# YOUNG PEOPLE'S REPORT CASI 2011

VOYPIC
voice of young people in care

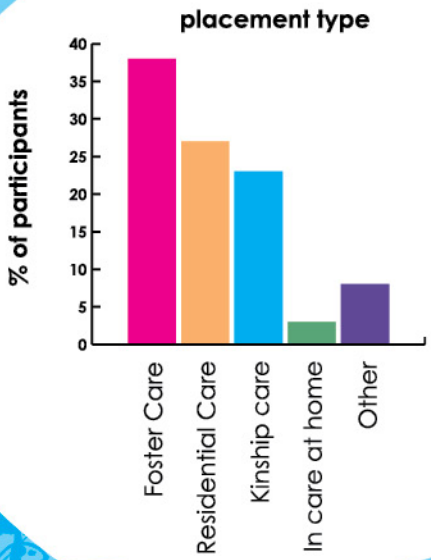
VOYPIC has started an exciting survey called CASI. CASI stands for Computer Assisted Self-interviewing. It asked questions about care, being involved in decisions, education, lifestyle and key relationships. CASI is our way of making sure people hear our voice!

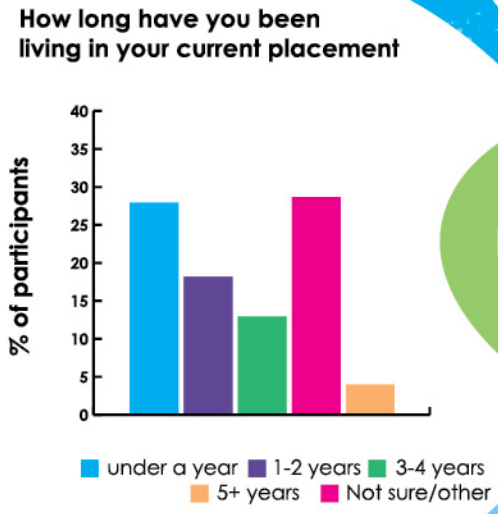
# WHO TOOK PART IN CASI?

121 children and young people in care throughout Northern Ireland aged 8 to 18 took part in the CASI 2011 survey. They did this online or with VOYPIC staff on a laptop. As well as this report written by young people, there's a more detailed report - check out the VOYPIC website for it.

# WHERE WE LIVE...

80% of us feel safe where we live and 72% feel settled where we live




"I enjoy where I live and to me it's home"

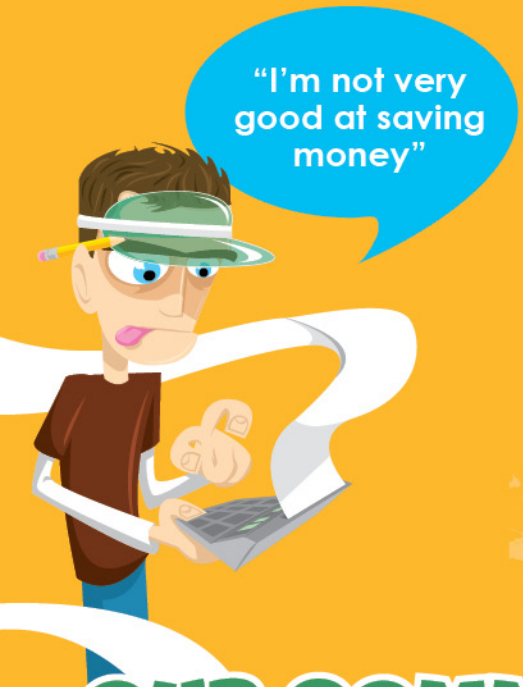
# WHAT WE SAID ABOUT HEALTH

CASI asked us loads of stuff about diet, nutrition, weight, alcohol and smoking and 75% of us said our diet is healthy!

**40%** of us exercise at least five days a week!
**16%** of us eat five portions of fruit and veg a day
**50%** eat breakfast five or more days a week!
**17%** of us need help to stop smoking!
**73%** of us have seen a dentist
**76%** of us have seen a GP recently
**40%** of us worry about our health

This suggests more needs to be done to help us to be healthy and happy!

# MONEY! WE LOVE IT.

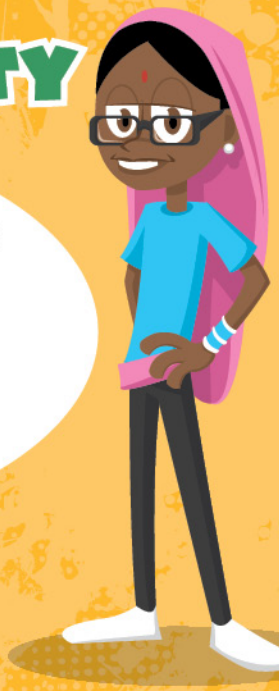



**CASI ASKED US ABOUT MONEY**

- **86**% of us get pocket money
- **62**% of us under the age of 12 have a bank account
- **55**% of us try and save money
- **54**% of us spend ALL of our money each week

# OUR COMMUNITY

Some of us are living in a different community from where we come from. But **55**% of us get on well with other young people in our area and **74**% of us feel safe in our neighbourhood



"I like my teachers. They are very understanding and I like the school. All in all it's brilliant!"

**60**% of us never miss or dodge school!

**73**% of us get on well with others at school and

**79**% of us are not bullied at school!

# CASI ASKED US WHAT OUR HOBBIES ARE

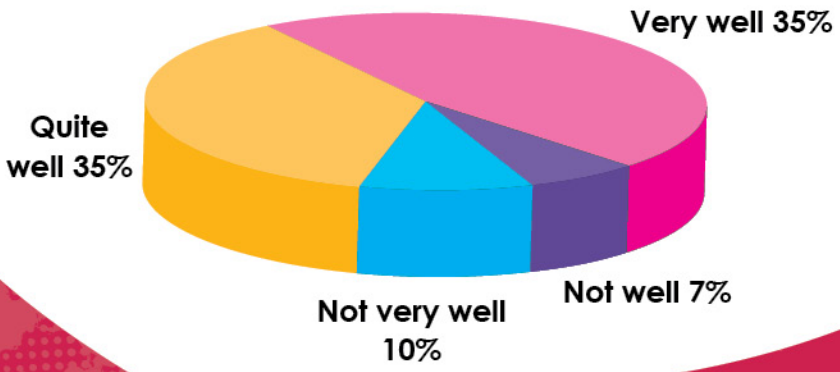
We said we like:

- Listening to music
- Shopping
- Sport
- Drama
- Texting
- Spending time with friends
- Playing computer games
- Facebook
- Watching TV
- Youth clubs
- Spending time with family, especially parents!

# WHAT WE REALLY THINK ABOUT SCHOOL

Research says kids in care are more likely to leave school with no qualifications and more likely to be unemployed. But CASI found out 88% of us are in school, college, or training and 58% of us enjoy school!

## CASI ASKED US HOW WELL WE WERE GETTING ON AT SCHOOL



# ISSUES WE THINK ARE
# CHILDREN AND YOU

## BEING LISTENED TO

- I want someone to listen to me
- I think it's important for all young people in care to have a voice and to have a decision in things while they are in care. I feel like most people in care do not really have a voice especially if they are under 18 and it's not fair. If they had more say in what decisions are being made or what is happening they would be a lot happier

## CONTACT

- It is important for kids in care to see their families. Contact is so important
- People need to know how not being with your parents can affect you

# IMPORTANT FOR ALL
# NG PEOPLE IN CARE

# ISSUES WE THINK ARE
# CHILDREN AND YOU

## PLACEMENT

- It's important for kids in care to have someone to talk to and a carer who won't give up on you: I have been an idiot to my carers but they still kept me and now I see them as my mum and dad

## INFORMATION AND SUPPORT

- It's hard not having proper support when you find out the reasons why you are in care
- Our lives should not be too open to social workers and the people who get to read our LAC reports. Young people should get to read the LAC report on their own before going into the LAC review

## EQUALITY

- Try and tear down the stereotype that we are not normal or a criminal and people should know it is not our fault that we are in care!

# IMPORTANT FOR ALL NG PEOPLE IN CARE

**SUPPORT**

- We need help with issues, especially finance, independent living, family contact, education and the justice system
- My foster carer is fantastic and I love her as though she is my real mum. She accepted me into her home and she gave me trust when she didn't have to and I am very fortunate to have found her!

We had our say in CASI 2011, why don't you have your say in CASI 2012? If you want to find out more about CASI 2011 or how to take part in CASI 2012, log onto our website:

www.voypic.org

# HERE'S WHY YOU SHOULD DO THE CASI 2012 SURVEY...

"CASI helped me discuss things with my carers!"

"CASI is easy to do"

"I hope what I said makes a difference"