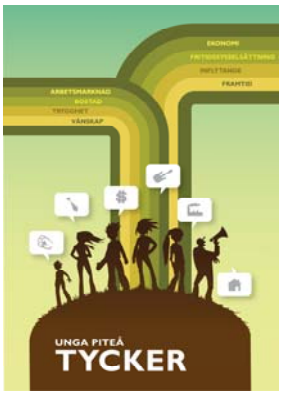
1. Young people in Piteå – their opinions

You can read the entire report on the municipality's website under Results and Quality.

Strategic area – Children and young people – our future



Children and young people shall be given the opportunity of a good start in life. We shall actively promote the participation, involvement and creativity of children and young people.

6 850 young people, aged 13-25, live in the Municipality of Piteå; they represent about 16.7 % of the population of Piteå.

Young people in Piteå – their opinions

In order to know what things are important for young people in Piteå, for the second year running *Young people in Piteå - their opinions* was opened on the municipality's website during the period ***12 September - 20 October.*** 180 young people chose to give us their opinions (22 boys, 31 girls and at least 6 classes). Most of those who answered are in the junior and middle classes, together with 16-19 year-olds.

What do young people think?

The results were presented under eight different areas in which the views were grouped, and a miscellaneous area where individual opinions were received. The first three groups have the most opinions.

- Public transport
- School, including school food
- Leisure occupations
- Influence
- Well-being and security
- Integration
- Environment
- Health
- Miscellaneous

In this document, details are presented for the three areas in which most views were received. For the other areas, summaries are presented.

Public transport

The views were about the possibility of being able to use public transport and also about how people who live in Piteå can contribute to a better environment. As regards public transport, this is the area that received the greatest response. The views are relatively similar to one another, and therefore the results can be summarised in a few items.

Accessibility

- Buses during weekends, evenings and night time
- Better bus times
- Adapt bus times to school times
- Timetables difficult to understand
- Cheaper bus tickets
- Free buses

Environment

- More environmentally friendly alternatives for transport, bus and better cycle routes
- Challenge "Travel by bus and cycle more"
- Piteå should have a railway

School and education, including school meals

Views concerning school are about education, school food, influence in the school, study guidance and the health of pupils.

Education

- Also support clever pupils
- More computers and teaching in more computer programs
- Develop methods of working in lessons
- Smaller classes and more staff
- Less buzz in the classroom
- More activities in school breaks, and more breaks
- Free erasers, pens and paper
- Organise courses in the evenings, for example in metalwork and general engineering for those who want to learn

Influence the school

- Let pupils and pupil committees be involved and influence teaching and the timetable

- Teach young people to be included and make decisions, information about rights and obligations
- Pupil committee times on the timetable, for example, pupil elections
- Discuss working environment

Meals

- Better school food
- We need good food in order to work better
- Food with better flavour, real butter (Bregott)
- Vary the menu, for example, more pizzas and fish.
- It should be possible to take your own food
- We want to know where the food comes from
- Free snacks in breaks during long days

Study instruction

- Information about the senior level school works well, study and career guidance is good
- Study visits on the programme or that the head teacher and pupils come and give information in school year 9
- Better information about the direction of the programme
- Expand popular programmes
- Teachers should encourage continuation of study
- Professional or trade day at the school
- More information about colleges/university and what is necessary to get there.
- More individual visits with study and career guidance, “help to get answers to the questions that the pupils have”.
- More trained, involved and informed study and career guidance – based on what the pupils are interested in.
- Earlier, clearer information (masses of information in good time about everything that is going on)

The health of pupils

- More supervisors during breaks – Adults who care
- Take bullying seriously
- Fulfil the requirements about what is needed for a sound work place
- Sport is a health subject, why grades?
- More support for pupils who need it
- Guidance councillors and school nurse should be in the school at least three days each week
- Xylitol chewing gum after lunch for young people at school for better dental health

Leisure activities

Many respondents consider that there is nothing for those who are not interested in sport. The view which occurs most often is that meeting places should be created for young people, even though this is expressed in different ways. Also, many say that there is a lack of information.

Meeting places

- Youth clubs, places to be at, young peoples’ house
- Skating places, skate hall, maintain skateboard park
- BMX street, Better dirt track
- Snowboard park,
- Graffiti wall, doodle plank
- Homework premises
- Beach volleyball courts
- A bathing changing room building in Norrfjärden
- Why are sports halls locked during the weekends – they could be meeting places
- The Norrstrand area as a natural meeting place
- Cafe for Lillpite, the Klubbgärdet Meeting Place

Events

- More activities during the summer
- More activities during the winter, invest in the winter
- Not just sport
- General information on what there is, better marketing
- Parties for young people, concerts, discos, party
- Dance and theatre
- Events throughout Piteå municipality
- Allow Gläntan to stay put, where there are activities for disabled people
- Popular cultural events

Sport and exercise

- More things for girls
- Invest in horse riding and build a riding building
- Arena for cheerleaders and gymnasts
- Kickboxing club

Miscellaneous

- Help smaller associations to reach young people
- Free fishing licence for young people
- Camp for young people, various themes

Influence

Most respondents wanted to be involved and have influence, and the young people made proposals for several different methods. They also think that *Young people in Piteå – their opinions* is good, but they want to see the outcome.

Well-being and security

Most respondents seem to be quite happy in Piteå, but they lack things to do in the evenings. They want to be secure and safe in those places where they are in the daytime and the evening, and when they cycle home.

Integration

Children and young people had an open attitude towards immigrants in their input, which is both about attitude issues and various activities which can make our new citizens feel welcome.

Environment

The input about the environment has a general perspective, and is about traffic, waste and information, and about shopping in an environmental way. The input is also connected with health and public transport.

Health

Some respondents think that we have good health in Piteå and others think that it is a personal responsibility. Others think that food and exercise are important and that the municipality can encourage better health through information, better opening hours at gyms and exercise swimming locations, and by trying out weeks and free weeks at exercise places.