



# Learning during COVID-19 survey Fall 2020

## Students, Parents or Guardians

Department of Education



# Background

The Department of Education surveyed students, families and school staff to learn about their perspectives and experiences on learning since the beginning of the 2020-21 school year.

The Government of Yukon surveyed students, families and school staff in November 2020 to check on learning as students returned to school for the start of the 2020-21 school year. This was a follow-up survey to our initial Learning during COVID-19 survey in July 2020 on learning after face-to-face classes were suspended on April 15 until the end of the 2019-20 school year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We committed to continue checking in with students, families and school staff during the course of the pandemic and will be conducting a third survey in spring 2021.

## Engagement process

### **Purpose**

With this follow-up survey, we asked students, families and school staff about their experiences and perspectives on health and safety routines, learning while back at school and learning for the three large Whitehorse schools for Grade 10-12 students on the half-day schedule since the beginning of the 2020-21 school year.

The primary goal of the survey was to gather feedback that will support central administration and school staff in making adjustments to school programming or identifying additional supports to meet student learning needs and ensure health and safety during the pandemic.

### **Process**

This survey was developed with feedback invited from Yukon First Nations and partners in education, including the Yukon Teachers' Association, school council chairs, the Association of Yukon School Councils, Boards and Committees, the Catholic Education Association of Yukon and the Commission Scolaire Francophone du Yukon.

This survey was voluntary and students, families and school staff had the opportunity to fill out the survey online or by phone from November 23-30, 2020.

The quantitative responses to the survey were analyzed and presented using graphs. The qualitative responses, or written comments, were analyzed and codified thematically to identify key themes to written feedback.

The results of the survey will support central administration and school staff to make adjustments to school programming or identify additional supports to meet student learning needs and ensure health and safety during the pandemic.

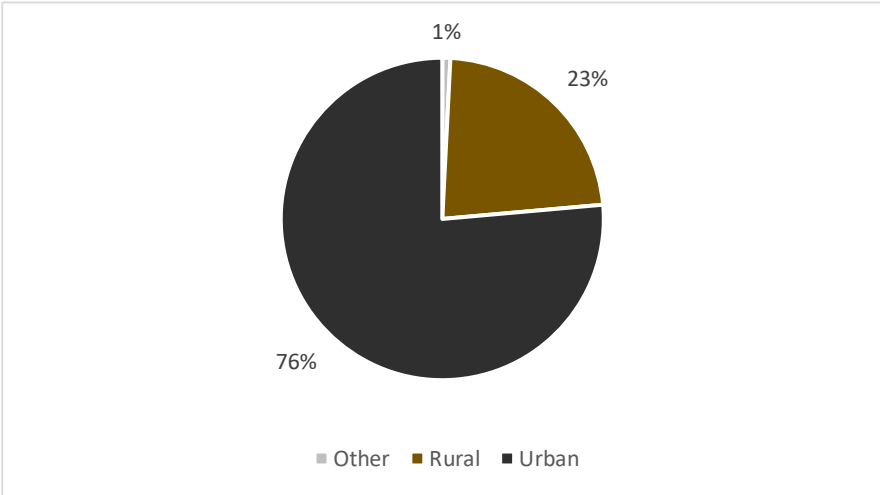
## What we heard

The survey was completed by 2085 respondents, with participation from 1340 parents, 496 students and 249 school staff.

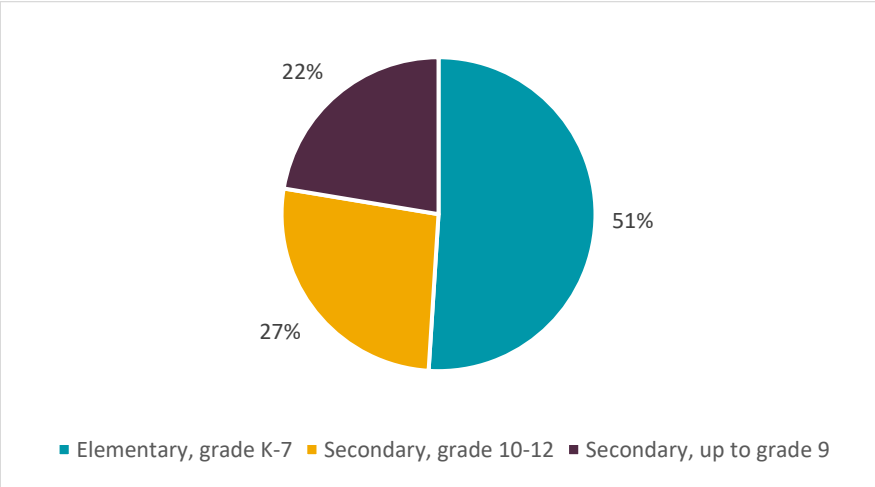
Below are the results for students and their parents or guardians who completed the survey.

# What we asked students

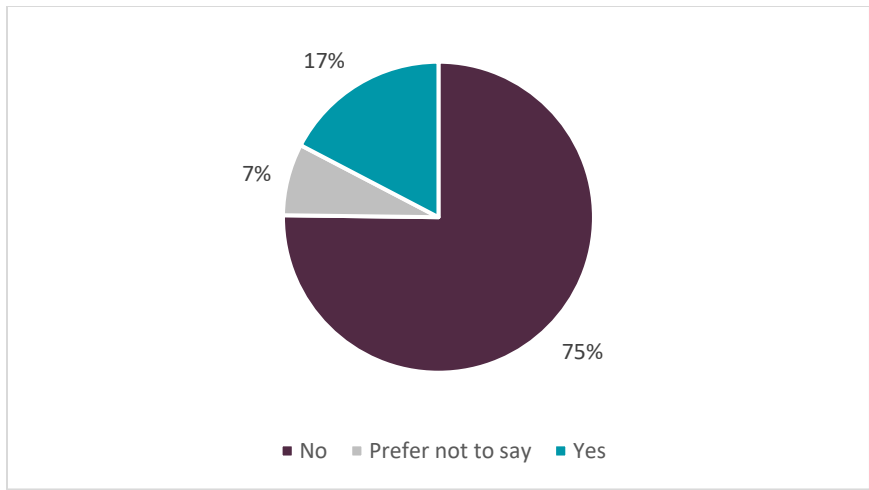
## 1. What school do you currently attend?



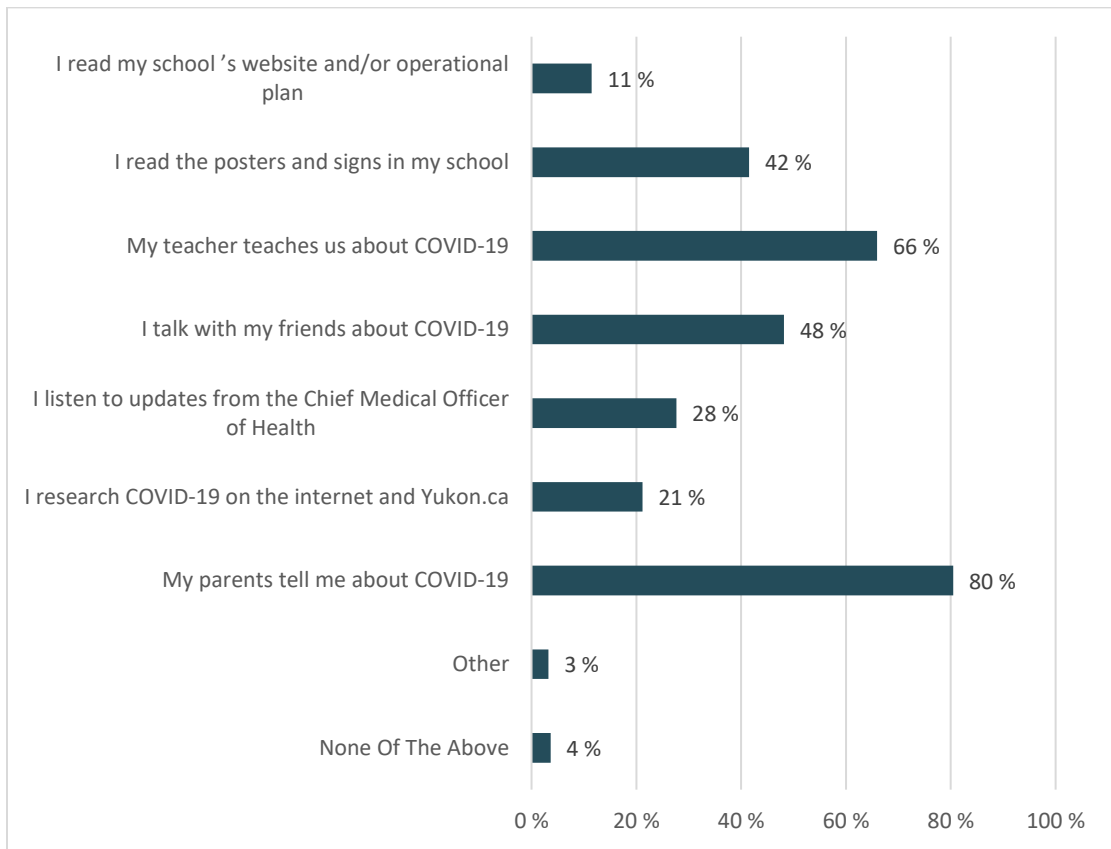
## 2. What grade level are you in?



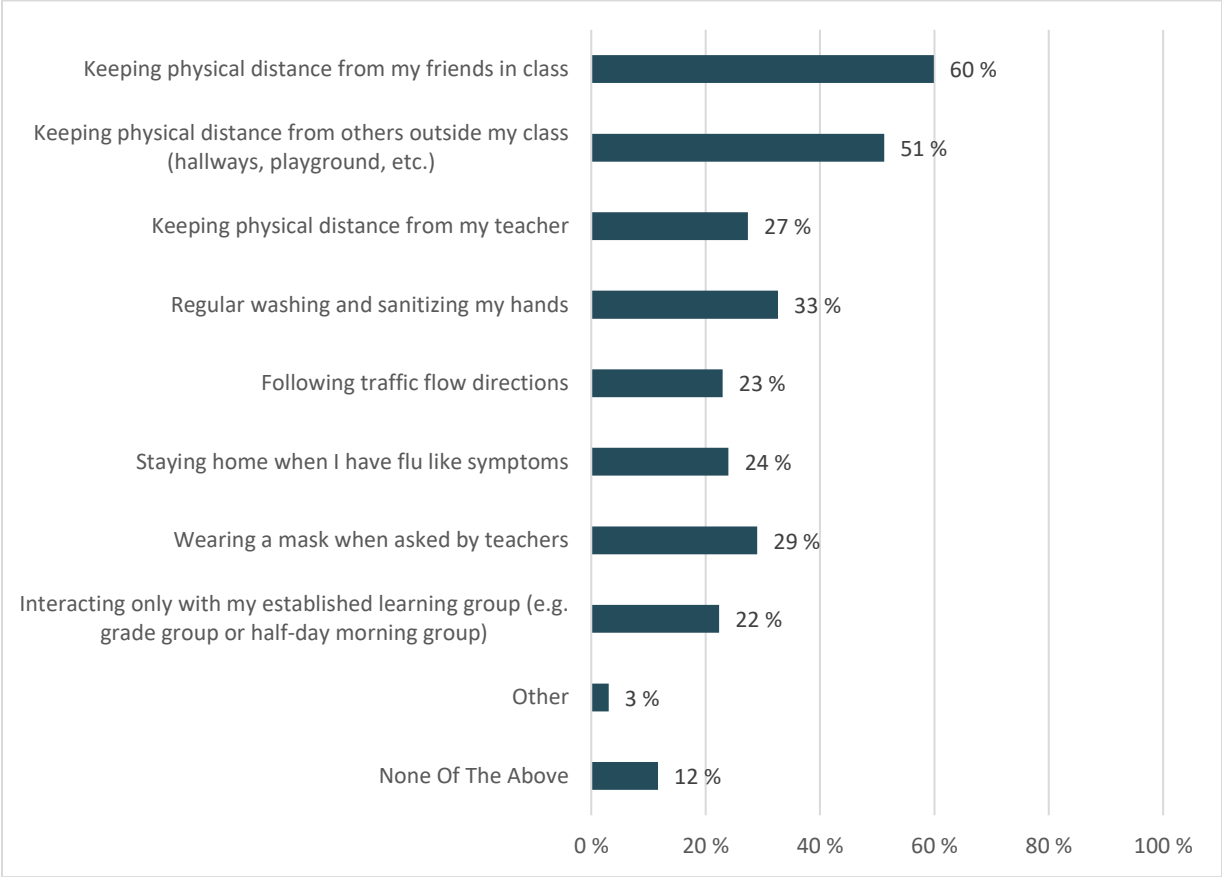
**3. Are you a member or a citizen of a Yukon First Nation?**



**4. I learn about the COVID-19 virus and the health and safety measures at my school when**



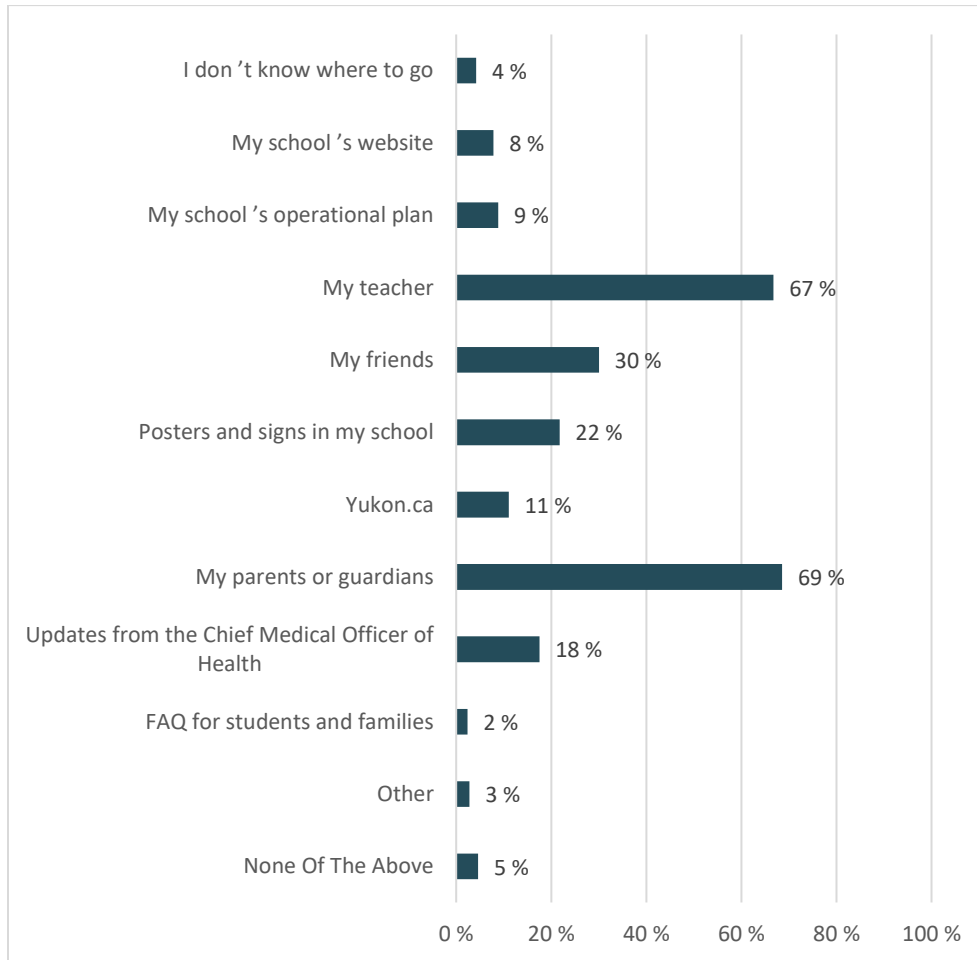
5. What COVID-19 health and safety routines at your school are difficult for you to follow?



6. How are you feeling about the COVID-19 health and safety routines in place at your school?

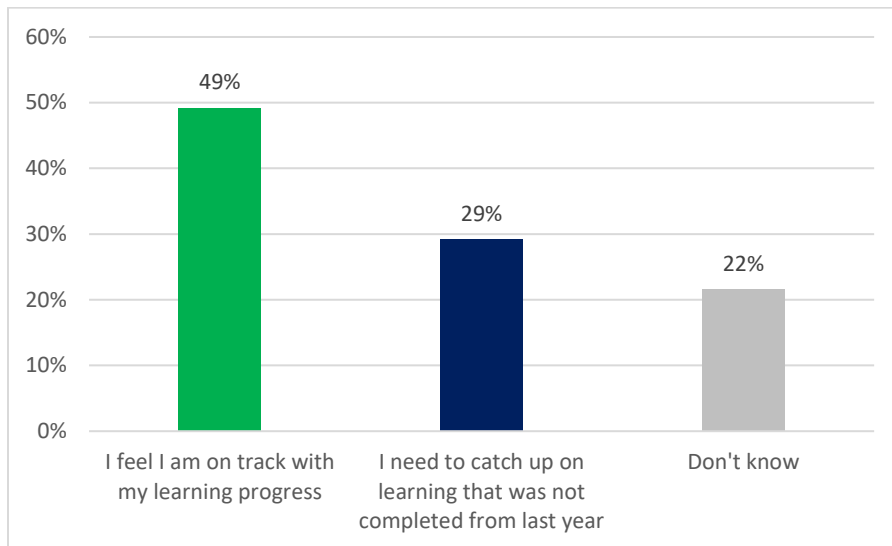


**7. Where do you go to get your questions on health and safety routines at your school answered?**

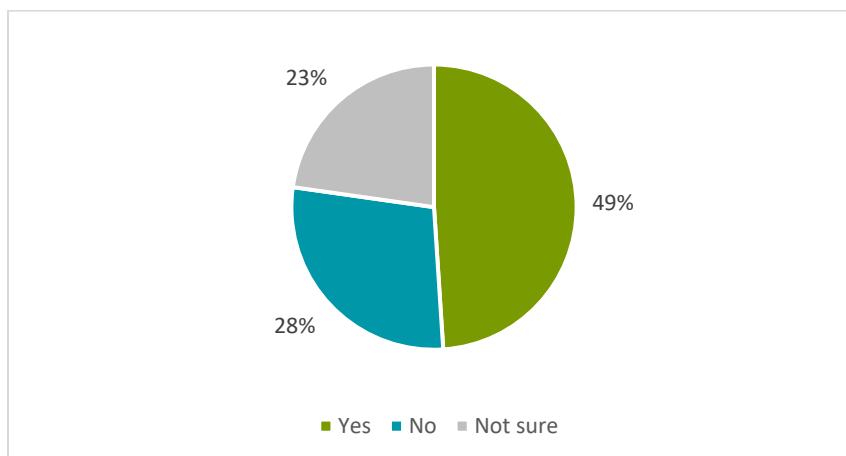




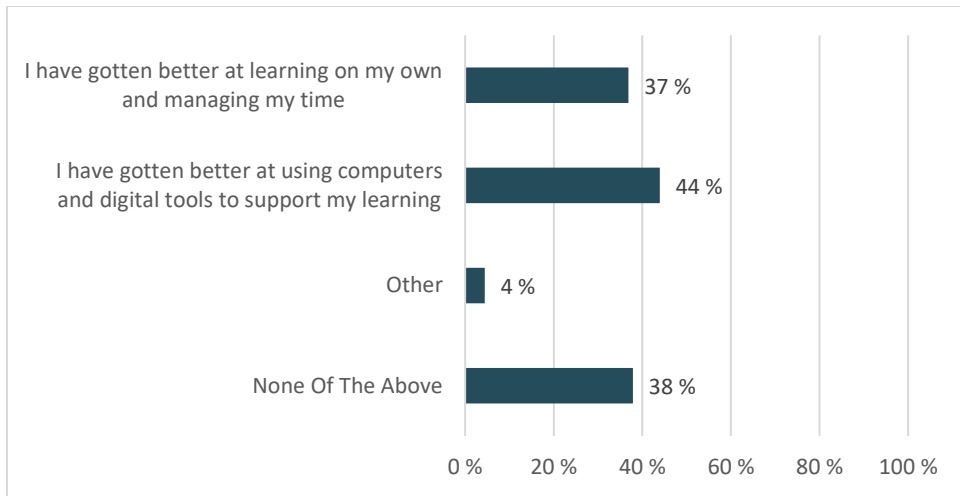
8. Now that you are back at school, how do you feel learning at home at the end of last school year impacted you?



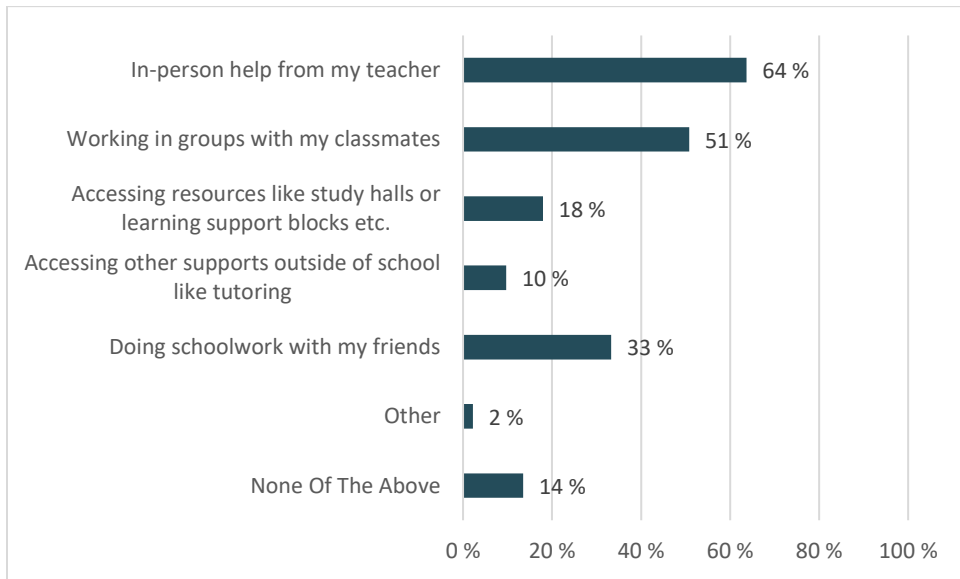
8.1. Are you getting the support you need to catch up on your learning from last year?



**9. Did learning at home last year help you in any of these ways?**



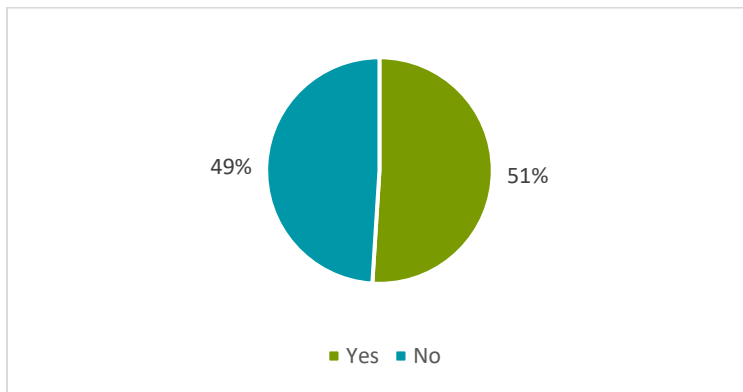
**10. What kinds of help for your learning have you used in your return to school this year?**



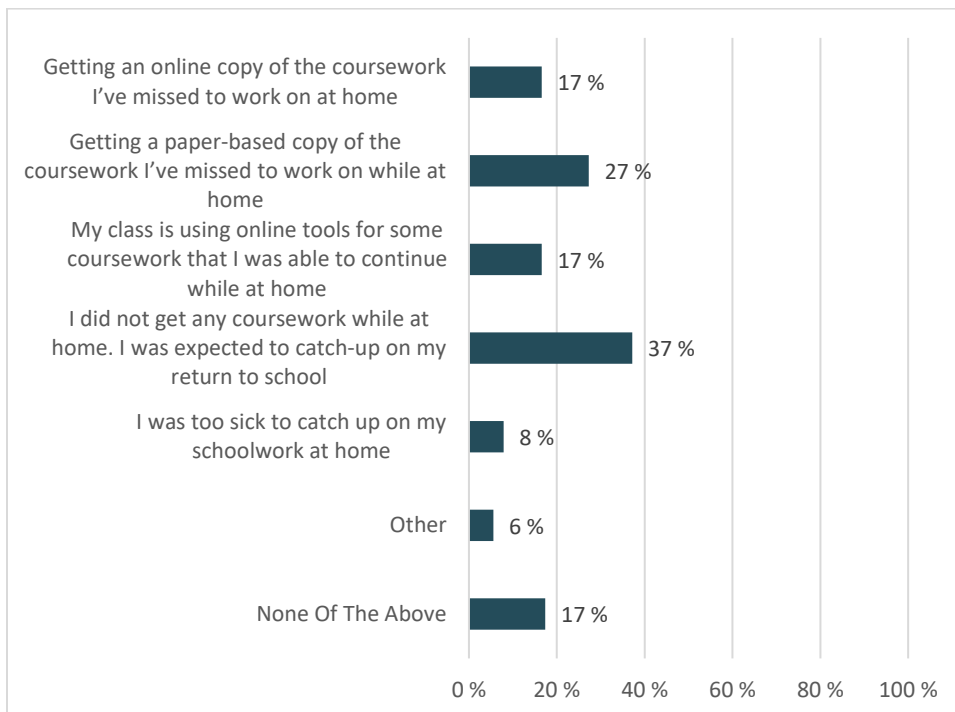
**11.** Is there anything that you wish your school was doing differently that would help you in your return to school this year?

Of those who provided comments, two main themes emerged. Some of the respondents spoke to health and safety measures and some suggested more support with mental health and wellness. Some students who responded mentioned a need for more support with academics.

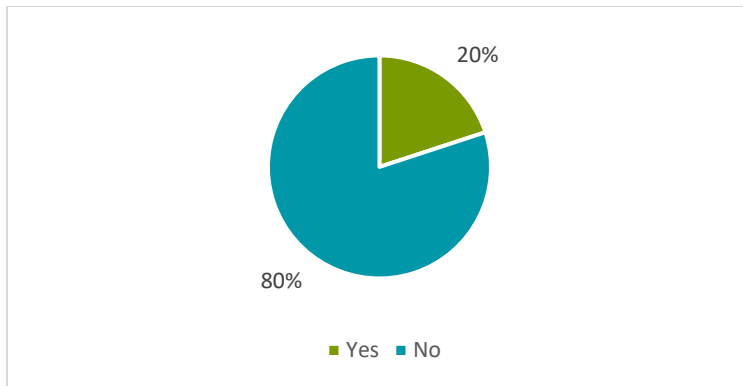
**12.** Have you had to stay home because you are sick this school year?



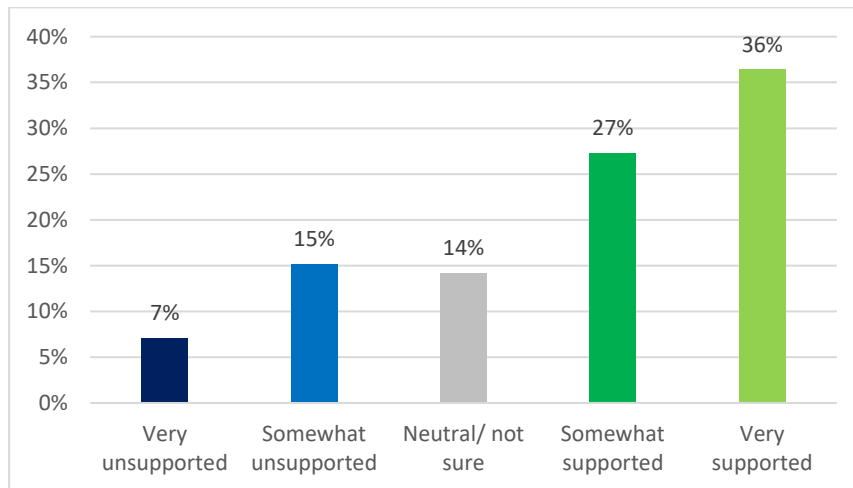
**12.1.** How were you supported to continue your learning while at home?



**13. Do you have an Individual Education Plan, Student Learning Plan or Behaviour Support Plan?**



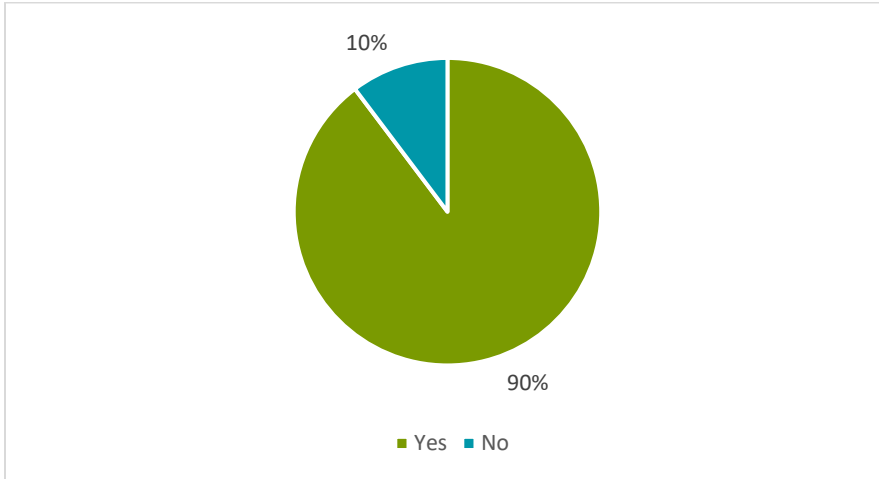
**13.1. How supported do you feel by your teacher(s) in achieving your learning goals in this plan while learning this year?**



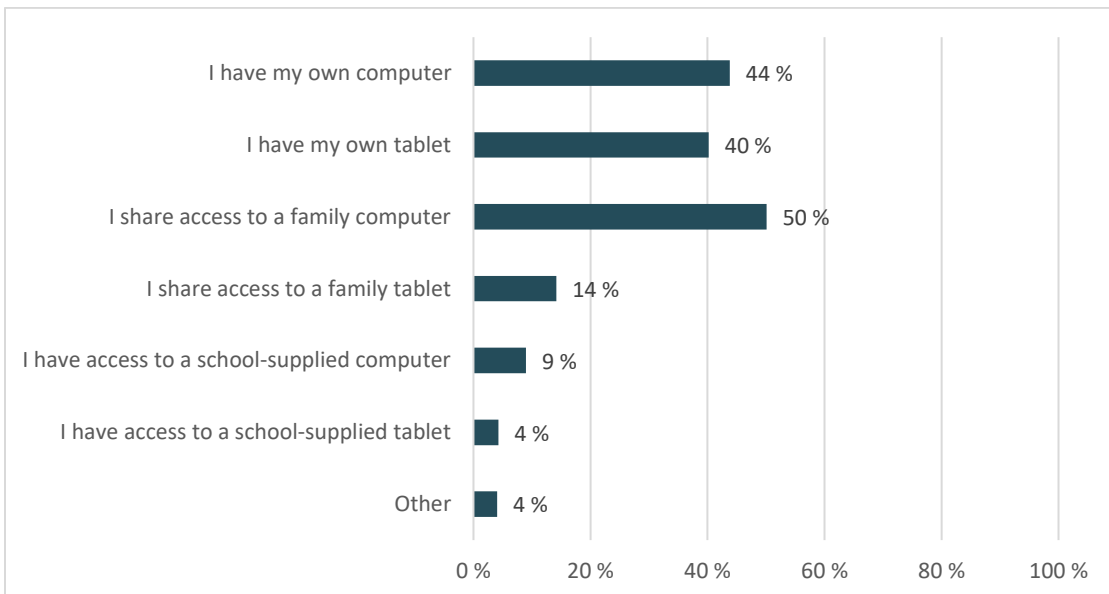
**13.2. How could we improve the supports for you in achieving your learning goals in your plan?**

Of those students who responded, one theme emerged. Many respondents suggest more support with academics. Many students expressed their satisfaction with the supports available to them currently. A few spoke to communications with schools and teachers.

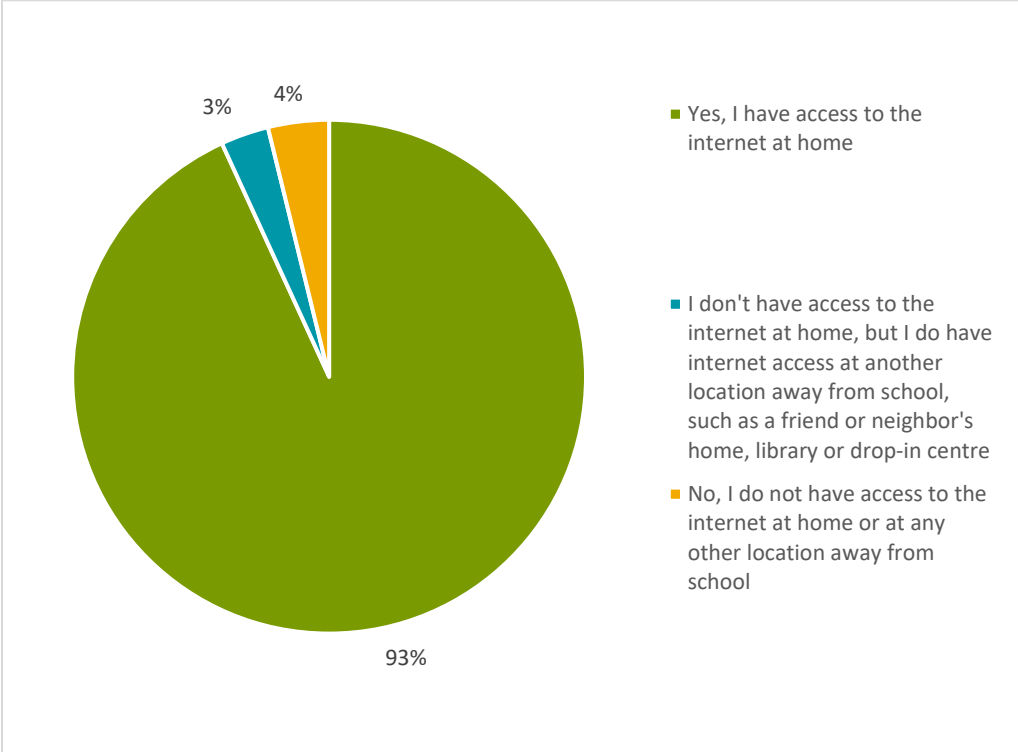
**14. Do you have access to a computer or tablet when/if you are away from school?**



**14.1. Which of the following apply to you?**

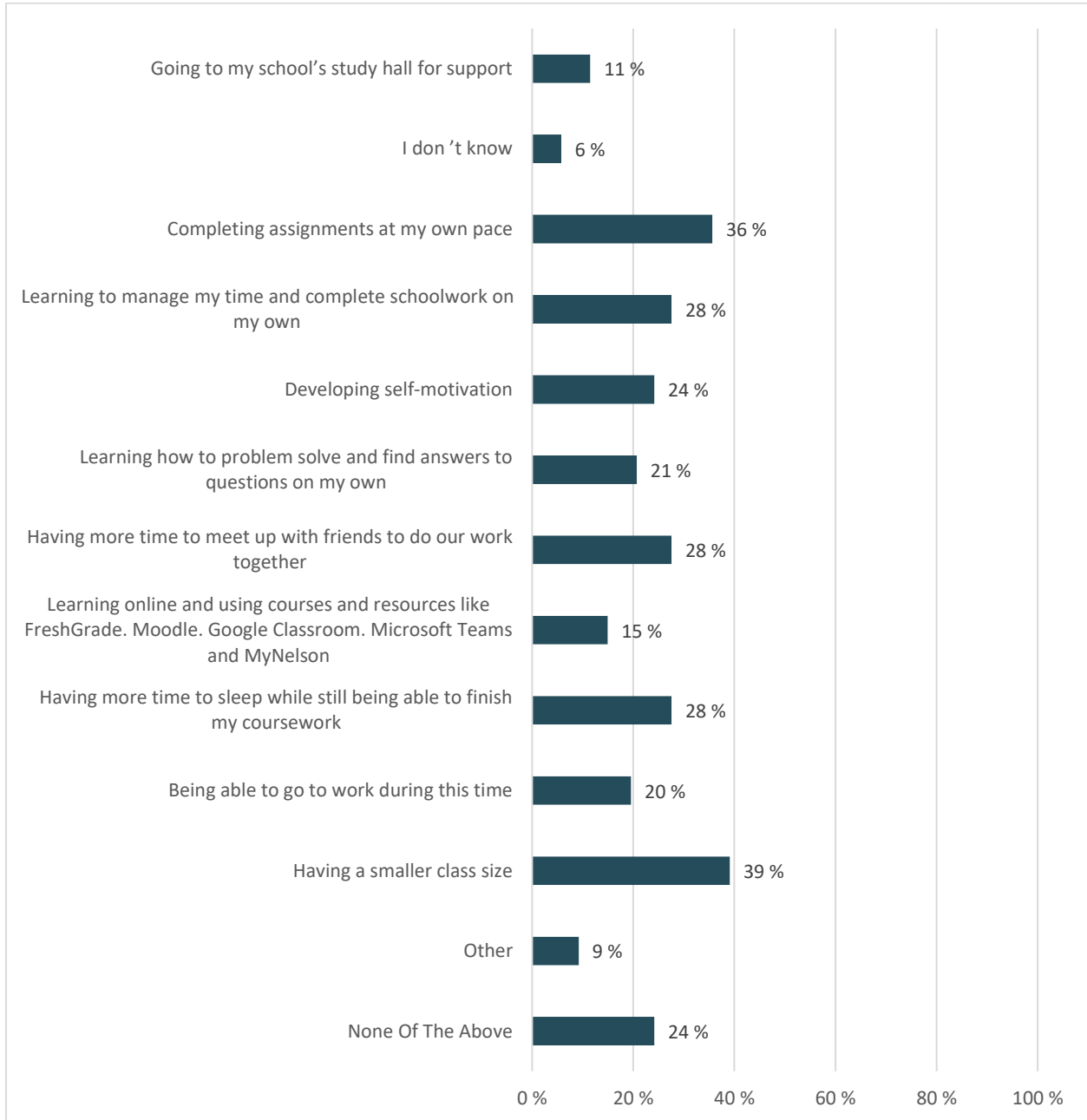


15. Do you have internet access to use for learning when/if you are away from school? For instance, you may have internet access at home or at a friend or neighbour's home, library or drop-in centre.

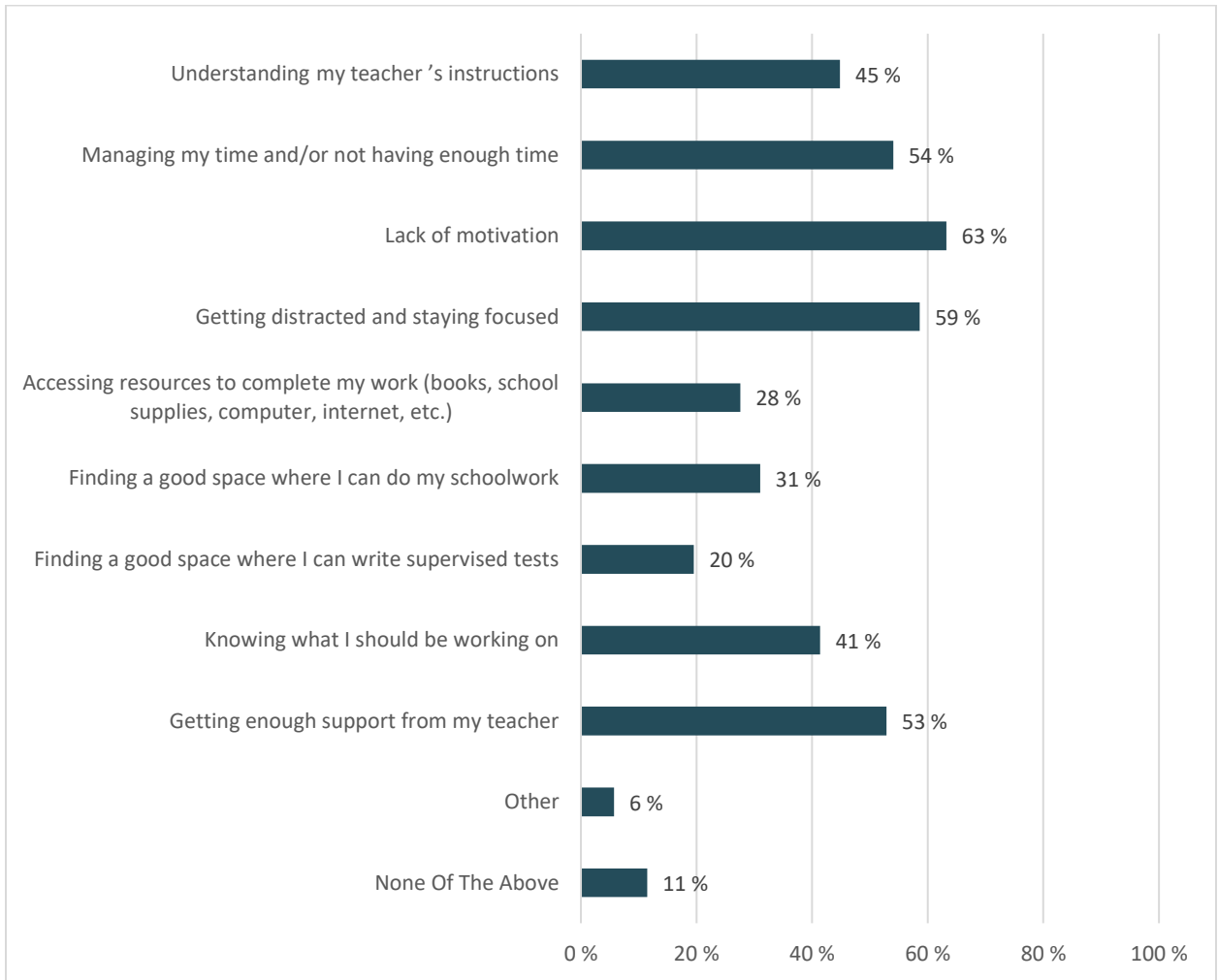


## Additional questions for students in grades 10-12 at Porter Creek, Vanier Catholic, F.H. Collins secondary schools (excluding Wood Street Programs)

### 16. What do you like about spending half of the school day learning away from school?

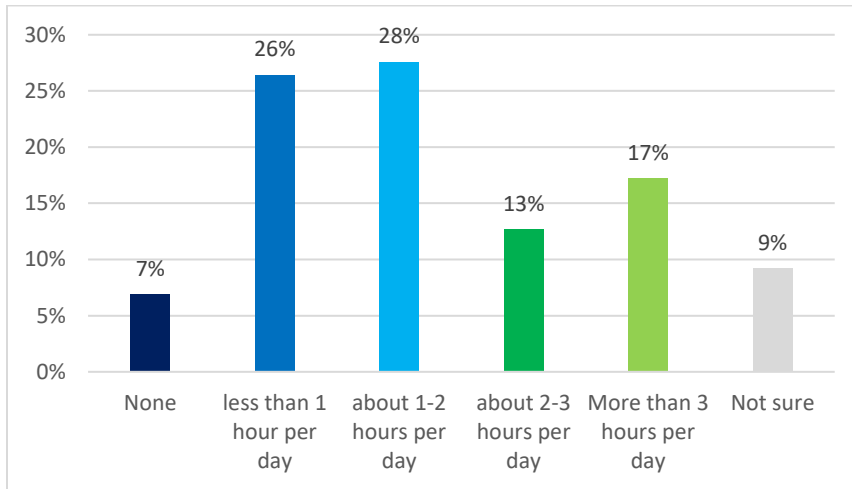


**17. What challenges do you have in spending half of the day in the classroom and the other half learning away from school?**

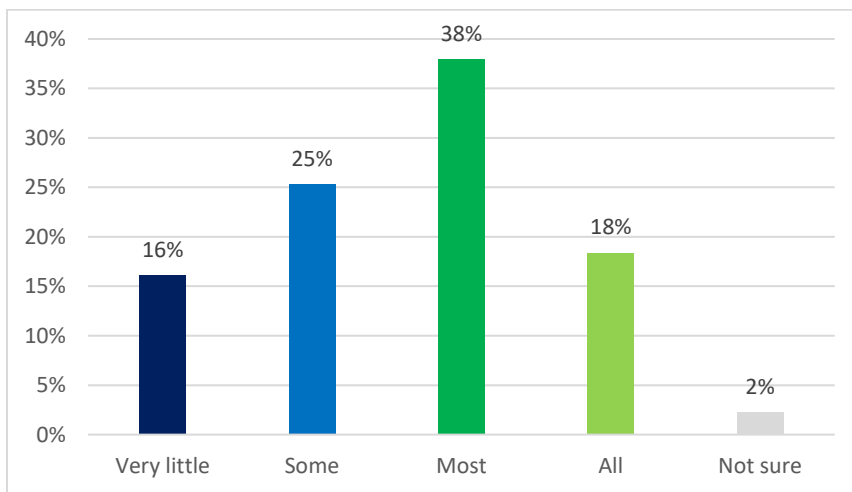




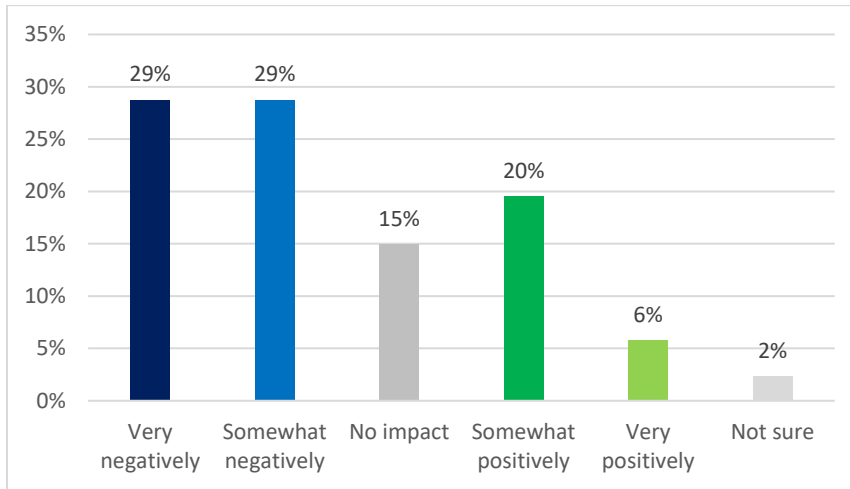
**18.** How much time during your half day away from class do you typically spend on schoolwork or studying?



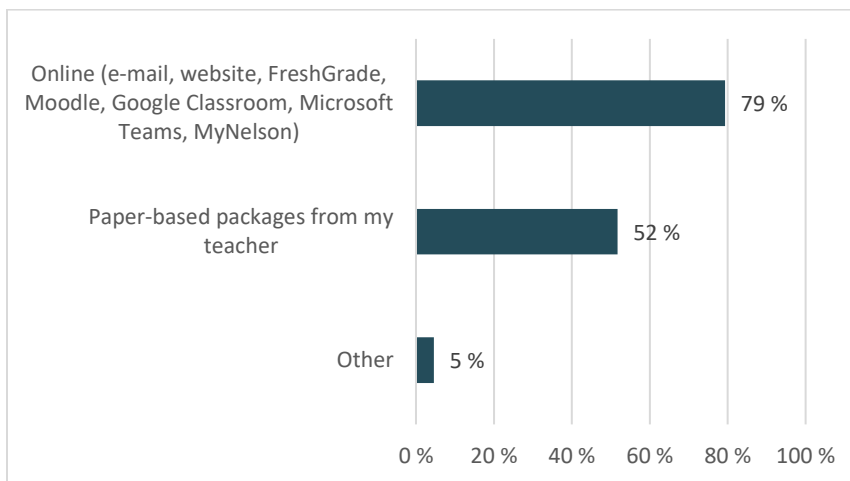
**19.** How much of your assigned schoolwork are you completing each day, on average?



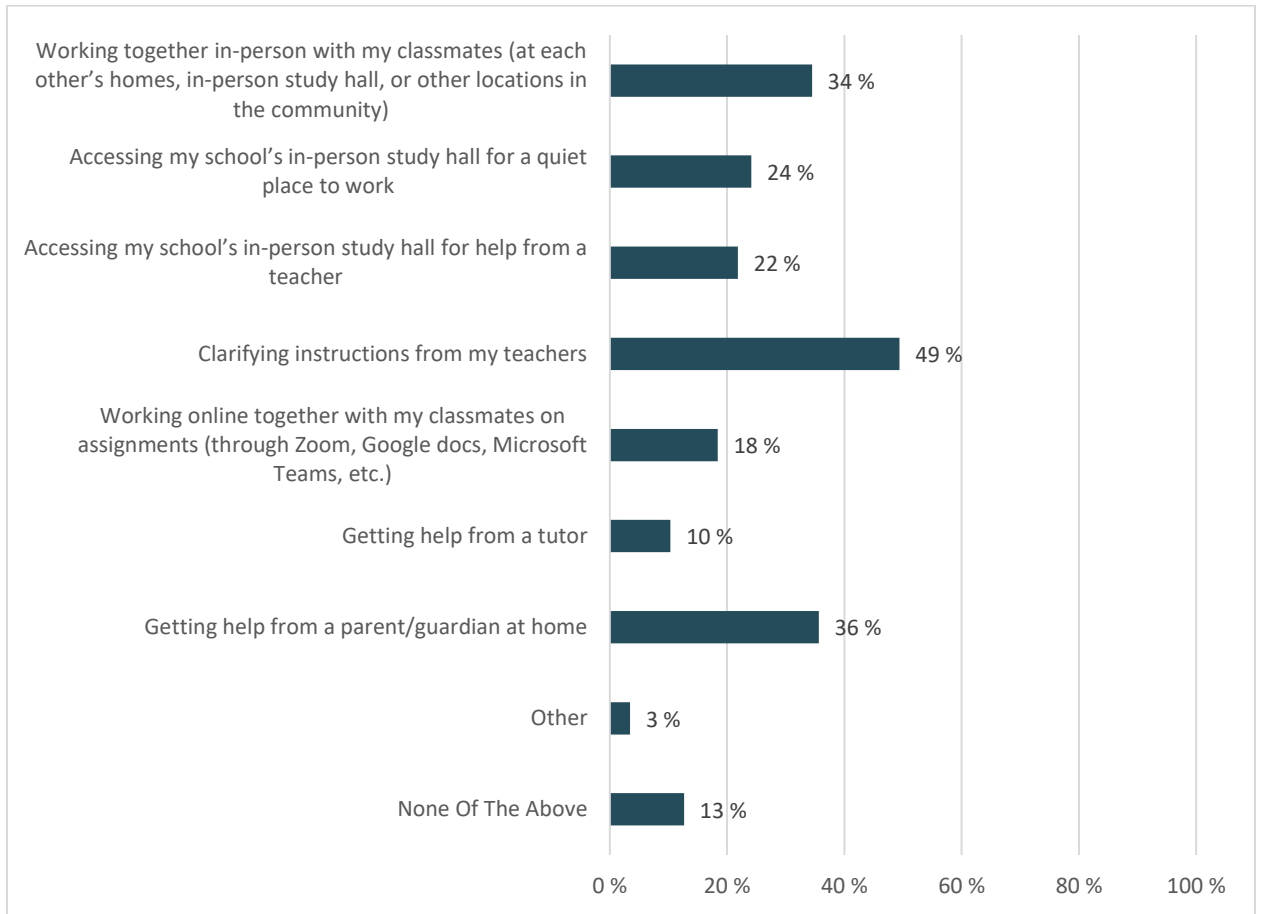
**20.** Overall, how do you feel this learning schedule (half days at school, half days away from school) has impacted your learning?



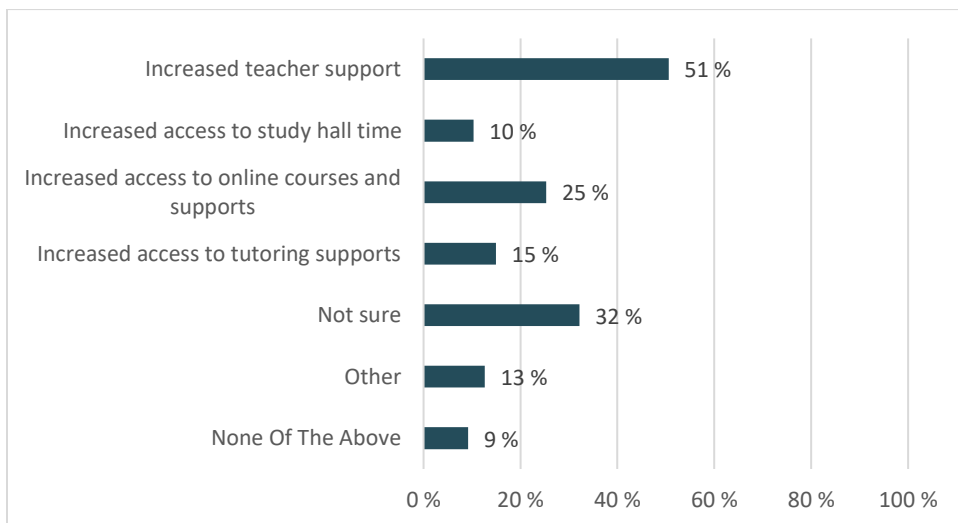
**21.** This school year, how are you most often accessing your learning and assignments when you are not in class?



**22. This school year, what supports have you accessed to help you complete your learning and assignments when you are not in the classroom?**

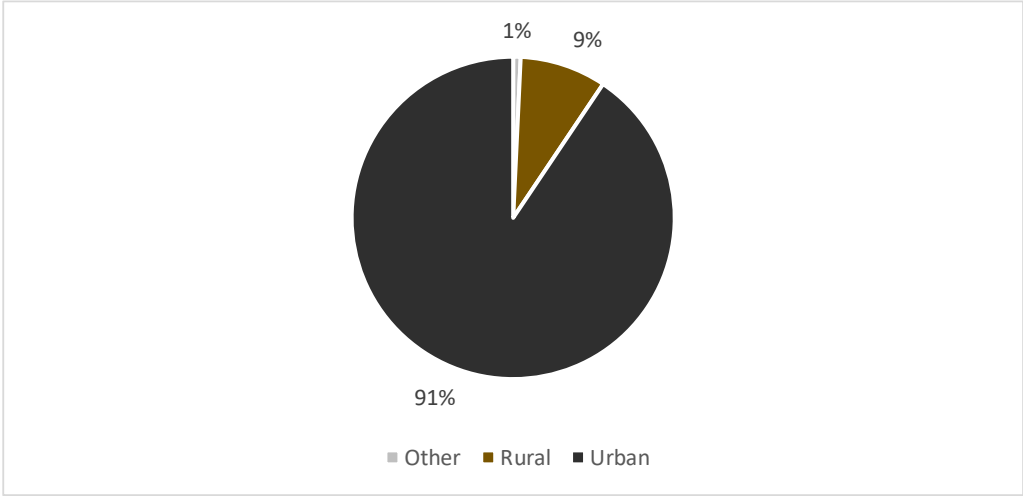


**23. What additional supports would be most helpful to you to be successful in your learning this year?**

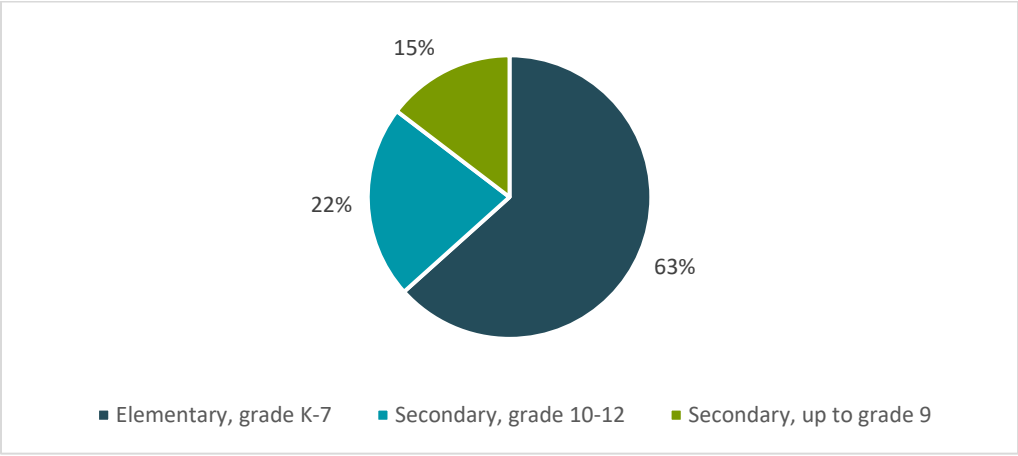


# What we asked parents or guardians

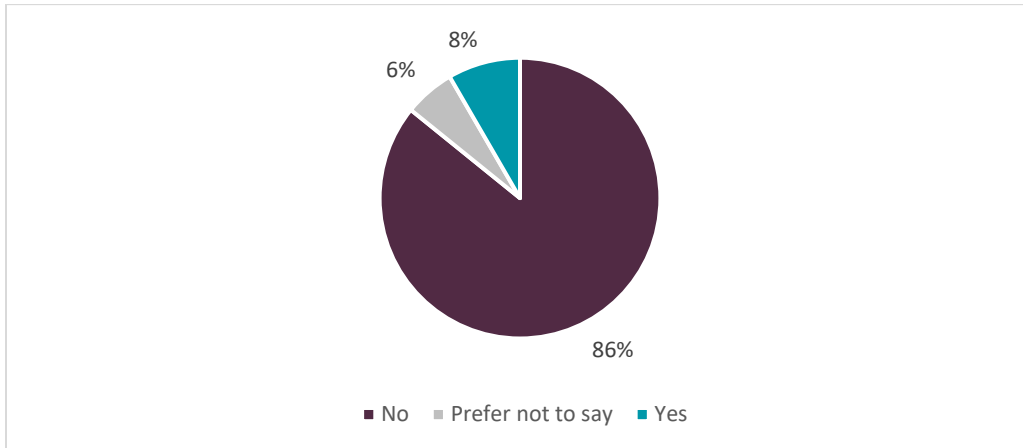
1. What school is your child attending this school year?



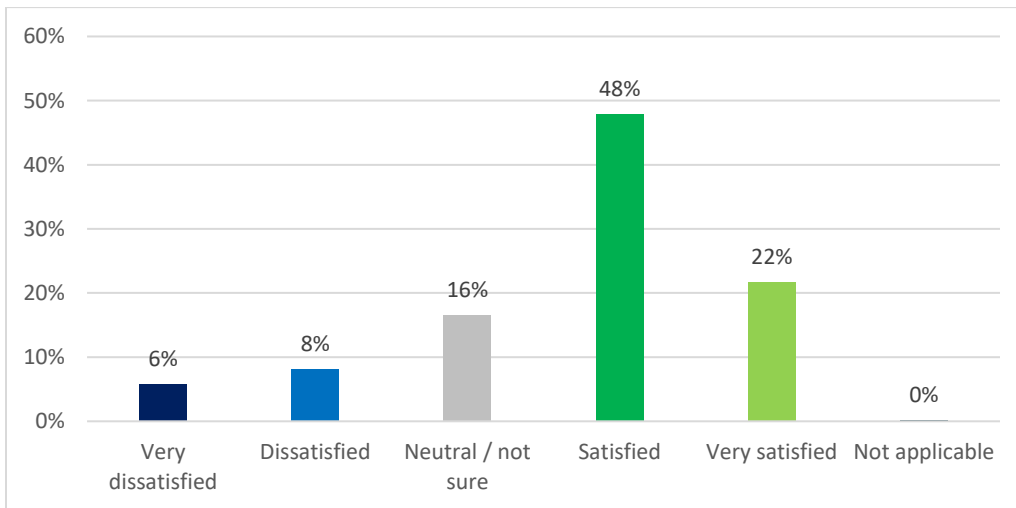
2. Which grade level is your child in during this school year?



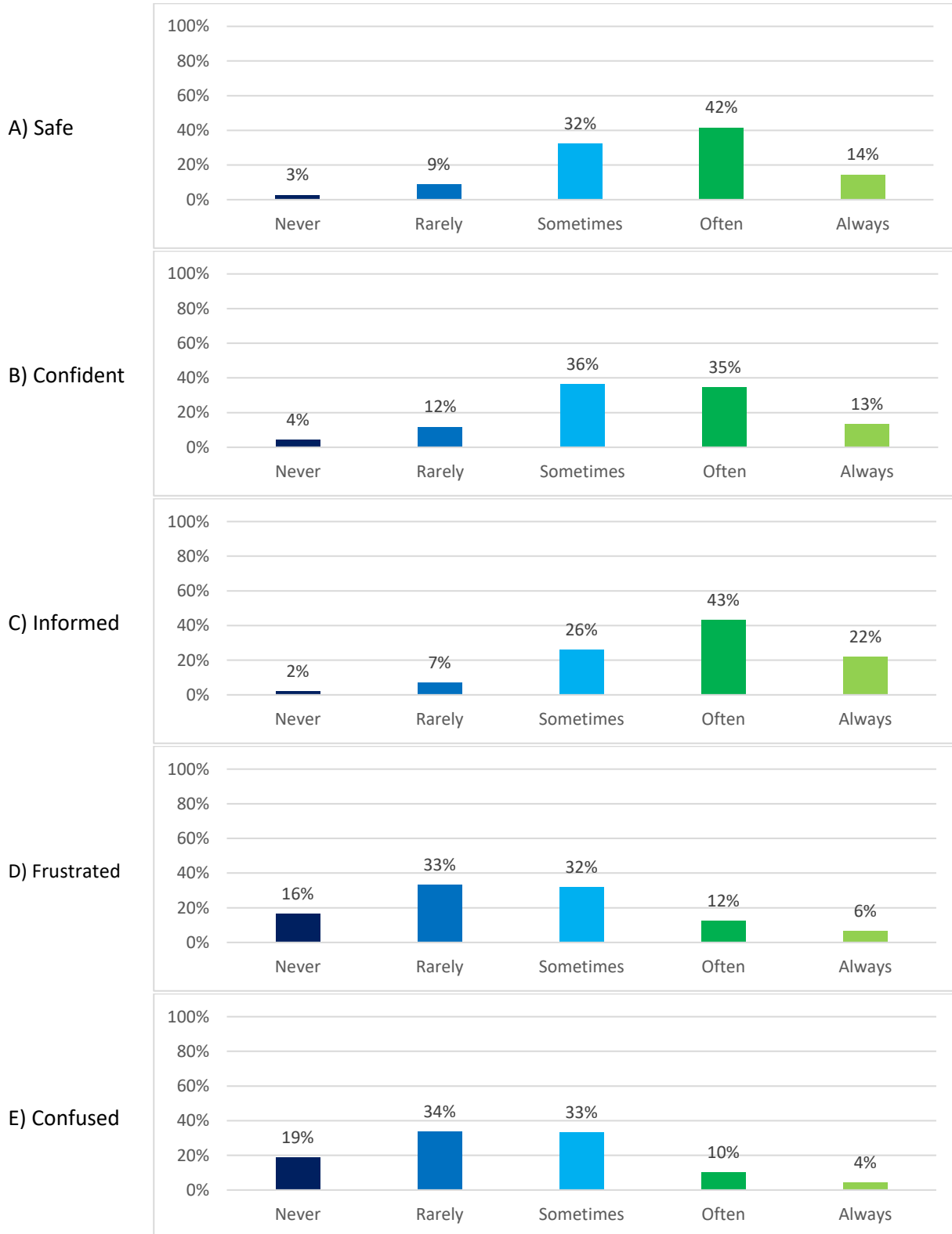
**3. Are you a member or a citizen of a Yukon First Nation?**



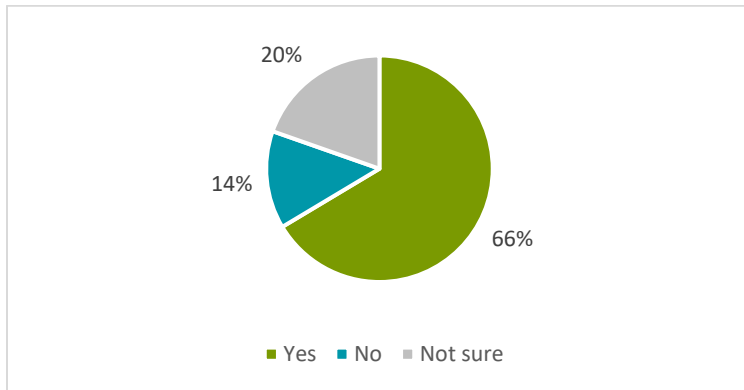
**4. How satisfied are you with the information you are receiving about the health and safety measures at your child's school?**



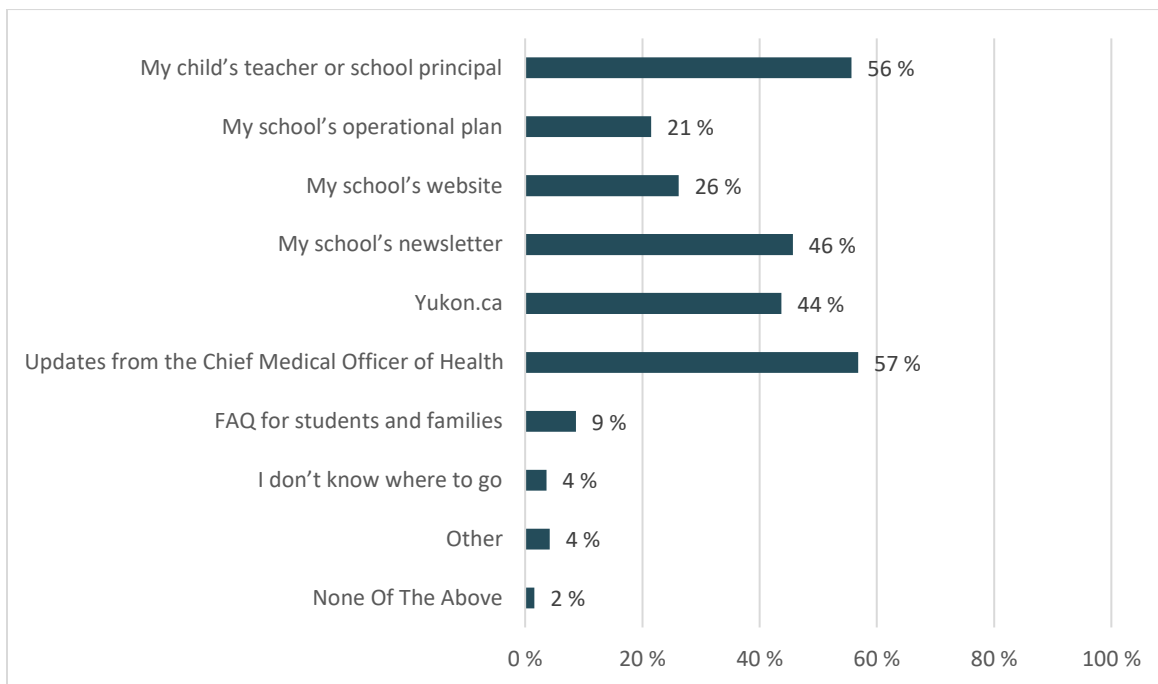
5. How are you feeling about the COVID-19 health and safety routines in place at your child's school?



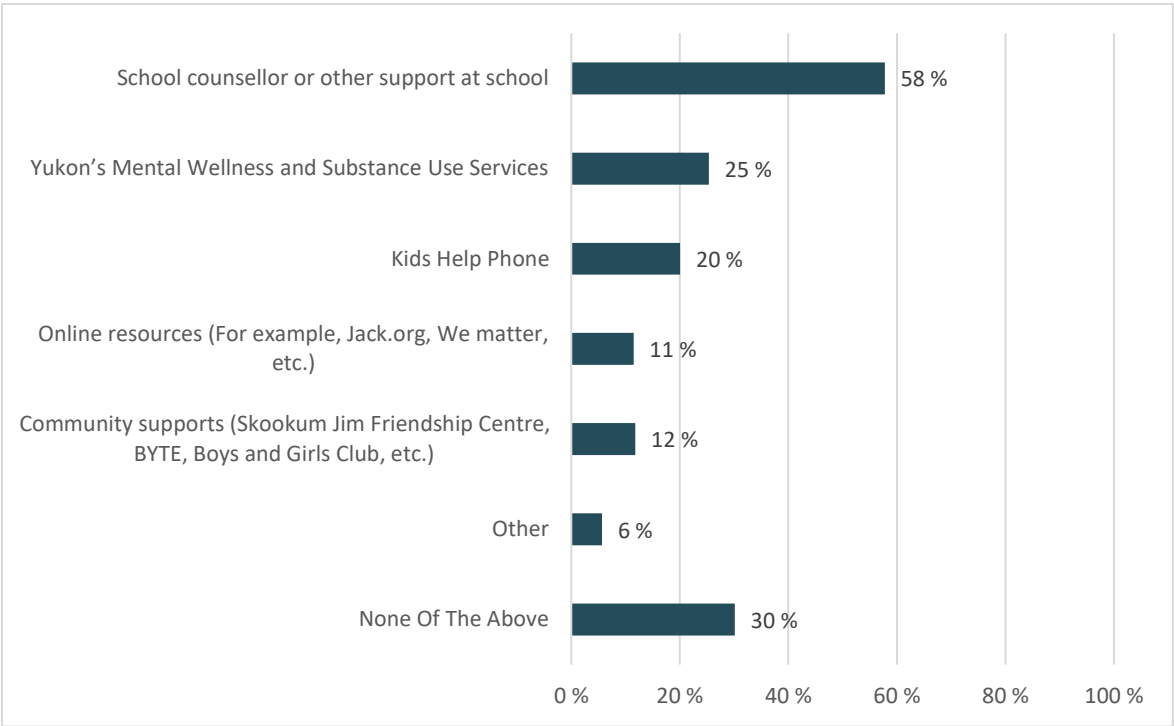
6. Do you find that the traffic light system for when to keep your child home from school has been effective for you?



7. Where do you go to get your questions on health and safety routines at your school answered?

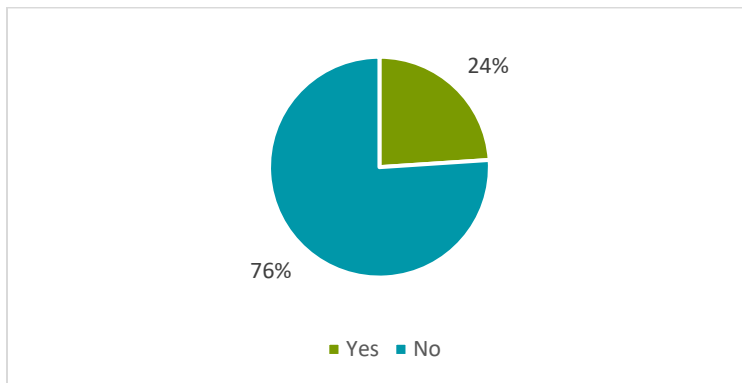


**8. Do you know how to access the following mental health and wellness supports that are currently available to support your child?**





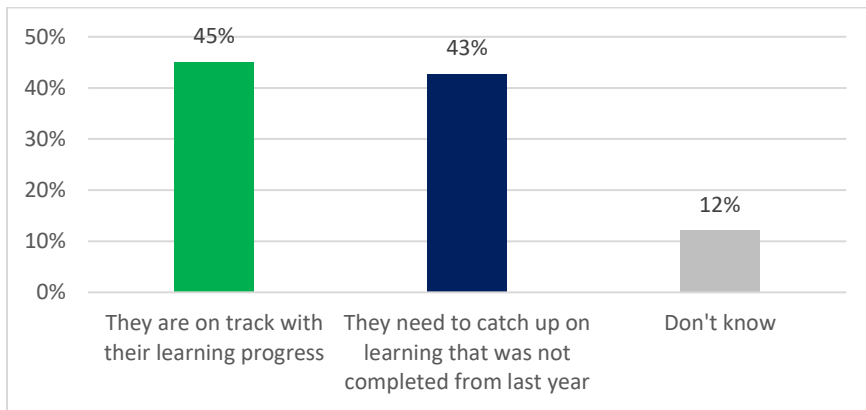
9. Are there additional mental health and wellness supports that would be helpful to your child?



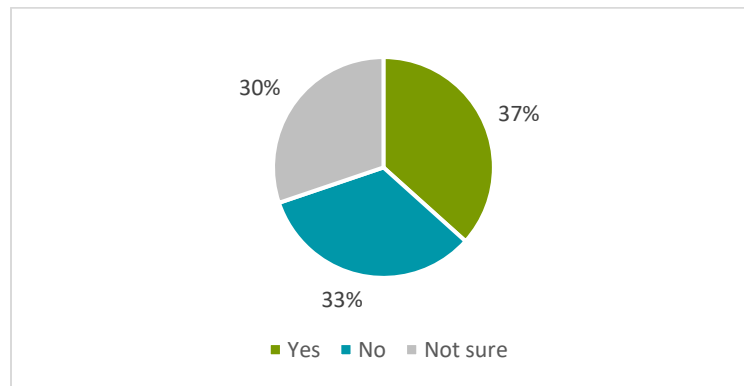
**9.1. What additional supports would be helpful?**

Of those who responded “Yes” to question 9, and provided further comments on the additional mental health and wellness supports that would be helpful for their child. Most families identified the need for more support in general with Mental Health and Wellness. A few families felt the need for more support with academics to help with mental health and wellness.

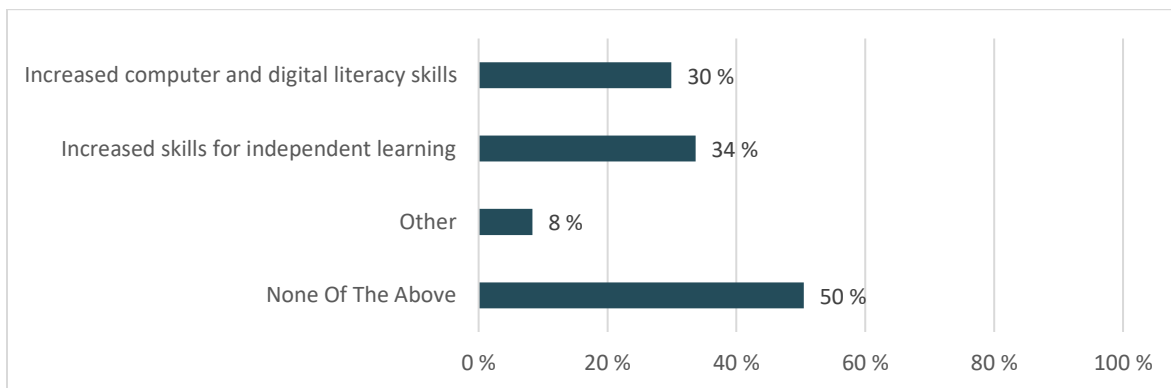
**10. Now that your child is back in school, how do you feel learning at home at the end of last school year impacted them?**



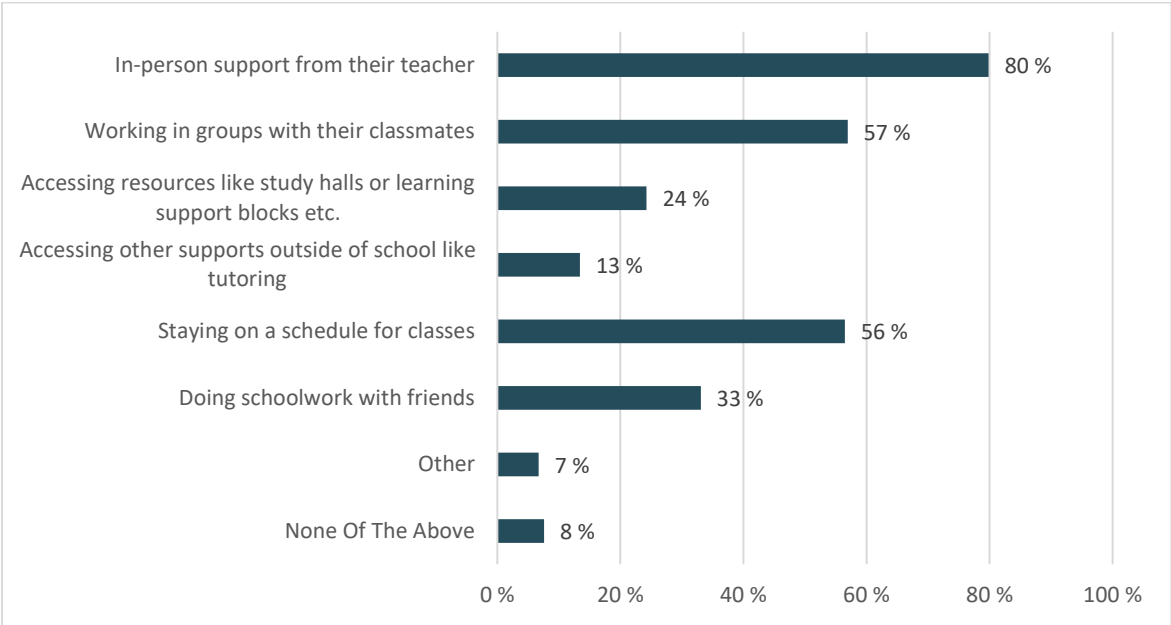
**10.1. Is your child getting the support they need to catch up on their learning from last year?**



**11. Did learning at home help your child in any of these ways?**



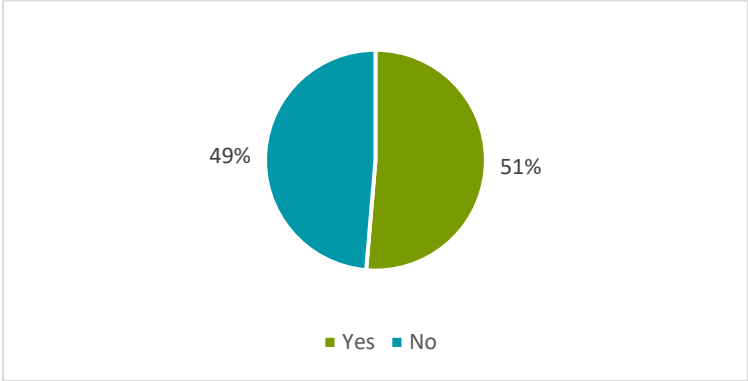
**12.** What kind of learning supports have been most helpful for your child now that they have returned to school this year?



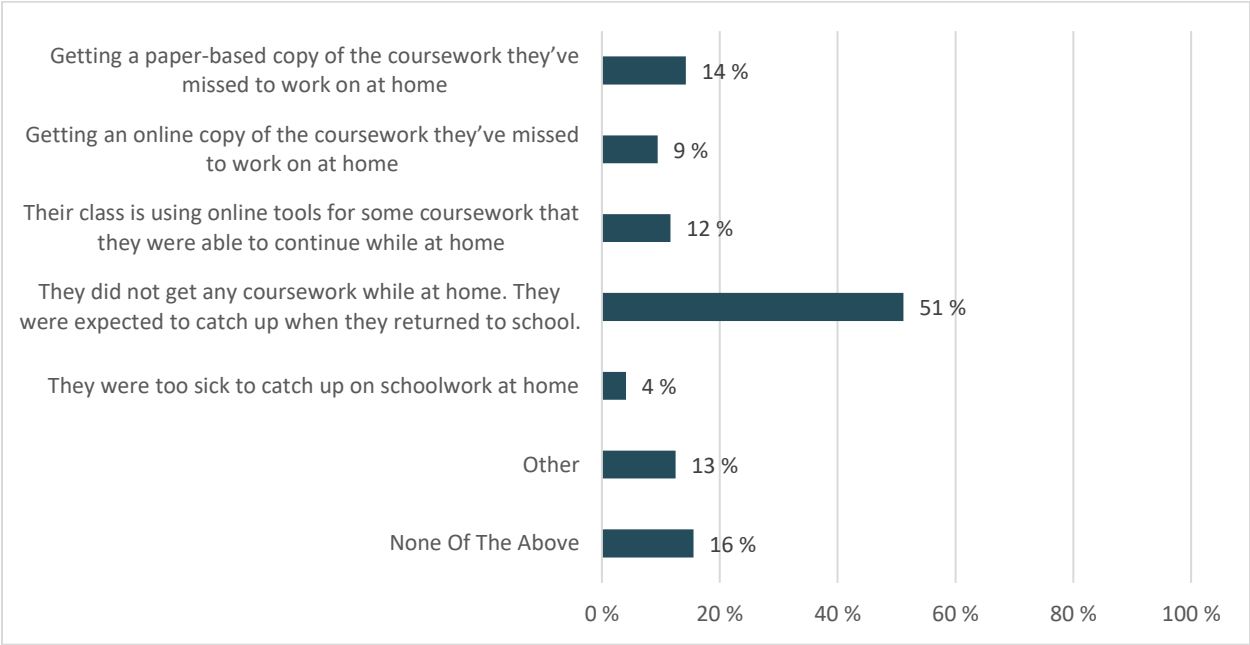
**13.** Is there anything that you wish your school was doing differently that would help your child in their return to school this year?

Of those who provided comments, three key themes emerged. Many spoke to the need for more support with academics, a return to full-time in-person classes and health and safety measures.

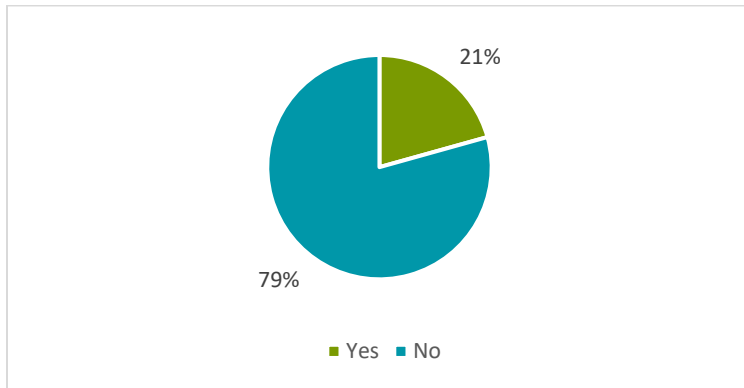
**14. Has your child had to stay home because they were sick or showing symptoms this school year?**



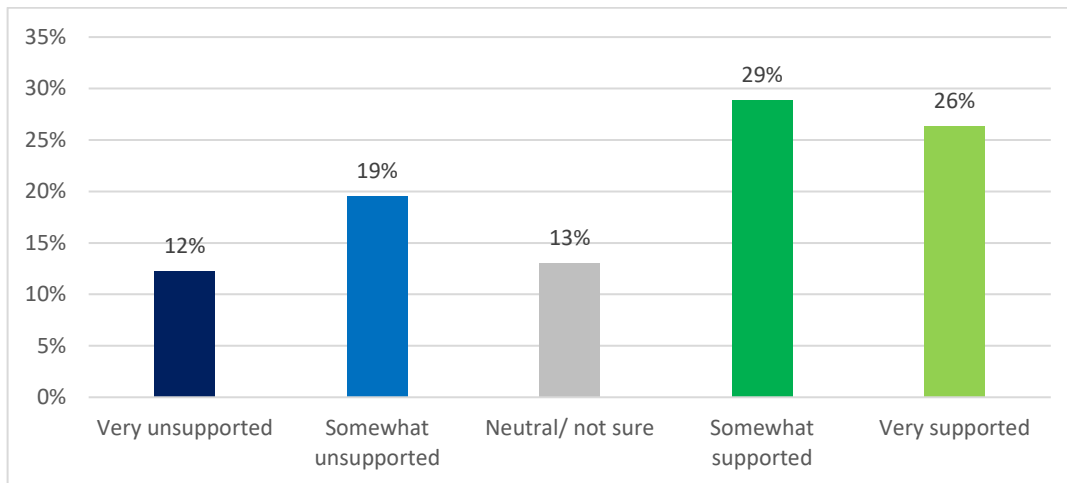
**14.1. How were they supported to continue their learning while at home?**



**15. Does your child have an Individual Education Plan, Student Learning Plan or Behaviour Support Plan?**



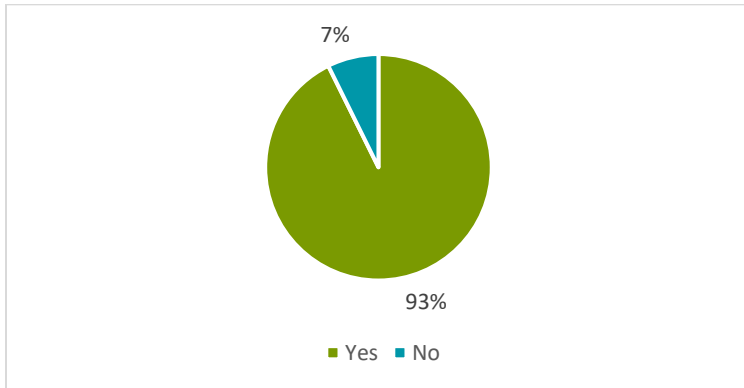
**15.1. How supported do you feel your child is in achieving the learning goals in this plan?**



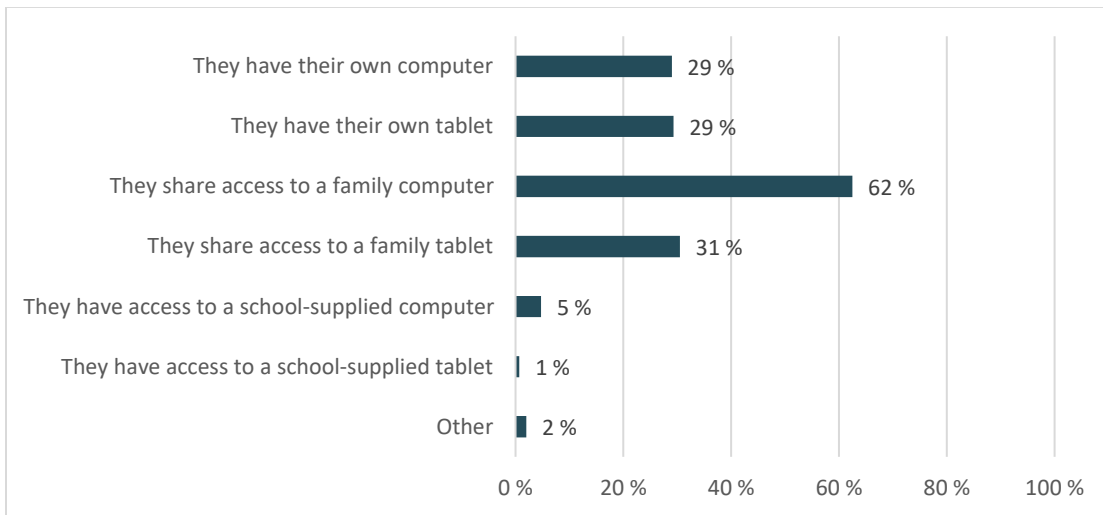
**15.2. How could supports be improved to help your child in achieving the learning goals in their plan?**

Of those who responded to the question, three main themes emerged. Many respondents suggested more support with academics, some spoke to communications with schools and teachers and a few mentioned the need to returning back to a full-time schedule in the classroom for the Whitehorse students in grades 10-12 who are currently on the half-time schedule.

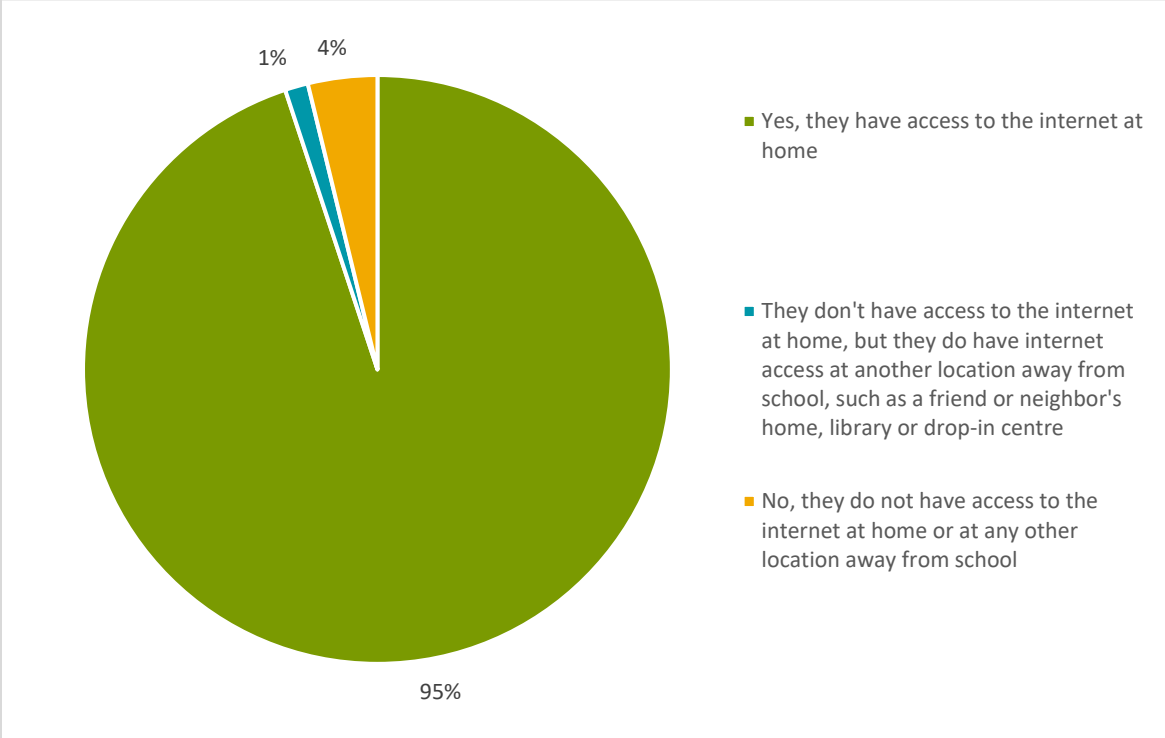
**16.** Does your child have access to a computer or tablet when/if they are away from school?



**16.1.** Which of the following apply to your child?

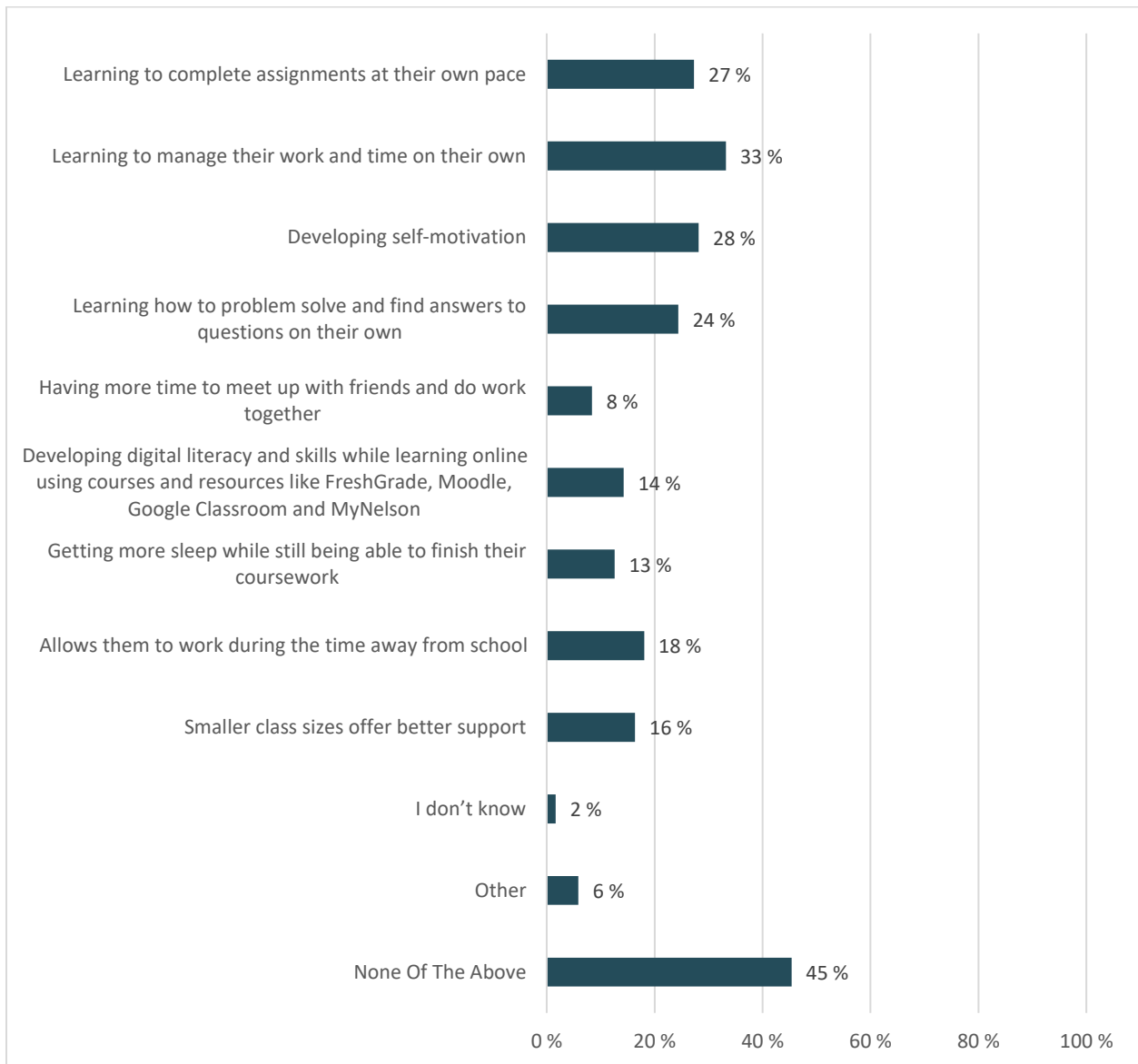


**17.** Does your child have internet access to use for learning when/if they are away from school? For instance, they may have internet access at home or at a friend or neighbour’s home, library or drop-in centre.



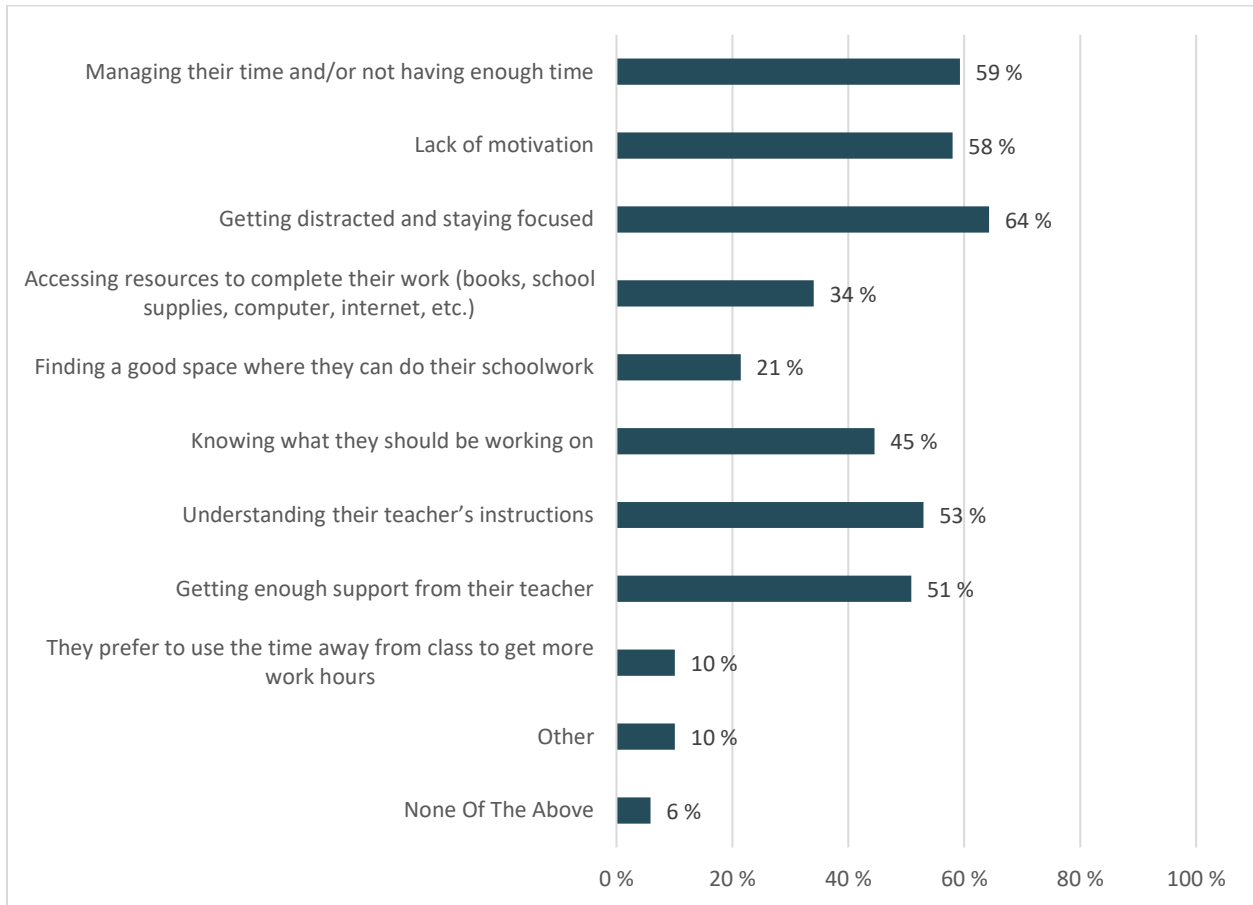
**Additional questions for parents of students in grades 10-12 at Porter Creek, Vanier Catholic, F.H. Collins secondary schools (excluding Wood Street Programs)**

**18. How do you think learning on this schedule benefits your child?**

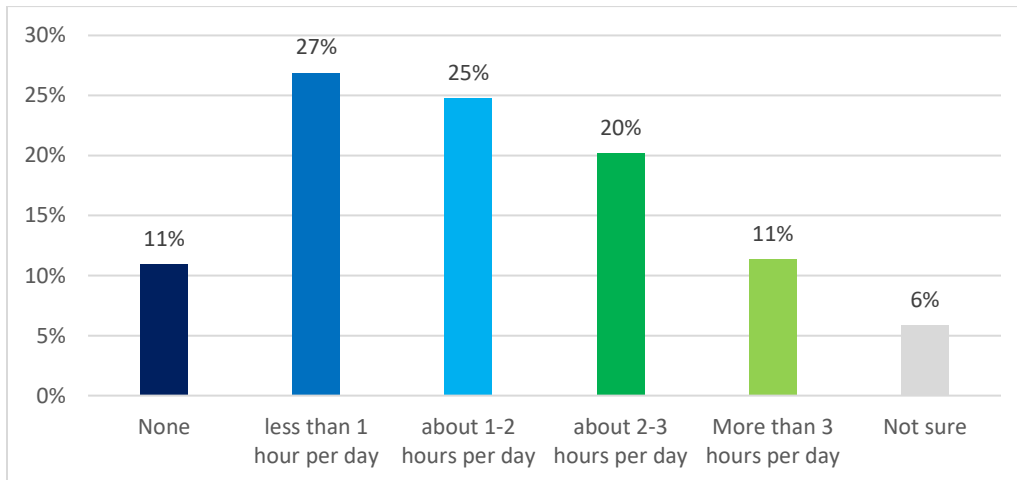




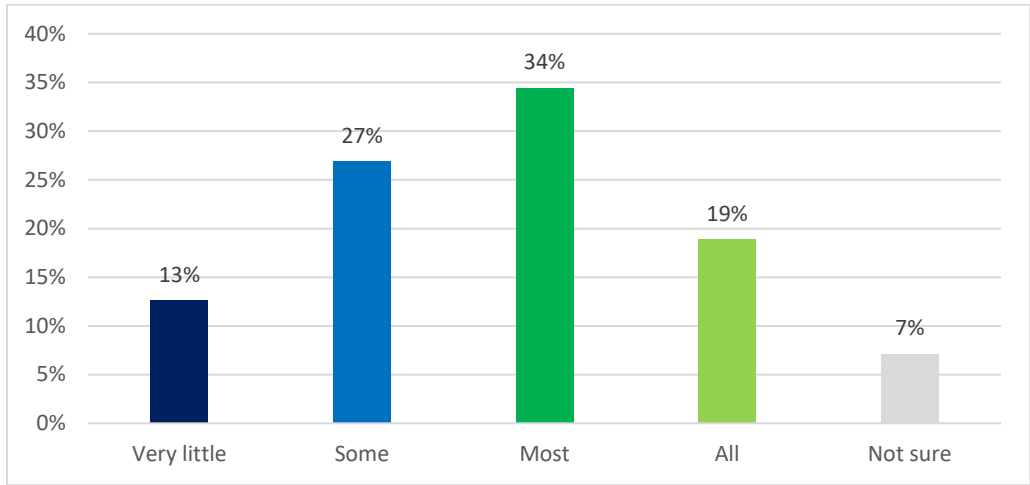
**19. What are the challenges for your child in spending half of the day in the classroom and the other half learning away from school?**



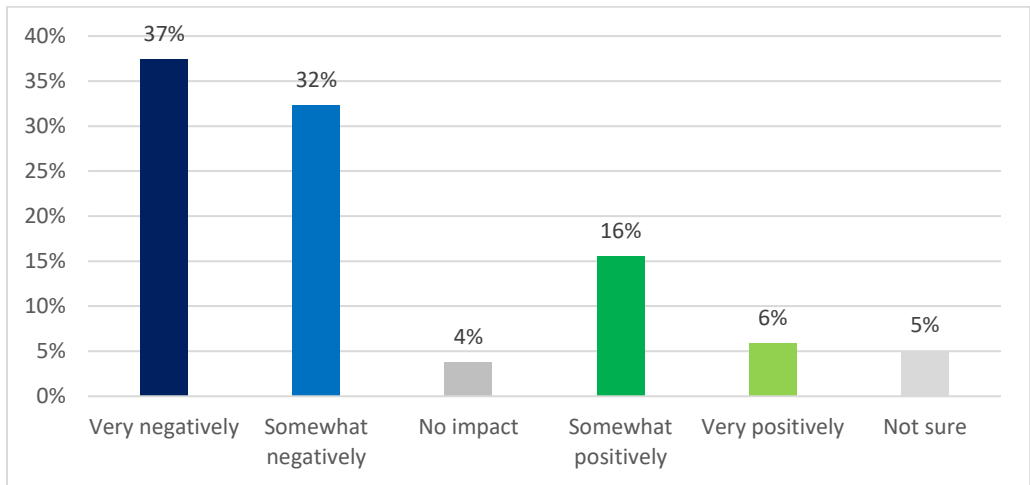
**20. How much time during the half day away from class does your child typically spend on assignments or studying?**



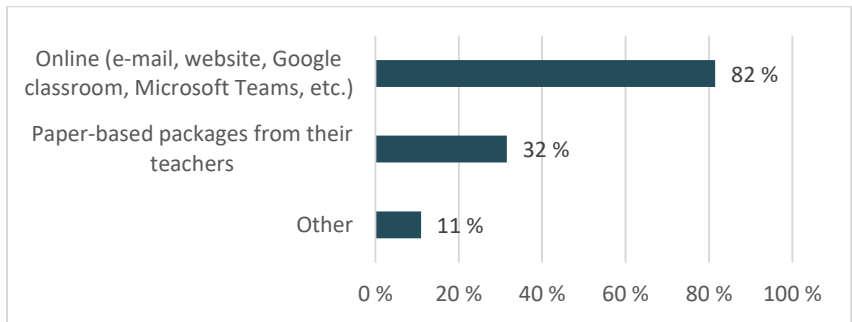
**21. How much of the assigned schoolwork is your child completing each day, on average?**



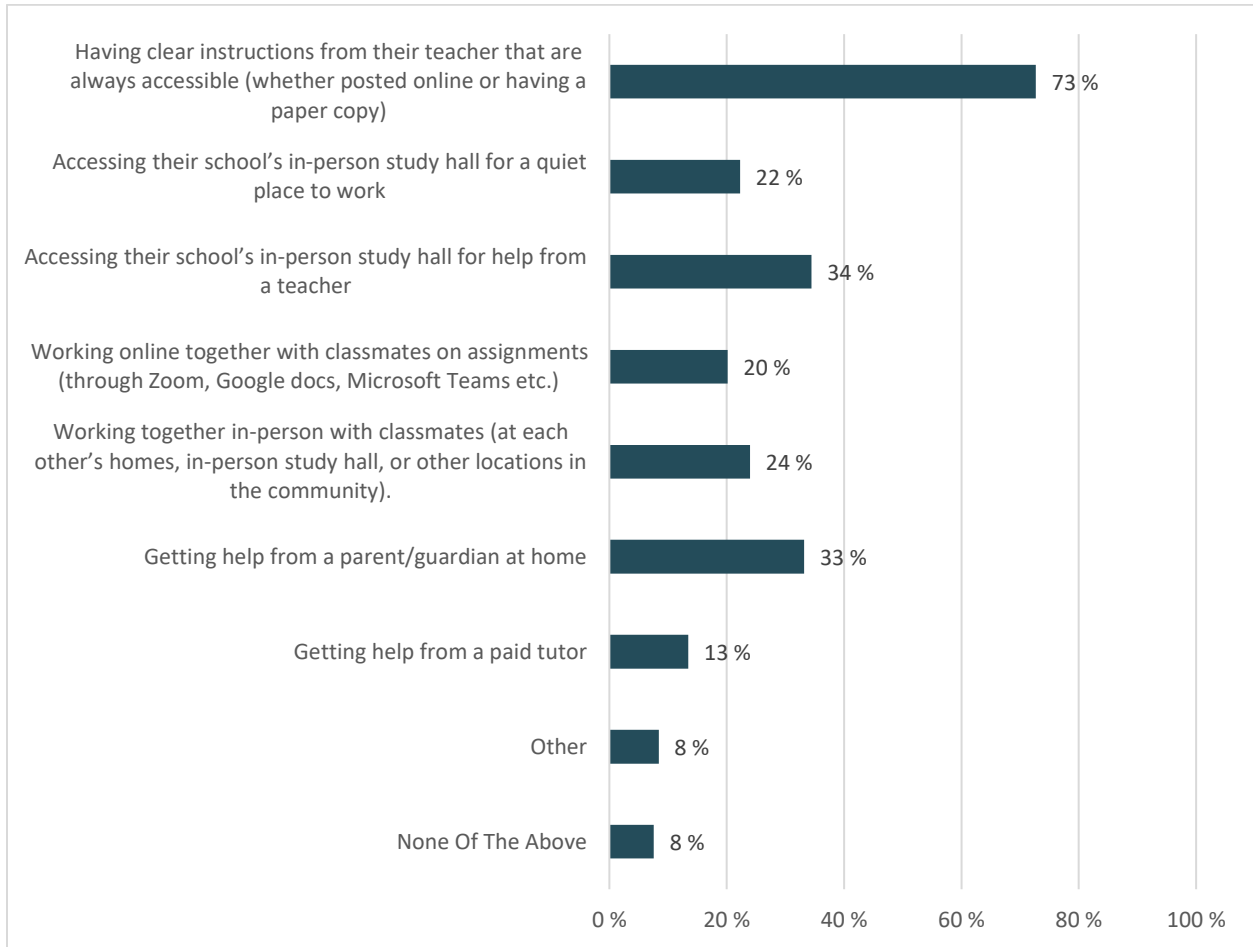
**22. How do you feel the half day learning schedule has impacted your child's learning?**



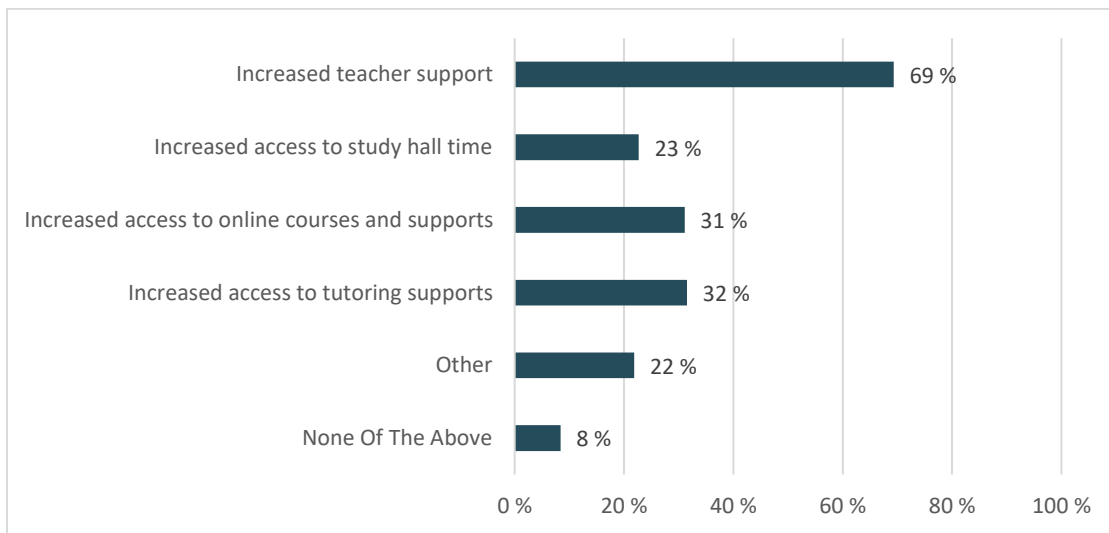
**23. How is your child most often accessing their learning and assignments when not in class?**



**24. What supports are most helpful to your child to complete learning and assignments when they are not in the classroom?**



**25. What additional supports would be most helpful to your child to be successful in their learning this year?**



## **What's next?**

The feedback from this survey will support central administration and school staff to make adjustments to school programming or identify additional supports to meet student learning needs and ensure health and safety during the pandemic. It will also be shared with school councils, Yukon First Nations, the Yukon Teachers' Association and other education partners to support our ongoing work together to support student learning during the pandemic. We will be conducting another follow-up survey later in the 2020-21 school year to inform any necessary adjustments.

## **Participation**

### **Engagement methods**

This survey was voluntary and remained open from November 23-30, 2020. The survey link was sent directly by e-mail to all Yukon families with children in Kindergarten to Grade 12 this school year and school staff working in Kindergarten to Grade 12 public schools in 2020-21. Students, families and school staff were also invited to participate by completing the survey by phone if they were unable to fill it out online.

### **Participation by the numbers**

The survey was completed by 2085 respondents, with participation from 1,340 parents, 496 students and 249 school staff.

### **Notification**

Information was sent out directly to parents/guardians and school staff by e-mail.