

Y2 specific survey on plans for camps / trips

27 responses = roughly 45% of the year group

Attached are the recorded comments from parents

Actually we're fairly happy and relaxed with all these options - accessibility for low income families is important we feel but other than that happy either way.

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We were very happy with residential trip in Year 2, but will also be happy with a greater variety of trips.

10/1/2019 12:42 AM [Add tags](#) - [View respondent's answers](#)



I think the trip was a nice reward for working so hard for the sats in y2. If you want to replace it it should be something that is a reward not more school work.

9/29/2019 6:30 PM [Add tags](#) - [View respondent's answers](#)



I would be sad to see the wonderful Stoke Bishop Y2 and Y4 residential trips go; definite 'unique selling points' of the school. As a parent of a child with additional needs and anxiety, I can testify that my child, whom I definitely did not think would 'take to' camp in Y2, experienced a huge uptick in self esteem and independence following the trip to Kilve Court, the benefits of which continued to serve her for a long time afterwards. The camp experience allowed her to be seen in a different context (as opposed to the perpetually anxious and heavily supported child in the classroom), enjoying outdoor pursuits which are one of her strengths, repeated again in Year 4. Whereas I appreciate that camps present a financial challenge for families, I wonder whether there are ways of working around this? I already think you do a great job of supporting parents to budget for the trips through the year, but I wonder whether some of the funds raised throughout the year at the many successful fundraising events might be used to subsidise families in need? At my school, in an area of considerable deprivation (basically nobody is able to pay full price for camp!), we also used some of our sports premium funding to partially pay for our annual residential trip to an outdoor pursuits centre. I fully support Stoke Bishop in whatever decision you make, as I know you always have my children's well-being at the heart of your thinking, but couldn't resist the invitation to say my piece :) Thank you! Linnea Strand, mother of Lila (Y5) and Lucy (Y4)

9/27/2019 8:04 AM [Add tags](#) - [View respondent's answers](#)



My son loved the mojo active morning he did in year 3, so something similar to this for year 2 maybe 2-3 times through the year to develop self confidence, team building etc would be great. Also more experiences like forest school (which they only did once in reception) which has loads of benefits and involves minimal cost and admin.

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We do understand the reasons for changing the provision. We trust your professional judgment. Aim for value for money rather than keeping costs low for the sake of it. There are PTA funds to be tapped into. Perhaps yr 2 could have a camping night at school too? Pitching a tent (architecture/STEM) or sleeping under a tarp; fire safety & night time wildlife watching would all be beneficial outcomes/life skills. How about an 'exchange' day with Mrs Walker's new school?

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I totally agree that year 2 camp is a big upheaval for pupils, parents and teaching staff and it's a relief to hear that it won't be going ahead this year. I'm absolutely sure that local day trips and/or activities can be equally (or more) rewarding and developmental than an overnight camp.

9/26/2019 7:32 PM [Add tags](#) - [View respondent's answers](#)



Totally agree with all reasoning and personally happy that year 2 and 4 residential camps have been decided against. Mojo active great as long as fun outweighs scary!

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Agree that a year 2 residential camp is not appropriate as not mature enough to cope with the experience

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I think everything you have said makes absolute sense and more than happy to follow your lead. I feel my daughter wouldn't be one to partially enjoy being away on a residential camp, I feel these changes will benefit her and others greatly.

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I don't think that survey is very clear to be honest. Where is there mention of a Go Ape experience? Is that something they normally would do in Y2? Is this a suggested day trip for them in place of the camp? If so then yes I'm sure they

would love that but won't you have the same problem with some families not being able to afford this and feeling left out?

9/26/2019 4:17 PM

31 responses = 52% responses of the year group

I think that it is a great shame that the year 4 camp is being cancelled. I think it is an incredibly formative experience and that many of the points raised can be overcome. There are many options within 2 hours of Bristol that are able to offer a variety of activities, not just physical ones. With regards to the cost I think that if enough notice is given and a payment plan option is in place most parents could budget for this. To me the residential offering from Stoke Bishop has always been a real beacon in terms of what the school offers and it will be such a disappointment if these now stop in all but year 6. I know for example that St Johns primary have just taken their year 4 to PGL and had a really positive experience.

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A good letter. Thankyou. We would still prefer that the Y4 camp continue. I don't agree with several of the reasons given and certainly in our experience the Y4 camp is a real confidence boost and for many children will be their first stay away from home for more than 1 night

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These are the events kids remember and help build longer last friendships. These events might be the only place that some kids are able to excel like other do in the classroom based activities. School isn't just about following the curriculum to push up exam results. Please STOP trying to take all the fun out of school. Thankfully my kids will be leaving soon before it gets any worse.

9/30/2019 8:35 PM [Add tags](#) - [View respondent's answers](#)



It's a shame that the camp is discontinuing as I believe the children got so much out of the experience. I don't know any other schools that offered 3 overnight experiences across the the years.

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The logistics of camping at school would presumably mean parents would need to provide and help pitch tents. I'm sure the kids would love if weather holds but sounds like more work than camp for the adults!

9/28/2019 12:21 PM [Add tags](#) - [View respondent's answers](#)



no

9/27/2019 11:52 PM [Add tags](#) - [View respondent's answers](#)



A consultation before the decision was made would have been preferable. I do, however, understand that it is expensive for many families and this makes it difficult. I also understand it is difficult for teachers to commit to and fit in to their own lives. I don't necessarily agree that it isn't beneficial for the children in yrs 2 and 4 though.

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I think the children should be able to camp somewhere unfamiliar. Give them the feeling of more independence and a greater sense of adventure. I assume the costs have gone up since 2017, when my son went on camp. He still remembers the experience fondly.

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If it meant that the year 4 children had the chance to camp out I would be more than willing to give up my work time to help, as I know how valuable these experiences can be.

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You've provided an extremely intelligent and balanced assessment of the issues and options at hand. It's important to teach the children by example that great experiences don't necessarily have to be linked to a cash transaction - also that the quality of each child's individual learning experience, intelligence, confidence, and personal capacity for growth isn't directly linked to their parent's perceived social status (in terms of money, class, or entitlement). It's an unspoken and erroneous assumption that is all too often self-fulfilling, and needs to be radically overturned.

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Mojo active/go ape/forest school type experiences would be great for developing self confidence.

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My son suffers with nighttime enuresis, the thought of school camp (and sleep overs in general) fill him with anxiety and stress of people noticing. The children don't sleep properly and will take days to catch up on sleep. An evening camp fire yes but going home at bedtime would have no impact on the special event.

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I'm not sure I would want my child sleeping in the school grounds or in the building, I don't see this as a treat or anything exciting and my 8 year old unfortunately agrees! Sorry but this is a big no from us.

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I think the alternatives suggested are great and where some like my son are excited about camp, would be just as happy doing it on school grounds having a night away with friends

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I think it's a shame to lose the camps residential trips for the children as it builds them up to the longer one for yr 6. As for some children when they go in year 6 they wouldn't be used to being away from home but I do understand they are expensive for the school and take a lot of resources. It is just a shame. An overnight camp at school would be a good idea for the children and I see that would be a good experience and could be cost effective. I understand the school is under considerable budget cuts so therefore needs to use its resources wisely.

9/26/2019 5:00 PM