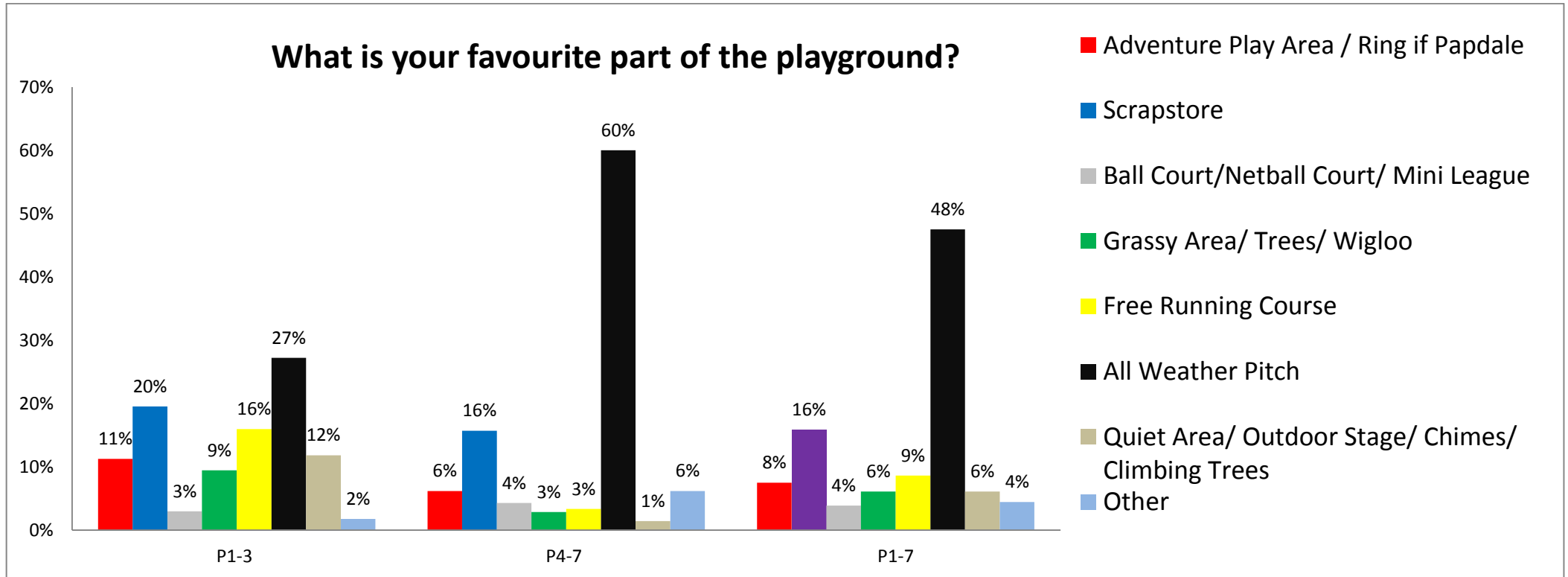


## PLAYGROUND SURVEY RESULTS - NOVEMBER 2014



### What do the Children like best in the playground

The All Weather Pitch (AWP) is clearly the most popular area in the playground with nearly half of all children (48%) making it their favourite.

It was particularly popular with the P4-7 classes (60%) who had the scrapstore as their second choice (16%) with all other areas getting under 10% of the votes.

Whilst the AWP was also the favourite with Infant children (27%), their interests were much more spread out across the playground with the scrapstore (20%) second favourite and the Free running (16%), Quiet Area (12%) and Adventure (11%) all getting more than 10% of their vote.

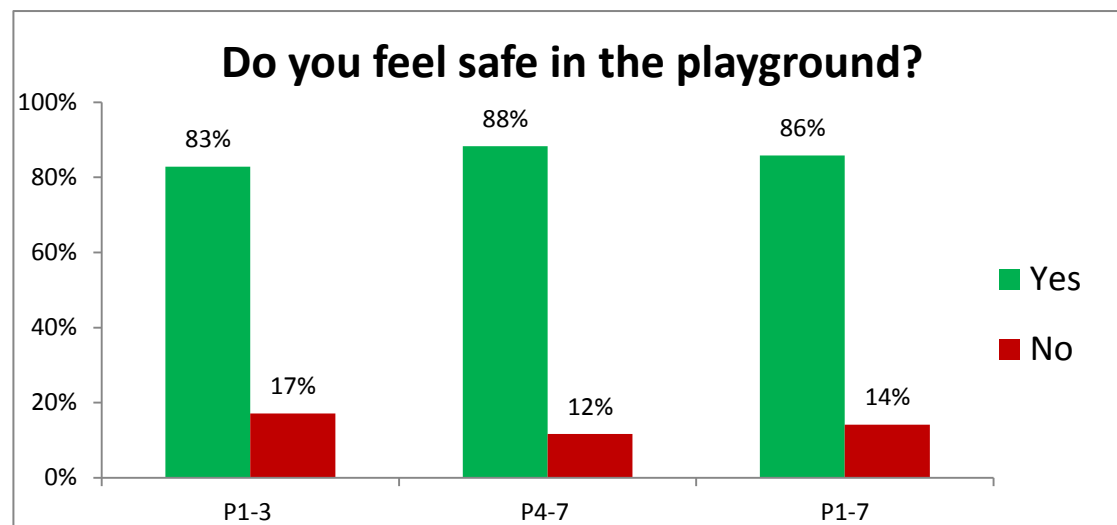
The percentages for the adventure and free running areas may have been influenced by the fact that they are weather dependent.

## Do children feel safe

Whilst the overwhelming majority of children felt safe there was a higher than expected number who said they didn't feel safe.

It was clear from the reasons given that most of their concerns related to the risk of minor injury in the playground. The most frequently raised of these types of risk were falling/tripping, being hit by a ball/rough play, getting bumped (scrapstore) or falling off playground equipment.

Interestingly some children felt that the risks in the playground gave them opportunity to learn how to manage risks better.



## Playground incidents

The medical room records give an overview of how the changes in the playground over the past year have impacted on the number of playground related incidents resulting in a visit to the medical room. The records show that the number of incidents decreased by 30% immediately after the new playground development was open suggesting children were choosing to manage the risks by being more cautious than they would normally be.

However in the four weeks following the Scrapstore opening incidents increased noticeably. Scrapstore introduced a lot of new 'scrap' to the playground as well as a different philosophy in how to manage risk. This created significant challenges initially which is possibly reflected in the figures.

More recently incidents levels have decreased to the same levels they were an year ago suggesting statistically that the playground is as safe now as it was before the playground developments began. As the playground has many more interesting and challenging features now the logical conclusion would be that children are learning to manage the risks in the playground more effectively.

## Staff perception

Playground Supervision staff generally felt that children were much more positively engaged in the playground. The increased range of activities available meant that children were finding something that suited their particular needs much better than before making for a happier playtime experience for everyone.