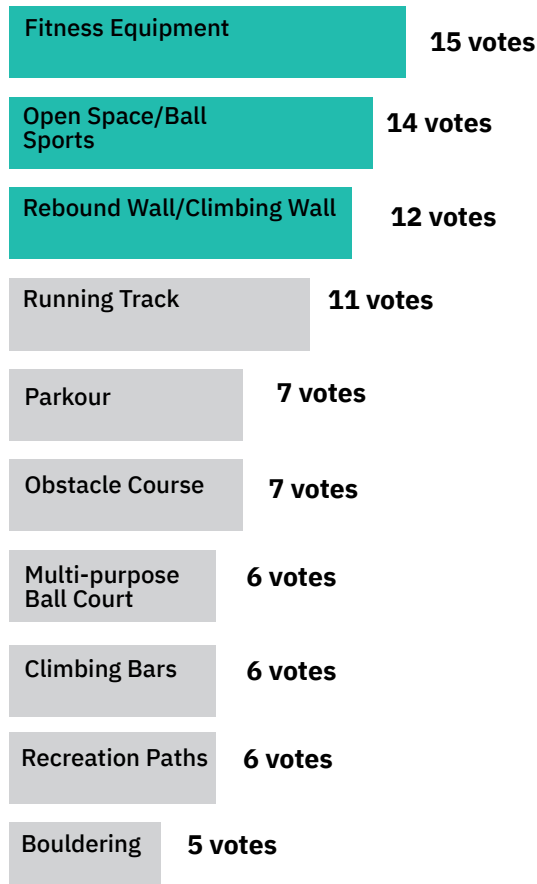
Active Recreational

What active recreational elements do you think are important to include at Lions Park?
(Number your top 3)

Community Overall



Girls Focus Group:



Other mentions:

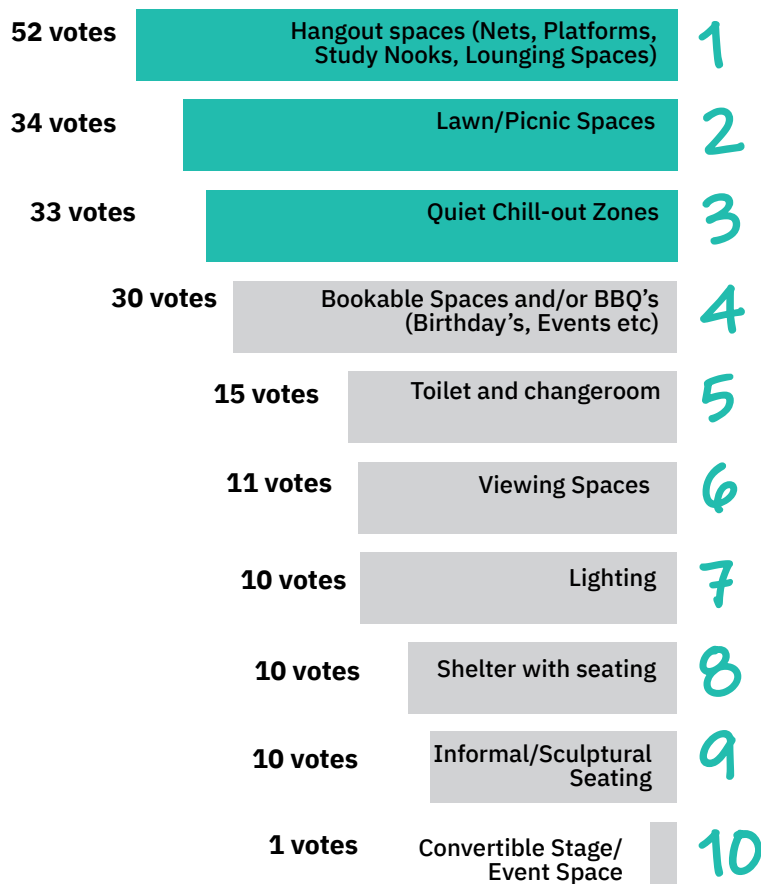
- Pump Upgrade 1
- 4 square courts 1
- Slide 1
- Compact tag/run/parkour 1

About the Future Playspace

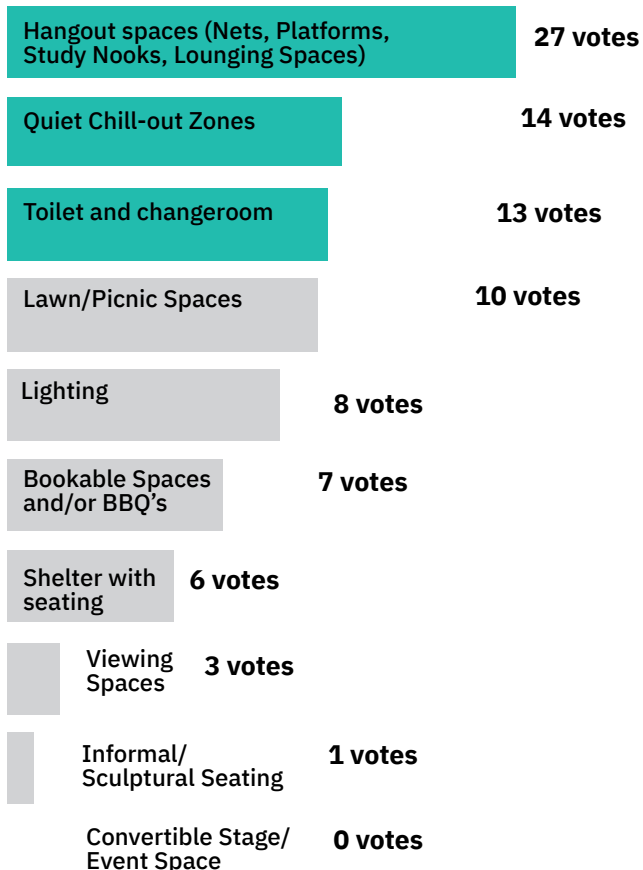
Community Elements

What community elements do you think are important to include at Lions Park?
(Number your top 3)

Community Overall:



Girls Focus Group:



Other mentioned:

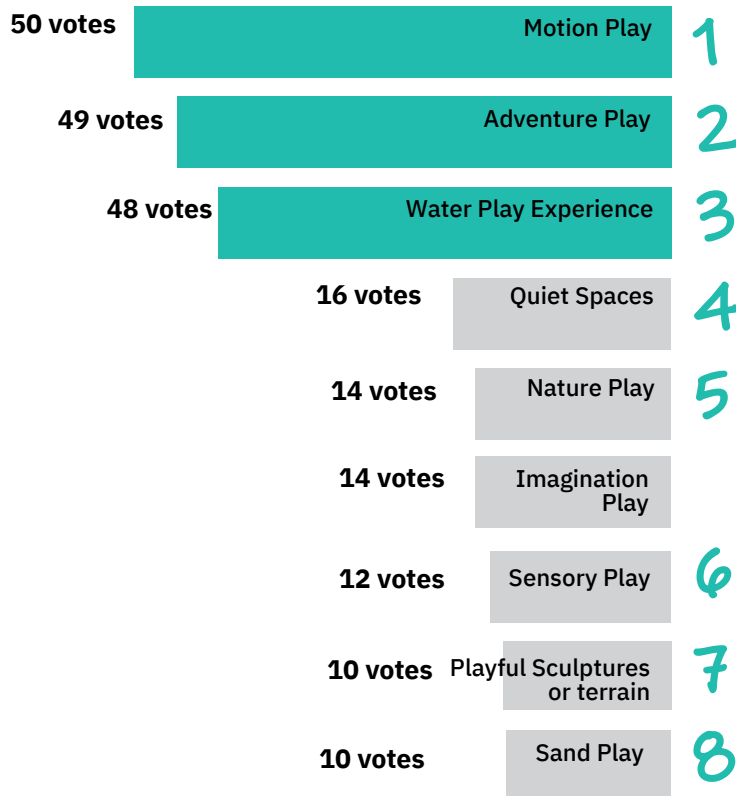
- 4 square court 1
- Down ball 1
- Gaming Console 1
- Water Park 1
- A hole to dig in 1
- Track 1

About the Future Playspace

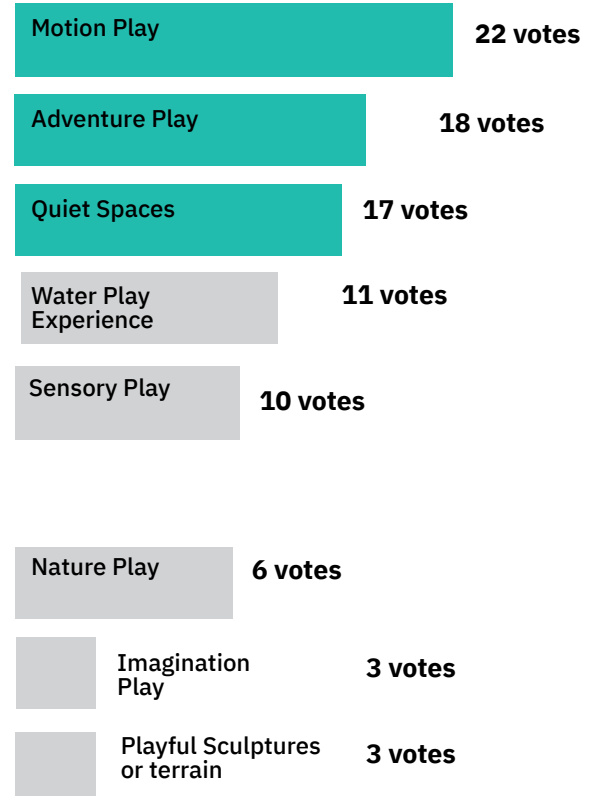
Play Experience

What play experience do you think are important to include at Lions Park? (Number your top 3)

Community Overall:



Girls Focus Group:



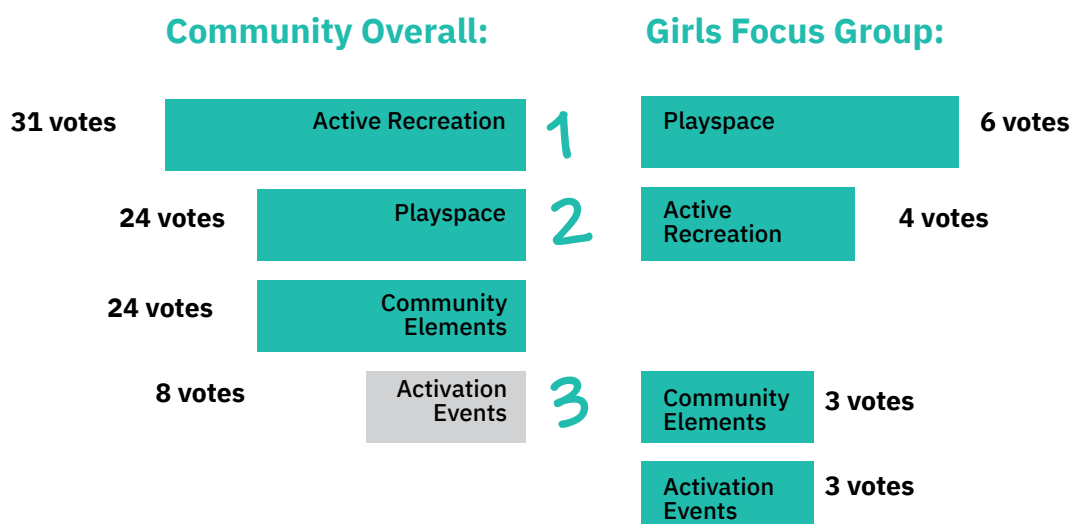
Other mentions:

- 4 Square court - 1 mention
- Athletic Track - 1 mention

About the Future Playspace

Most Important

From 1 to 4, what is the most important feature to have in Lions Park? Required Rank in order of most important (1) to least important (4)



Free Time Activities

What do you like to do in your free time?

Community Overall:

- Outdoor active play / park-based activities (≈24 mentions)
- Socialising / hanging out (≈22 mentions)
- Sport & ball games (≈14 mentions)
- Skate / scooter / bike (≈6 mentions)
- Food / shopping / casual outings (≈4 mentions)
- Creative / hobbies (≈3 mentions)
- Screen-based activities (games / TV / social media) (≈2 mentions)

Girls Group:

- Socialising / hanging out (≈10 mentions)
- Outdoor active play / park-based activities (≈8 mentions)
- Creative / hobbies (≈4 mentions)
- Sport & ball games (≈3 mentions)
- Screen-based activities (games / social media) (≈3 mentions)
- Food / shopping / casual outings (≈2 mentions)

About the Future Playspace

Other Park?

Is there a park or place you like to visit? What makes it special? (It does not have to be in Sale)

Botanic Gardens (Sale)

Reason:

- Strong connection to nature
- Trees, gardens, and wildlife
- Peaceful and relaxing environment
- Good walking paths

Apex Park (Stratford)

Reason:

- Good playground facilities
- Open space for play and socialising
- Central and easy to access

Stratford Park / Recreation Reserve

Reason:

- Large open areas
- Sports facilities
- Space to run around and play games

Maffra Recreation Area / Park

Reason:

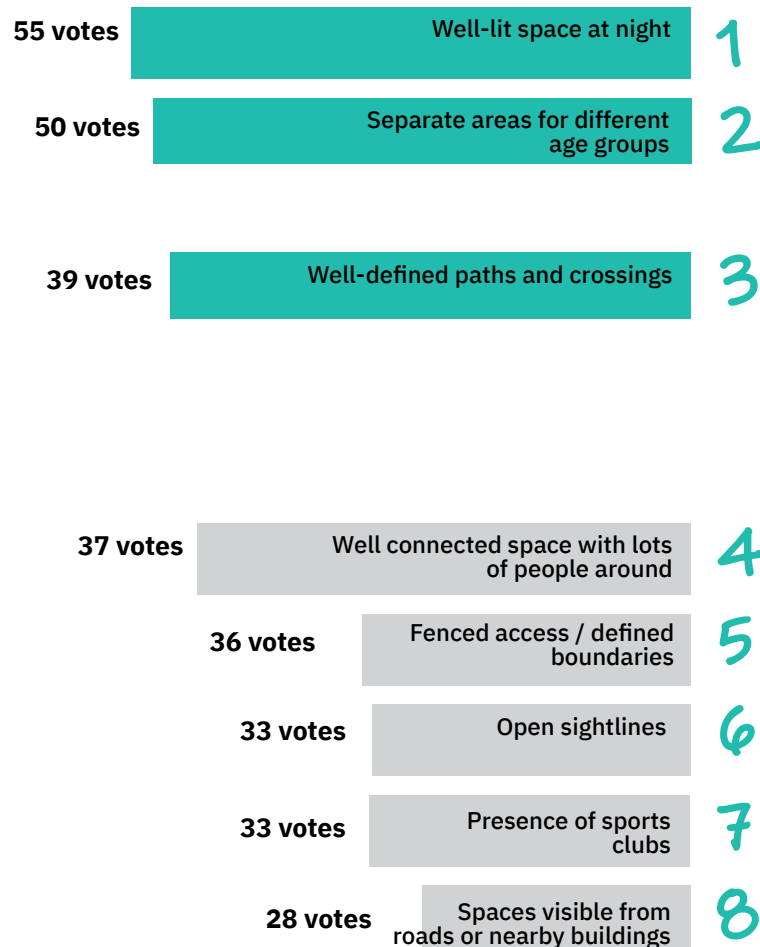
- Good playground and facilities
- Open space for families
- Well-maintained environment

About the Future Playspace

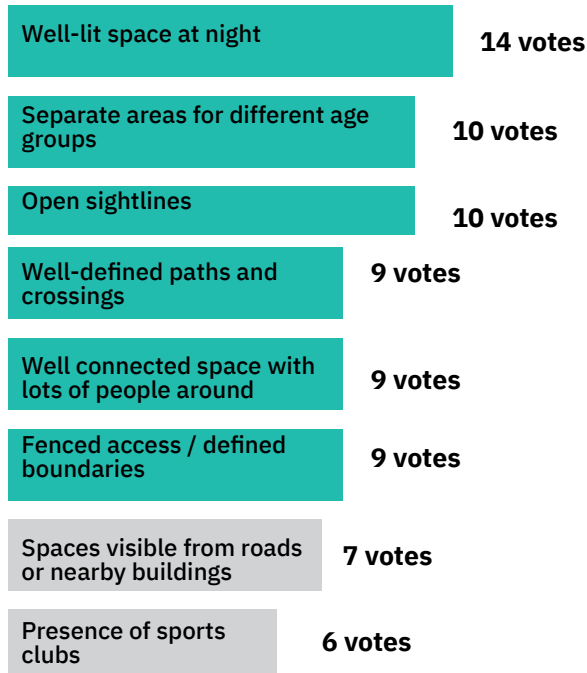
Safety Features

What is important to you in a park?

Community Overall:



Girls Focus Group:

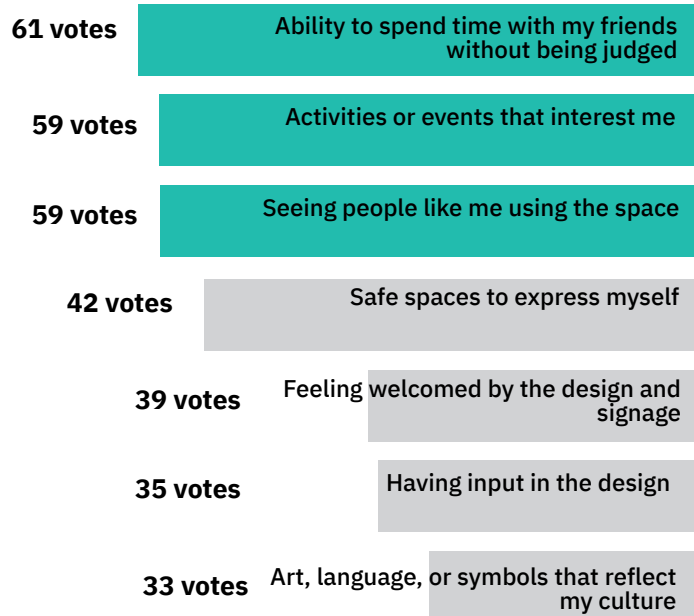


About the Future Playspace

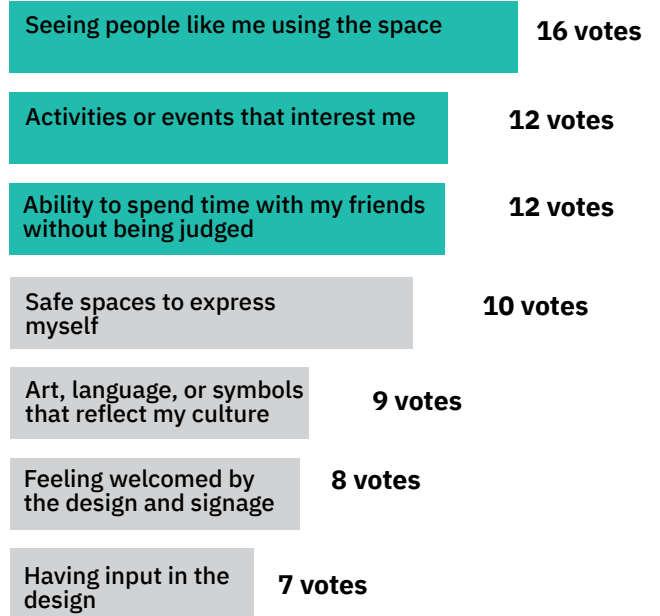
What makes a welcoming park?

What would make you feel that this park is a place where you belong?

Community Overall:



Girls Focus Group:



**Note: Girls focus group responses in the next page*

About the Future Playspace

Additional Suggestion

Any other comments or thoughts you would like to share with us?

Community Overall:

- 1 **Safety, Lighting & Feeling Secure (≈26 mentions total)**
 - Improved lighting, particularly for evening use – 11
 - Feeling safe when using the park – 8
 - Clear sightlines and reduced hidden areas – 4
 - Defined boundaries and fencing for comfort – 3
- 2 **Play Equipment & Active Recreation (≈24 mentions total)**
 - More or upgraded play equipment – 9
 - Pump track improvements or expansion – 8
 - Adventure-style play (flying fox, climbing, swings) – 5
 - Facilities for older children and teenagers – 2
- 3 **Amenities, Maintenance & Comfort (≈21 mentions total)**
 - Toilets and basic amenities – 8
 - Cleanliness and ongoing maintenance – 7
 - Seating and bins – 6
- 4 **Seating, Shade & Social Spaces (≈18 mentions total)**
 - Additional seating and benches – 7
 - Shade structures or trees – 6
 - Places to sit and supervise or gather – 5
- 5 **Inclusivity, Belonging & Representation (≈14 mentions total)**
 - Inclusive design for different abilities – 6
 - Feeling welcome in the space – 4
 - Seeing diverse users reflected in the park – 3
 - Cultural representation – 1
- 6 **Events & Activation (≈12 mentions total)**
 - Community events or activities – 5
 - Ongoing activation to encourage use – 4
 - Programming for young people – 3

About the Future Playspace

Additional Suggestion

Any other comments or thoughts you would like to share with us?

Girls focus group:

1

Safety, Visibility & Comfort (≈16 mentions total)

- Lighting and night-time safety – 7
- Open sightlines and no hidden corners – 5
- Feeling comfortable using the space – 4

2

Inclusivity, Belonging & Representation (≈14 mentions total)

- Inclusive design for different abilities – 5
- Seeing people “like me” in the space – 4
- Cultural representation through art, signage or language – 3
- Feeling accepted and not judged – 2

3

Seating, Shade & Social Hangout Spaces (≈13 mentions total)

- Seating for socialising with friends – 6
- Shaded hangout areas – 4
- Comfortable places to stay longer – 3

4

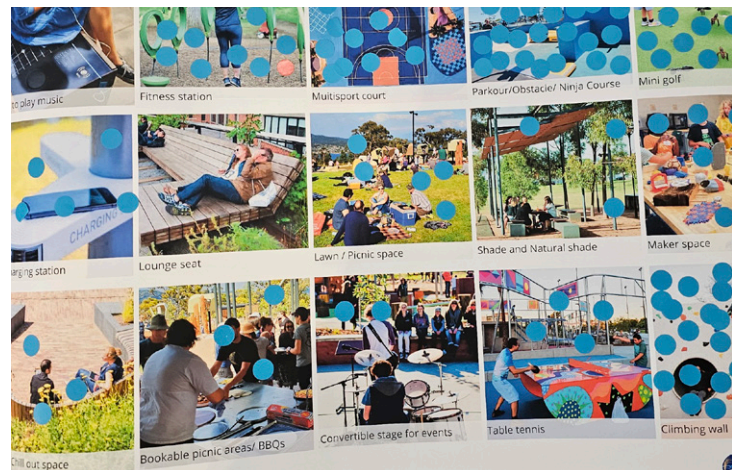
Play & Activity (≈9 mentions total)

- Play equipment and fun activities – 4
- Active recreation features – 3
- Flexible spaces for informal play – 2

Activity Description

Dotmocracy was used in the school consultation and Sale Girl Guides Workshops to vote for their favorite play and recreational activities.

A dotmocracy presents images to the participants for them to vote on with sticker, participant had 6 stickers each and chose images from 2 categories. this activity allows participants to see varied options and types of spaces possible for the future of lions park. it also allows for those who prefer visual style of interaction to get involved and tell us about their thoughts and ideas



Dotmocracy Results

Park Feature/Amenity

**Note: Top 3 elements chosen by the participants*

Mix groups



Outdoor Cinema
56 votes



Hangout nets /social net
37 votes



Skating
30 votes

Girls only Group



Outdoor Cinema
24 votes



Hangout nets /social net
22 votes



Going to markets / events
11 votes

Experience / Activity

**Note: Top 3 elements chosen by the participants*

Mix groups



Parkour/Obstacle/ Ninja Course
56 votes



Climbing wall
45 votes



USB Charging station
29 votes

Girls only Group



USB Charging station
21 votes



Shade and Natural shade



Quiet / Chill out space

14 votes



Parkour/Obstacle/ Ninja Course

13 votes

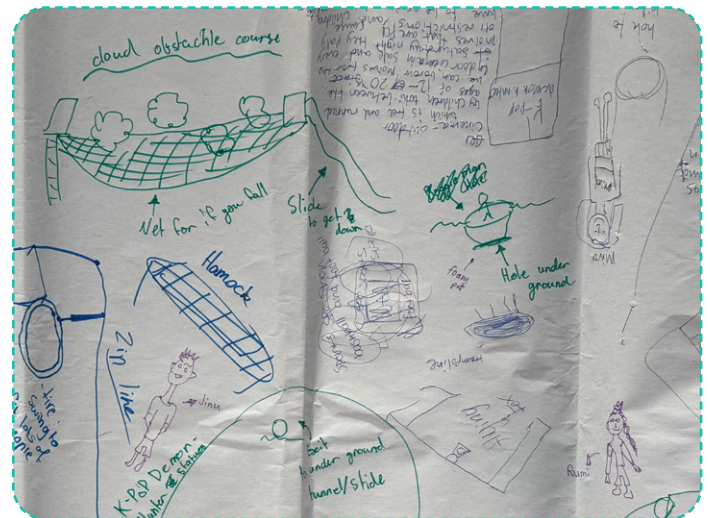
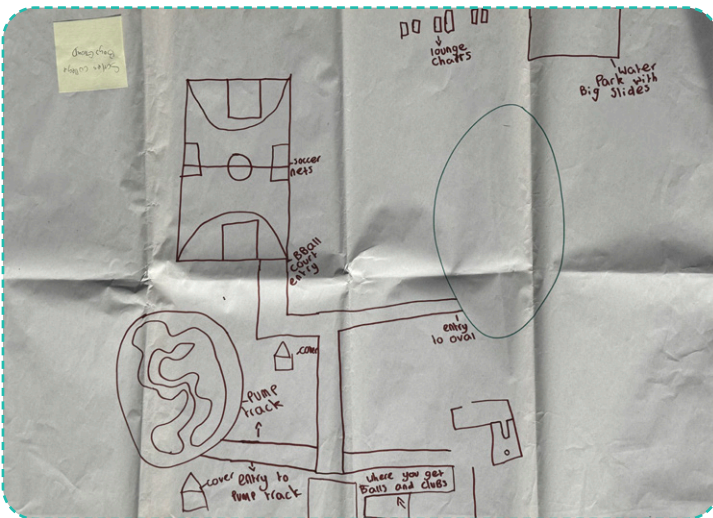
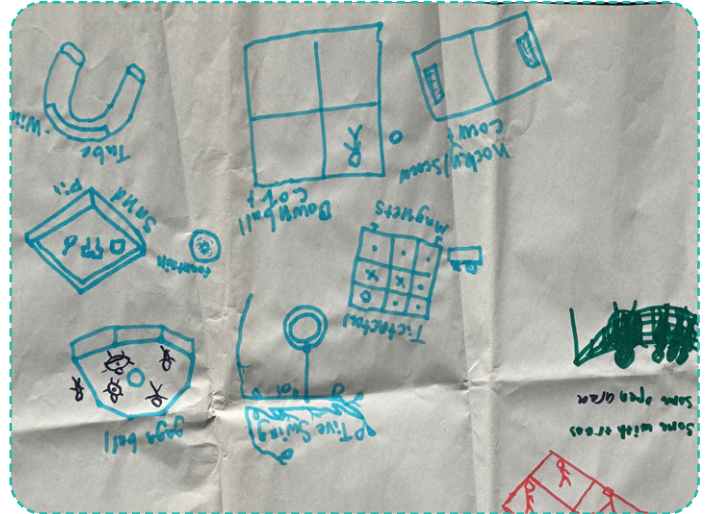
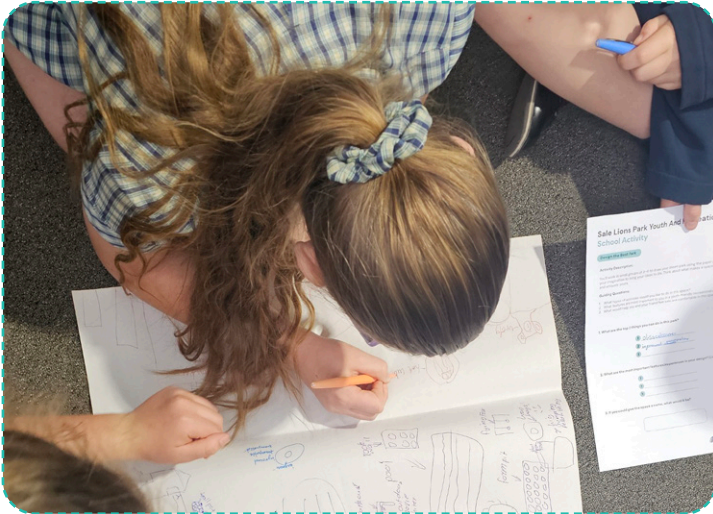


Climbing wall



School Activity – Design your ideal Playspace

Students worked in groups to design their ideal playspace, detailing specific activities and features. This activity provided valuable insights into what children and youth envision for the space, showcasing their creativity and innovative ideas.



Key activities mentioned:

**Note: This data represents responses collected from the activity sheets completed during the school session, where the groups identified their top three activities for the space.*

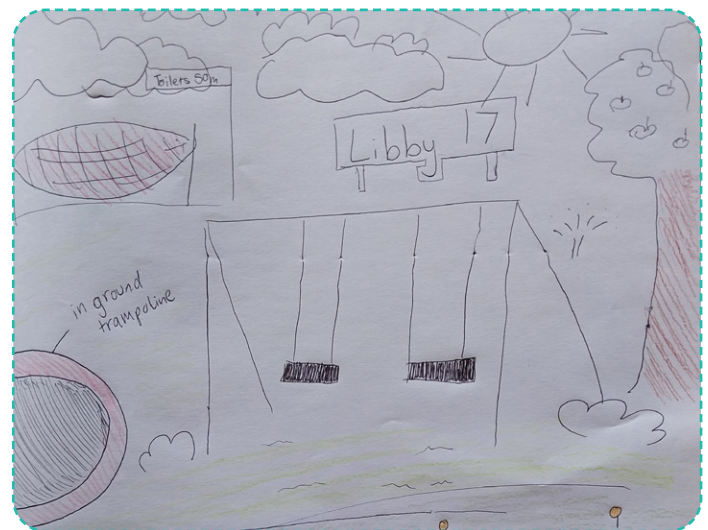
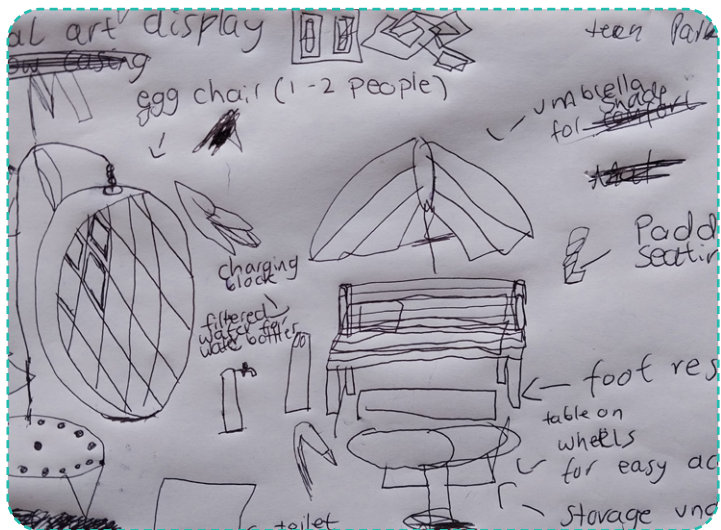
- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| • Climbing wall | 5 |
| • Outdoor Cinema | 3 |
| • Basketball court/Multi court | 3 |
| • Water Park/place to swim | 2 |
| • Down ball | 2 |
| • Gaga ball | 2 |
| • Bike Track | 2 |
| • Flying Fox | 2 |
| • Obstacle course | 2 |

Name suggested:

- ACMLCH'S PARK
- Paw Paw Park
- Power Park
- Super Sonic Park
- Wonder Park
- Fun Park
- Rovers Park
- Bowlers Park

Girl Guides Activity – Design your ideal Playspace

The girl guides had an opportunity to design their ideal playspace, detailing specific activities and features. This activity provided valuable insights into what girls envision for the space, showcasing their creativity and innovative ideas.



Key theme mentioned:

• Seating/Table	10
• Lounge/Hangout Net	8
• Shade	8
• Toilet/Changeroom	8
• Water play feature	7
• Screen/Cinema	5
• Lawn Grass area	5
• Skate park / Wheelsports area	4
• Climbing Feature	4
• Trees/Plantings	4
• Parkour/Obstacle Course	4
• Basketball court/multi court	4
• Art display	3
• Swing	3
• Path	3

• BBQ	3
• Café/place to buy food	3
• Flying fox	3
• Slide	2
• Lighting	2
• Space to relax	2
• Stage	2
• Trampoline	2
• Drink Fountain	2
• Shared library	1
• Rocks/Boulders	1
• Bird Area	1
• Table Tennis	1
• Decorative Lighting	1
• Rental locker	1
• Fencing	1
• Oval	1
• Pickle ball	1

Girls Group Activity – Design your ideal Playspace

Focus group worked in groups to design their ideal playspace by using coloured clay and other craft materials.

This activity provided valuable insights into what young female envision for the space, showcasing their creativity and innovative ideas.



Key theme mentioned:

***Note:** This data represents responses collected from the activity sheets completed during the school session, where the groups identified their top three activities for the space.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| • Cinema | 2 |
| • Climbing elements | 2 |
| • Basketball / multi courts | 1 |
| • Skate facilities | 1 |
| • Roller skate area | 1 |
| • Relaxing/chilling | 1 |

Other good ideas discussed in the exercise:

- Place to meeting friends
- Food truck
- Toilet facility
- Lounge/Bean bag
- Stage/performance space
- Large Trampoline

The Lions Park consultation gathered feedback from both the broader community and girls focused groups, providing a comprehensive understanding of how existing park is used, what was valued most, and what was needed to support a more welcoming and inclusive space in the future.

Across all community responses, there was strong and consistent support for improving play spaces and active recreation opportunities, with a desire for more diverse play equipment and active recreation facilities such as skating, climbing, and parkour elements. Overall, providing facilities that catered to different age groups was identified as an important aspect of the park, meeting not only the needs of young people but also those of the broader community. The Sale community also expressed a desire for practical improvements such as paths, amenities, shade, seating, and ongoing maintenance. Safety considerations were also mentioned, with lighting, visibility, and well defined circulation identified as essential to comfortable park use.

In comparison, girls focus group responses placed relatively stronger emphasis on belonging, social comfort, and feeling welcome, alongside safety. While play and activity remained important, girls highlighted the importance of spaces that supported social connection, for example seating, shaded spaces, hangout areas, and places to gather with friends. Feeling safe and welcomed was not only associated with lighting and visibility, but also with the presence of others and open sightlines, as well as an environment free from judgement. Girls were more likely to identify representation, inclusivity, and cultural recognition as key factors in whether the park felt like a place where young people belonged. This included seeing people “like me” in the space, inclusive design, and community cues such as student-designed elements being incorporated into the final space. Some of the top features mentioned by the girls focus groups included social nets, shade, quiet and chill-out spaces, and USB charging stations.

Across both cohorts, the consultation showed that a welcoming park was defined by more than just facilities. While the broader community prioritised functional infrastructure and activity based destinations, girls emphasised the social and emotional experience of the space, highlighting that safety, comfort, and belonging were closely linked.

Together, the findings indicated that for Lions Park, future planning and design should balance high quality and more diverse play and active recreation opportunities with welcoming social spaces, inclusive design, and clear safety measures, creating a park that supported community use while also encouraging young people to stay, connect, and feel confident using the space.