



2017

**Parent/Carer Knowledge of
Graduated Response for Individual Pupil
(GRIP)**

**Consultation Report Evidenced by Derbyshire Parent Carer Voice
Consultation with Parent Carers**



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11th April 2018



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**Consultation with Parent/Carers with Children/Young People with SEND:
In March 2017 What Did Parent Carers Know About the
Graduated Response for Individual Pupil (GRIP)**

Introduction

Derbyshire Parent Carer Voice (DPCV) put together 10 questions alongside the Local Authority, to gain views on how successful the GRIP process was being rolled out and how families found the process.

The consultation took place over four weeks across March and April 2017 using Survey Questionnaire delivered by Survey Monkey, to elicit the views of parents/carers.



Methods Used to Request Information for the Consultation

An email was sent to the full membership on our database that supplied us with an email address. This email gave a link to our website, a brief description of the consultation and then click to go through to Survey Monkey site directly to carry out the consultation. This reach was approx. 650 emails.

Methods of Information Gathering Used and Sources Consulted

Email was the only form of communication with families. It is unknown if this was shared on Social Media although over the period March and April we had 43 visits to our website from Facebook. This is not specific enough to inform us of which pages were visited from the 43 viewers, although we do know that during the months March and April the consultation page was visited 185 times and 29 people clicked on the link to the survey but only 21 participated.



Purpose of the Consultation

1. Establishing the knowledge of parent/carers in relation to the GRIP funding
2. Gauge the effectiveness of schools delivery to explain and apply for GRIP funding
3. Establish how person centred the applications for GRIP funding is
4. Gain feedback on the process and how it could be made better



1. To establish the knowledge of parent/carers in relation to the GRIP funding

The survey showed that 90% of respondents were aware of the GRIP funding, the further 10% didn't know or were unsure. For those who were aware the responses gained through comments varied from "additional support for my child" to "support required above and beyond the £6,000 (SEN Support) allowance". A question was also raised about not all schools being not as confident as others at completing applications.

Through this we also established 76% of parent/carers taking this survey had their child/young person's school apply for GRIP funding to support their needs.



2. Gauge the effectiveness of schools delivery to explain the GRIP process

Upon being asked how well the application was explained on a scale of 1 to 10 (1 being no explanation given and 10 being explained very well)

1.	0%
2.	6%
3.	7%
4.	13%
5.	20%
6.	7%
7.	7%
8.	20%
9.	13%
10.	7%

It was felt by 31% that they didn't feel confident the school knew the process well and wasn't submitted quickly! From further the comments it seems represent that in some areas it was felt not enough support was given to schools. Where there is a confident member of staff at the school or have received support from what was then called a LIO the process became very easy for families.

Although 62% of parent/carers completing this survey stated they knew the time frame for GRIP funding application to be agreed but within the comments this shows that there is confusion as none of the comments stated the correct answer!

For those during this time in March –April 2017 who had applied the results of the application were as follows:

Accepted	63%
Decline	31%
Waiting	6%



3. Establish how person centred the applications for GRIP funding is

Although the majority said that their child/young person's views and opinions were included the comments give a differing view. Comments ranged from "pointless in our case as she did not answer the questions" to "we had meeting with the school where my son was included and asked what help he felt he needed".

For parent/carer views this was 100% sought but again from the comments it's clear that some families don't feel that it was taken on board or didn't understand the process enough to engage fully.

Satisfaction of the outcome of the GRIP application varies and there is an assumption that families that marked a low score on this scale of 1-10 would be that their child/young person's funding was declined. Due to this being an anonymous survey we cannot look into this further to ensure that this is the case but from looking at the comments it is highly likely to be the case.

(scale of 1-10, 1 being completely unsatisfied and 10 being completely satisfied)

1.	33%
2.	0%
3.	0%
4.	7%
5.	7%
6.	0%
7.	7%
8.	13%
9.	0%
10.	33%



4. Gain feedback on the process and how it could be made better

It's seems that some schools are very confident and successful with GRIP applications, where as other schools struggle to get the correct information and/or understand the process. Support contacts should be on the application form for GRIP so the teacher, SENCO or whoever completes the forms within a school setting and readily ask for support so I child/young person isn't failed due to paperwork.

Parent/carers feel that the information should be available to them through schools, some parent/carers find out information through speaking to others at support groups etc. and find out about different types of support, then they take this information to school for them to look into.

Sticking to timescales reasonably to ensure children/young people can gain the extra support they require to be able to fully access their education.

Where is was a successful application made by a setting that was aware of the process families felt that it was a quick and invaluable way to support children/young people quickly and effectively.

During this period of consultation it was strongly felt that because some schools and educational settings weren't up to speed with the GRIP funding application process, children/young people were the ones who were suffering by not being to fully access their education.



Summary - Key Themes Identified

- In schools that knew the process, it worked well and proceeded smoothly
- The understanding is not quite there for parent/carers although they believe they know about the funding and timescales, it's clear they have been misinformed or was not stated clearly
- Examples of what a good application looks like or anonymised successful applications look like for schools to get an idea of what information is required and share good practice in how to use the funding
- Awareness of GRIP for both schools and families
- More opportunities for schools to carry out GRIP training
- Making the applications person centred not just asking as a token gesture

Key Points to consider in relation to the information collated

- Although the numbers were low on the survey, it could be a reflection of the amount of people who are aware of this type of funding
- For schools who are submitting incomplete or quality deprived applications this should be noted and raised as a training issue. This would support the Local Authority in having clear applications coming through and also support children/young people quicker and less chance of them failing through a decline in funding
- If an application is declined school should be given reasons why and how they can better support the child/young person with their current funds

Report Completed by Derbyshire Parent Carer Voice

11/04/18



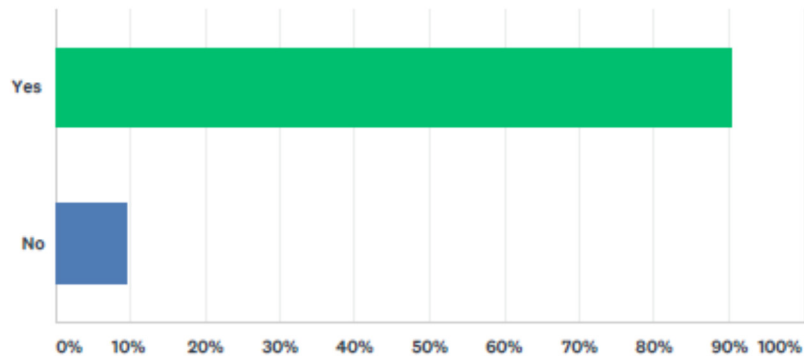
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Q1 Have you heard of Graduated Response for Individual Pupil (GRIP) Funding?

Answered: 21 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	90.48%	19
No	9.52%	2
TOTAL		21

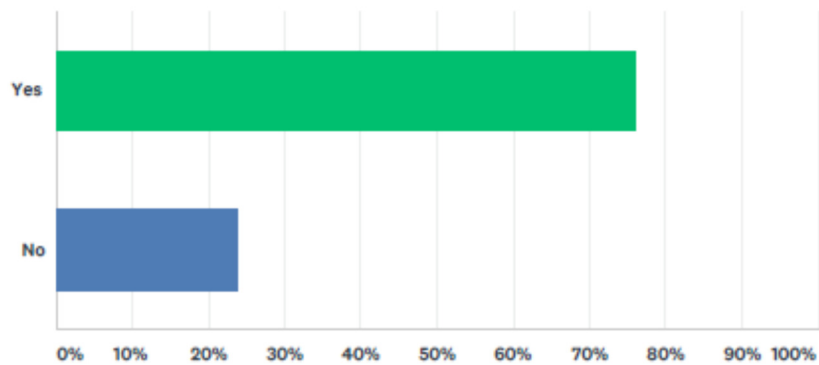
#	IF YES, DO YOU KNOW WHAT THE FUNDING IS FOR?	DATE
1	Yes and no to this question my son has received this for two year it's a very helpful tool for school and a lot quicker to receive this however as someone that knows a school governor within a LA maintain school they here reports of staff not understanding and not getting this service	1/28/2018 11:16 PM
2	To provide additional funds to access resource that may not be available in school	7/17/2017 1:26 PM
3	To help provide further support to pupils whose needs are not being met through the extra SEN allowance the LA already provide.	4/27/2017 12:48 PM
4	Additional support for my child	4/25/2017 9:48 AM
5	Not really	4/24/2017 1:40 PM
6	To provide support for children who need support in school - ideally should be quicker than applying for ehcp	4/2/2017 8:46 PM
7	To assist a young person with educational needs who does not have a statement of educational needs	3/31/2017 11:13 PM
8	Yes	3/30/2017 8:32 PM
9	Yes, my child has a GRIP and it's used for specialist support for his severe dyslexia and SSEN support	3/29/2017 8:17 PM
10	Yes for children who need extra support in school and are not achieving without this support, above and beyond the £6,000 allowance each school can provide for each child .	3/29/2017 5:04 PM
11	No	3/29/2017 9:47 AM
12	No	3/29/2017 8:09 AM
13	Help schools provide the support needed by young people with additional needs.	3/28/2017 5:45 PM
14	Yes, it's a temporary funding for children with SEN whereby they need extra support to access the educational curriculum.	3/28/2017 4:53 PM



15	To help a child access additional support in school, TA support	3/28/2017 9:50 AM
16	Yes - I'm a parent but also a Senco	3/27/2017 7:50 PM
17	For extra support after the school has put in all the support they can give	3/27/2017 5:46 PM
18	It's designed to bridge the gap between SEN Support and EHCP	3/27/2017 3:27 PM
19	Yes	3/27/2017 3:06 PM

Q2 Has your school applied for GRIP funding for your child/young person? If no, please go to question 10.

Answered: 21 Skipped: 0

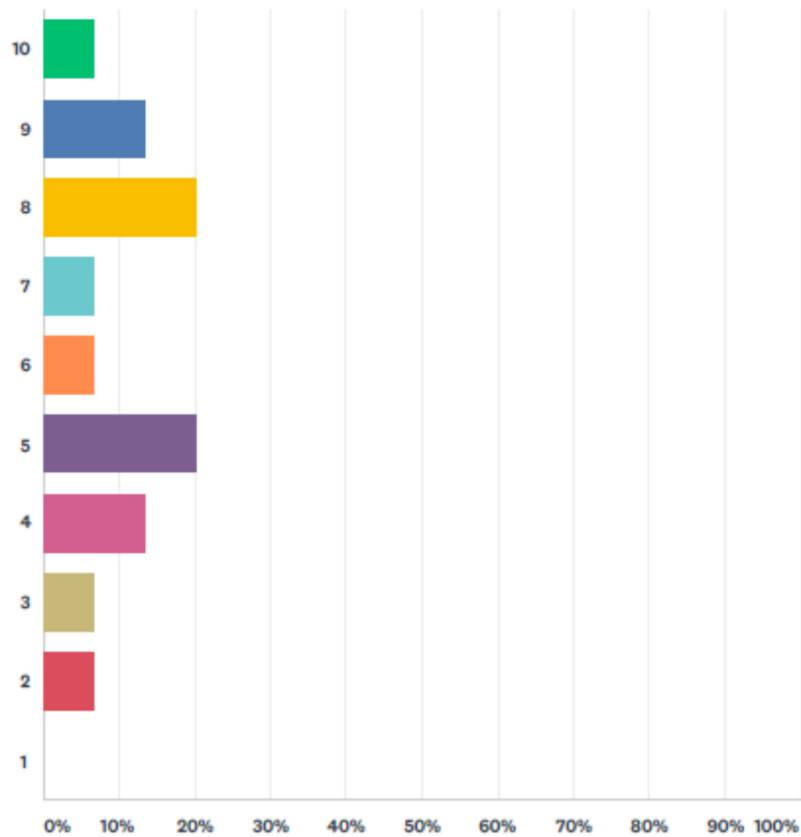


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	76.19%	16
No	23.81%	5
TOTAL		21



Q3 On a scale of 1-10, how well do you feel that the GRIP application has been explained to you? (10 being very well and 1 being no explanation).

Answered: 15 Skipped: 6



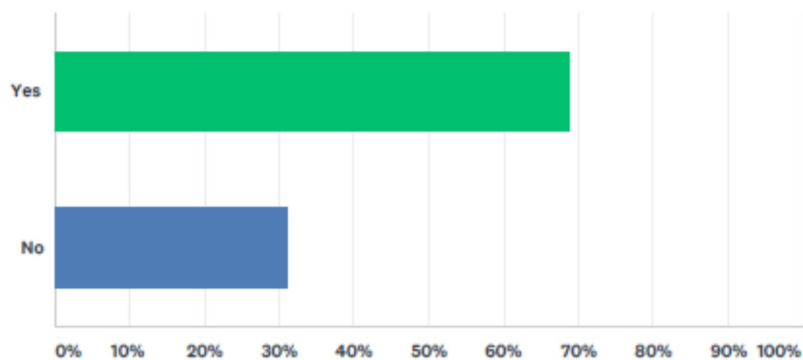
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
10	6.67%	1
9	13.33%	2
8	20.00%	3
7	6.67%	1
6	6.67%	1
5	20.00%	3
4	13.33%	2
3	6.67%	1
2	6.67%	1
1	0.00%	0



#	ANY OTHER COMMENTS?	DATE
1	It was last year, I think I knew what I needed to.	4/27/2017 12:48 PM
2	I have not had a proper breakdown of what additional help is provided using the funds from GRIP	4/25/2017 9:48 AM
3	We as parents feel totally let down by the LEA and feel our child's needs are not being met, and that there still is a massive gap in the service between GRIP and EHC plan .School explained the process well, but it seems the gates are closed for ollie. At times we feel the service is diagnosis led, rather than needs led and we have a boy with significant needs ,but as his diagnosis is dyspraxia ,he gets nothing.	3/29/2017 5:04 PM
4	N/A school know I know. I told school they should apply.	3/27/2017 7:50 PM

Q4 When school made the GRIP funding application, did you feel confident that they knew the process well and was it submitted quickly?

Answered: 16 Skipped: 5



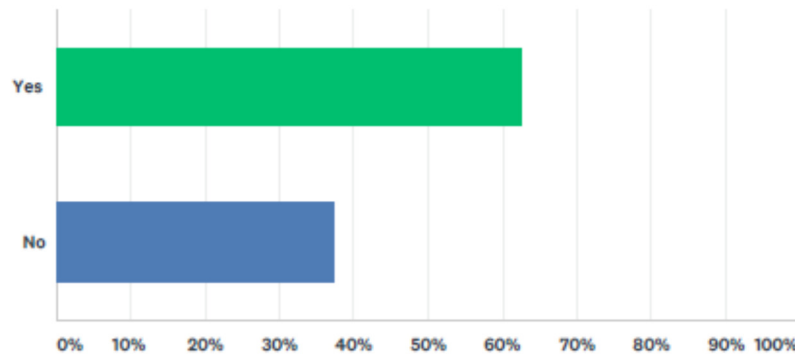
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	68.75%	11
No	31.25%	5
TOTAL		16

#	ANY COMMENTS?	DATE
1	School I feel are not supported with the process	1/28/2018 11:16 PM
2	She said that she thought it should be turned down as they are an enhanced school and he has made some academic progress	7/17/2017 1:26 PM
3	The LEO helped with the application.	4/27/2017 12:48 PM
4	It was a pilot scheme when we applied so I don't think much was known by anyone	4/25/2017 9:48 AM
5	They had no idea how to word the application and it took 6 months to do, and did not know who to ask for help/support	3/30/2017 8:32 PM
6	School have had the GRIP funding rejected on x2 occasions, and the process takes too long for our child needs. The GRIP funding process is clearly cumbersome and the teaching staff at Lea Primary appear to struggle to use the correct terminology and evidence to assist a successful application.	3/29/2017 5:04 PM
7	My son's SENCO was very knowledgeable and made the process very easy for me.	3/28/2017 9:50 AM
8	I had to point out a few mistakes made by school on the forms	3/27/2017 7:50 PM



Q5 Have you been told how long the GRIP funding application process aims to take to make a decision?

Answered: 16 Skipped: 5



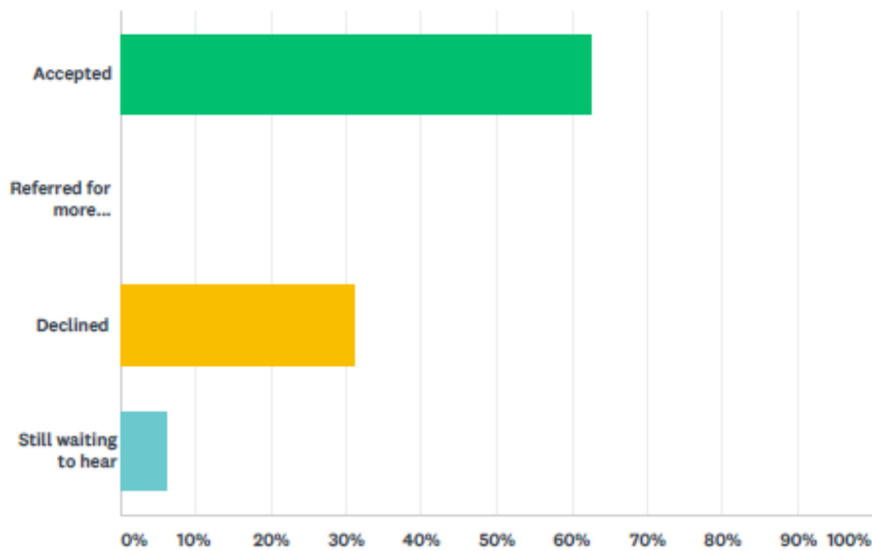
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	62.50%	10
No	37.50%	6
TOTAL		16

#	IF YES, HOW LONG WERE YOU TOLD IT WOULD TAKE?	DATE
1	Can't remember.	4/27/2017 12:48 PM
2	Unto 12 weeks	4/24/2017 1:40 PM
3	Should hear back within 15 school days	4/2/2017 8:46 PM
4	But this is not accurate, our chid has been without GRIP funding since December 2016.	3/29/2017 5:04 PM
5	I think it was around 8 weeks	3/28/2017 9:50 AM
6	As Senco, we were originally told 15 school days. I realise this is no longer the case as I am currently waiting on an application I submitted 25 school days ago. I also sent off an evaluation and request for a renewal which I had to chase up. We heard back more than 3 months after the funding had run out despite sending this off well in advance. My daughter's school have told me another school told them it was months we could be waiting. There is clearly a back log and something going wrong here.	3/27/2017 7:50 PM
7	Up to 20 weeks	3/27/2017 5:46 PM



Q6 When GRIP funding was applied for, was the application:

Answered: 16 Skipped: 5



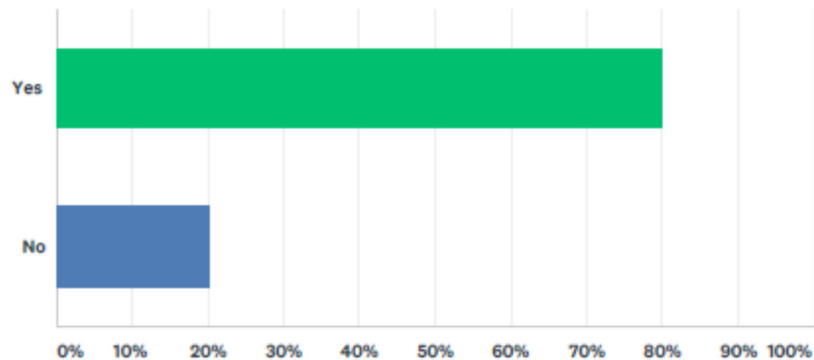
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Accepted	62.50%	10
Referred for more information	0.00%	0
Declined	31.25%	5
Still waiting to hear	6.25%	1
TOTAL		16

#	PLEASE COMMENT	DATE
1	School and I are very surprised by the decision.	4/27/2017 12:48 PM
2	The school is still waiting for the paperwork	4/24/2017 1:40 PM
3	Took far longer than the 15 school days and only got a decision when the school rang to chase.	4/2/2017 8:46 PM
4	We were told that there were other people with more needs than our son and we would not be eligible for the one to one support he needed	3/30/2017 8:32 PM
5	School were told they did not submit sufficient evidence, meanwhile our child mental health and self esteem plummets.	3/29/2017 5:04 PM
6	Incredulous that it was declined.	3/28/2017 5:45 PM



Q7 Do you feel that your child/young person's views and opinions have been included in the application process?

Answered: 15 Skipped: 6



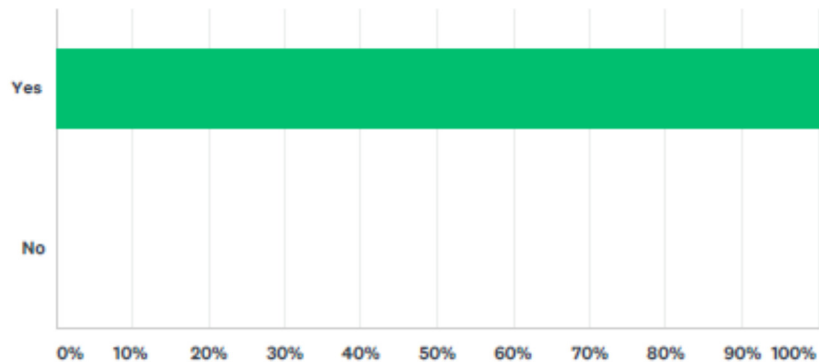
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	80.00%	12
No	20.00%	3
TOTAL		15

#	PLEASE COMMENT.	DATE
1	I can't remember what involvement my daughter had.	4/27/2017 12:48 PM
2	My child didn't really understand what he was being asked or why. He doesn't like school so all his responses were rather negative and irrelevant to the questions	4/25/2017 9:48 AM
3	However it does not seem to make any difference ,if you look at our child's review from one year to the next, our child no feels he is "good at nothing" . He has made no progress with his hand writing, and 1 year ago he was achieving above expected levels in Maths, ,1 year on he is just emerging in maths.	3/29/2017 5:04 PM
4	Can't remember	3/28/2017 5:45 PM
5	I don't think he was asked.	3/28/2017 4:53 PM
6	We had meetings with school where my son was included and asked what help he felt he needed	3/28/2017 9:50 AM
7	However pointless in our case as she would not answer the questions	3/27/2017 7:50 PM



Q8 Do you feel that your views as a parent/carer and opinions have been included in the application process?

Answered: 16 Skipped: 5



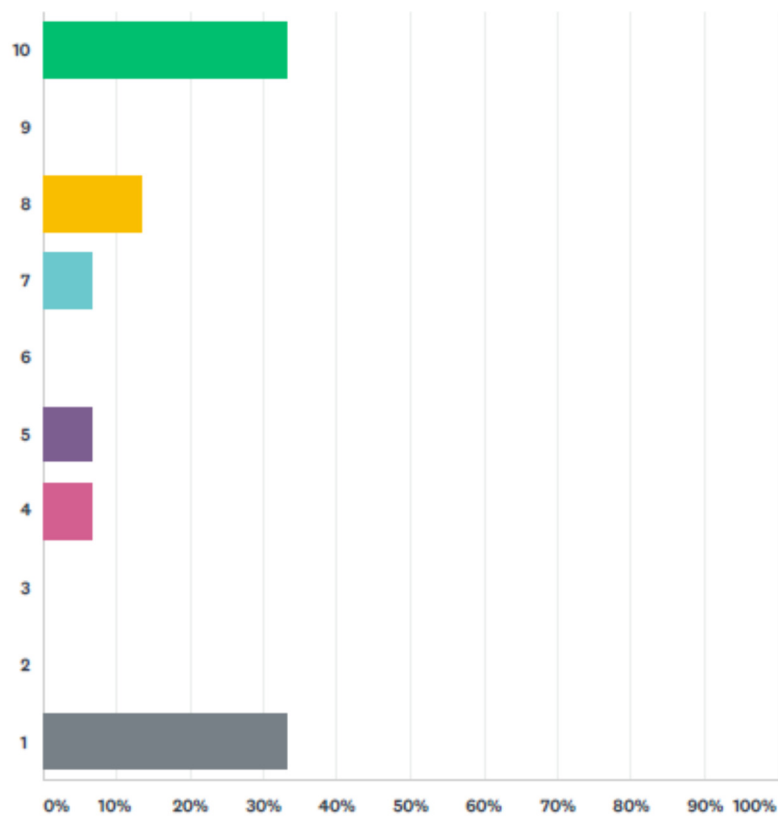
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	100.00%	16
No	0.00%	0
TOTAL		16

#	PLEASE COMMENT.	DATE
1	Yes but discarded	7/17/2017 1:26 PM
2	When asked what my daughters difficulties and needs are, I find this hard to identify and express because it is "normal" at our house. I have forgotten what "normal" is like for families not living with ASD, I have nothing to compare my daughter to.	4/27/2017 12:48 PM
3	However, as I didn't know what the funding helped towards I didn't know what responses to give to the questions. I was unsure what responses would help or make the application worse.	4/25/2017 9:48 AM
4	Although we were given no idea of what we should put in the application	3/30/2017 8:32 PM
5	Both parents are health professionals in mental health and health visiting, and feel we are not listened to at all and feel totally frustrated with the appalling support for SEN children in Derbyshire. We are assertive enough to keep fighting for a child as we want the best possible outcome for Ollie, but feel there are plenty of parents out there who don't feel able or are strong enough to do the same.	3/29/2017 5:04 PM
6	It is not easy to identify what help is needed that is extra, compared to other young people. When you live with and support someone with additional needs all the time, it is all "normal", unless you have something else to compare to.	3/28/2017 5:45 PM
7	I have had numerous meetings with school to discuss the help and support my son would receive. My views were always asked for and acted upon	3/28/2017 9:50 AM



Q9 On a scale of 1 - 10, how satisfied are you with the outcome of your child/young persons GRIP application? (10 being completely satisfied, 1 being completely unsatisfied).

Answered: 15 Skipped: 6



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
10	33.33%	5
9	0.00%	0
8	13.33%	2
7	6.67%	1
6	0.00%	0
5	6.67%	1
4	6.67%	1
3	0.00%	0
2	0.00%	0
1	33.33%	5



#	PLEASE COMMENT.	DATE
1	She needs help!	4/27/2017 12:48 PM
2	Ollie has had an IEP since commencing school, he has severe dyspraxia and the gap between him and his peers is widening, it is a total battle to get any help and support from the LEA and school feel Ollie needs constant support in his learning. We have now got Ollie re referred to a Paediatrician for further assessment of his needs and Lea Primary School are re referring him back to an Educational Psychologist. In the mean time our child is falling further behind and the gap with his peers is growing .He is now 10 years old and in 1 Year he will be commencing secondary school and he is in no way ready for this. We feel like the LEA is failing our child. We have even discussed contacting social care and getting Ollie referred as a child in need in the fact he is being neglected by the LEA!! We feel we are awaiting for him to have a mental health problem before any one acts. Ollie has numerous needs and although he does not have a diagnosis of for example Downs Syndrome, his needs are just as great, he has sensory issues, he is very distracted, and can only really write one word at a time. Without someone sitting and prompting him he gets nothing achieved and school feels like a holding pen for him . As parents this is our 3rd child, and feel so disappointed with SEN , we did not think it would be such a fight to get him what he deserves. Ollie and others like him deserve an education which will bring the optimum level which can achieved to prepare them for their future lives.	3/29/2017 5:04 PM
3	She needs help now and will continue to do so on leaving school.	3/28/2017 5:45 PM
4	I think he needs more support	3/28/2017 4:53 PM
5	GRIP funding has made a huge difference to my son's learning and emotional wellbeing. He has gone from a child who had to be almost dragged in, to a child who is happy to be there (most of the time!) and looks forward to his time with his TA	3/28/2017 9:50 AM
6	I can't yet comment on my own child, but feel disappointed for the two children I am currently dealing with. I would rate a 1 for them	3/27/2017 7:50 PM



Q10 Do you have any other comments or suggestions regarding the GRIP application process?

Answered: 16 Skipped: 5

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	I feel that GRIP should be used as a stepping stone to EHCP and this allowing for school to easier to transfer this to a EHCP plan	1/28/2018 11:16 PM
2	I don't think that it is a good idea to have separate systems GRIP ans ECHP . They should be one system	7/17/2017 1:26 PM
3	It feels like there is a secret to success that we don't know about.	4/27/2017 12:48 PM
4	I would like more info on what support can be given from a successful application. A break down of the help my child would get.	4/25/2017 9:48 AM
5	DCC should provide reasonable timescales for dealing with the applications. I understand budgets are tight and staffing is limited but there seems to be delays in notifying schools of the decision which is delaying support being put in place for the child	4/2/2017 8:46 PM
6	When we applied it was not fully understood how we should apply or how to word applications. There are just too many children wanting the funding and those considered to have lesser needs don't get funding as they can be supported in schools however the schools can't support them so they fall through the net	3/30/2017 8:32 PM
Comment 7 removed due to personal details given		
8	It needs to be put out there more and parents approached to know that this kind of funding is available.	3/29/2017 9:47 AM
9	My daughter who is still at college doing a vocational course has an Education and Health Plan. However I have never heard of this funding and wondered what it was for	3/29/2017 8:09 AM
10	No	3/29/2017 1:01 AM
11	Some indicator of what it is that it will help with.	3/28/2017 5:45 PM
12	I was told that Derbyshire no longer offer an EHCP and that we had to apply for GRIP which is only temporary despite my son having a life long condition- seems yet again I'm going to have to fight for ongoing support through his education. The purpose of an EHCP as I understand is suppose to be a holistic framework but temporary GRIP isn't despite my son having documented diagnosis stating that he has a life long condition his funding is only temporary.	3/28/2017 4:53 PM
13	It was very easy, on my part, to fill in the form. The turnaround was quick and it has been invaluable to my Year 4 child.	3/28/2017 9:50 AM
14	It is taking too long	3/27/2017 7:50 PM
15	It's not available to 16+ and not all schools are aware of it	3/27/2017 3:27 PM
16	Staff need more training GRIP limit is too low and doesn't meet needs. Need to be able to cover full time support with the funds as a short term intervention . LA do not reply to school concerns quick if at all.	3/27/2017 3:06 PM