

# **Queen Elizabeth Annex School Needs Assessment for Out of School Services**

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## **Purpose**

The purpose of the survey was to gain an understanding of the usage and future need for Out of School Care services for the children that attend Queen Elizabeth Annex (QEA).

## **Background**

Out of School Care services for children that attend QEA School have been provided by: Dunbar Kids Club, Crown Street Kids Club and Queen Elizabeth Out of School Care. Of the three, ONLY Crown Street Kids Club has offered "morning care" as part of the program. This year it was estimated that 8 children were registered with Crown Street Kids Club. In March of this year the director of Crown Street Kids Club announced that their program would be closing permanently as of June 30, 2017. This will create a significant gap for Out of School Care services available to children attending QEA – particularly for morning care. In addition, there was a sense that the need for Out of School Care services is growing, in general.

Given this information a needs assessment was determined to be required to gain further information related specifically to the needs of Out of School Care for the children of QEA, to then work with service providers to explore the option of growth within the other operating programs in our neighbourhood.

## **Process**

A Survey was created with Survey Monkey by concerned parents and distributed by email to families that currently have children attending QEA and to families of children that have been accepted to Kindergarten at QEA for 2017/2018. There currently are an estimated 85 children enrolled in grade K-3 at our school this year, which is expected to remain stable for 2018/19. The survey results were accumulated between April 27th and May 7th 2017. It consisted of multiple choice questions and space for comments.

## **Key Results**

48 parents responded the survey, some who have more than one child at QEA.

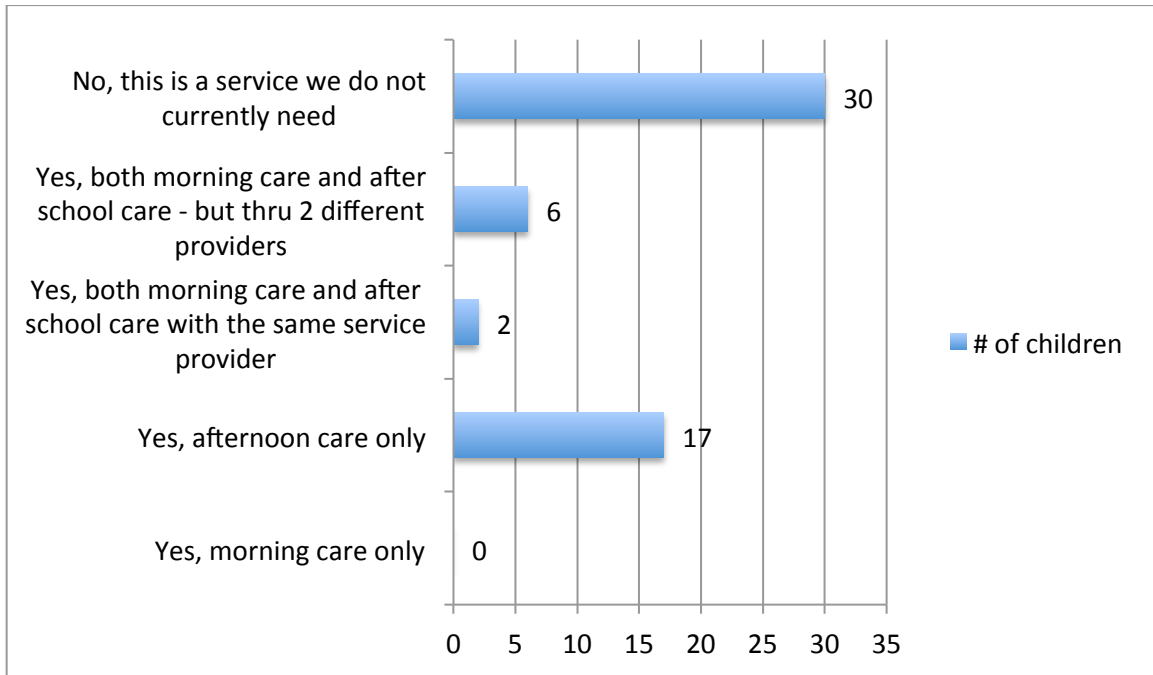
- 30 respondents indicated that Out of School Care was something they “definitely” or “probably” need
- Respondents indicated for 2017/18 they need but DO NOT have an Out of School Care space for:
  - Both morning and after school care (n=10),
  - Morning only (n=9), and
  - Afternoon only (n=3).

There is one discrepancy in the results that should be noted. Dunbar Kids Club only has 6 allotted spaces for children attending QEA (so it is not possible that 7 are attending). However, there is an extra child that attends DKC on Pro D days with her sibling. It is also possible that more than one parent responded on behalf of the same children, which may over represent the results.

## **Conclusion**

These survey findings indicate there is a need for additional Out of School Care at QEA for 2017/18.

**Q1: Do you have children at QEA that currently attend an out of school care program? (44 respondents for 55 children)**



	Child 1	Child 2	Child 3	Total
Yes, morning care only	0	0	0	0
Yes, afternoon care only	14	3	0	17
Yes, both morning care and after school care with the same service provider	2	0	0	2
Yes, both morning care and after school care - but thru 2 different providers	5	1	0	6
No, this is a service we do not currently need	23	6	1	30

**Comments**

“Child 1 and Child 2 need both morning and after school care, but there is no space available for us currently. Maybe in the fall.”

“Child will be starting kindergarten in 2017, will be requiring morning and afterschool care

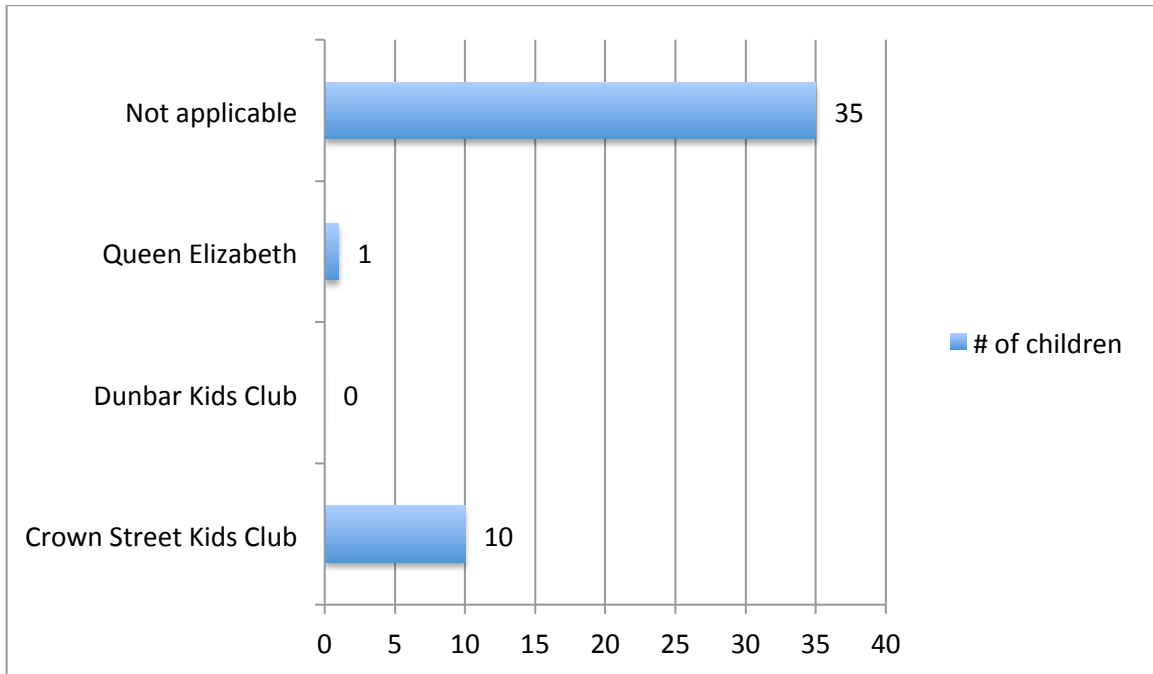
As a family with two children (1in Kindergarten and 1 in daycare) we really need both before and after school care.”

“Not yet, but my daughter will be starting Kindergarten at QEA in Sep 2017,and we will need out of school care.”

“We will be attending kindergarten next year.”

“We are on the waiting list for Dunbar Kids Club, and Queen Elizabeth Out of School Care. I'm not sure how to answer the checked box, I want the service but can't get it.”

**Q2: Which provider currently provides morning care for your child?  
(37 respondents)**



	Child 1	Child 2	Child 3	Total
Crown Street Kids Club	8	2	0	10
Dunbar Kids Club	0	0	0	0
Queen Elizabeth Out of School Care	1	0	0	1
Not applicable	28	7	0	35

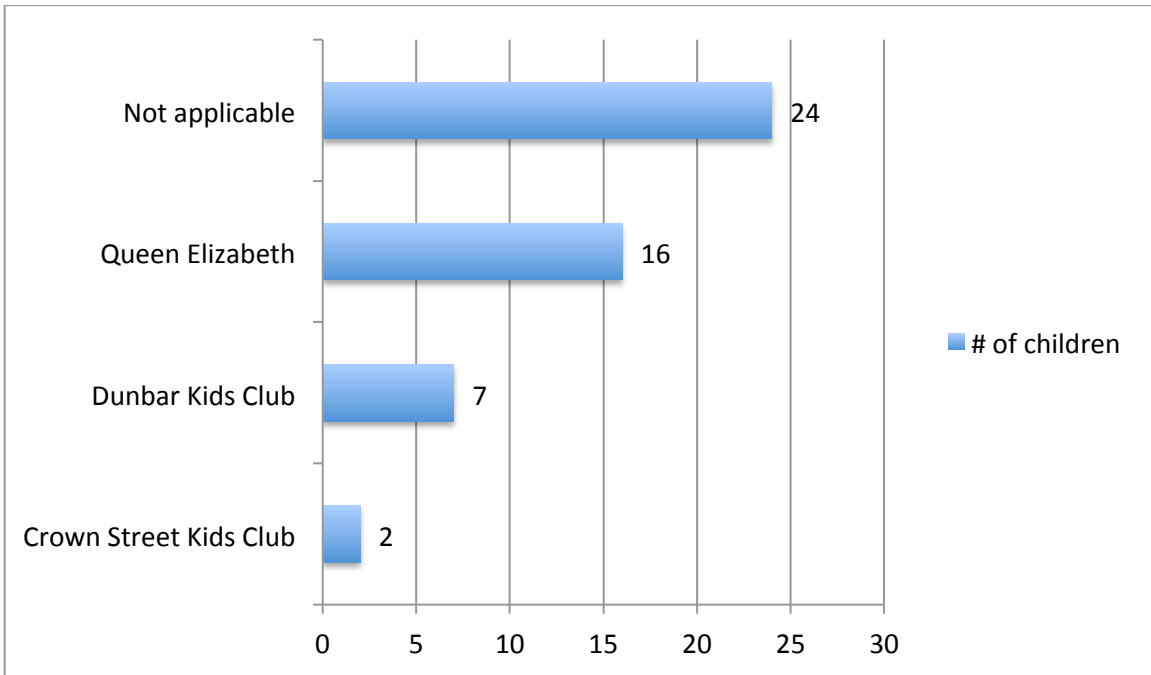
**Comments**

“Child on waitlist for QE out of school care”

“We're on the waiting list for Dunbar Kids Club and Queen Elizabeth Out of school care”

“Would like to have access to morning care too though... as we have lost that for now.”

**Q3: Which provider currently provides after school care for your child? (40 respondents)**



	Child 1	Child 2	Child 3	Total
Crown Street Kids Club	2	0	0	2
Dunbar Kids Club	6	1	0	7
Queen Elizabeth Out of School Care	12	4	0	16
Not applicable	19	5	0	24

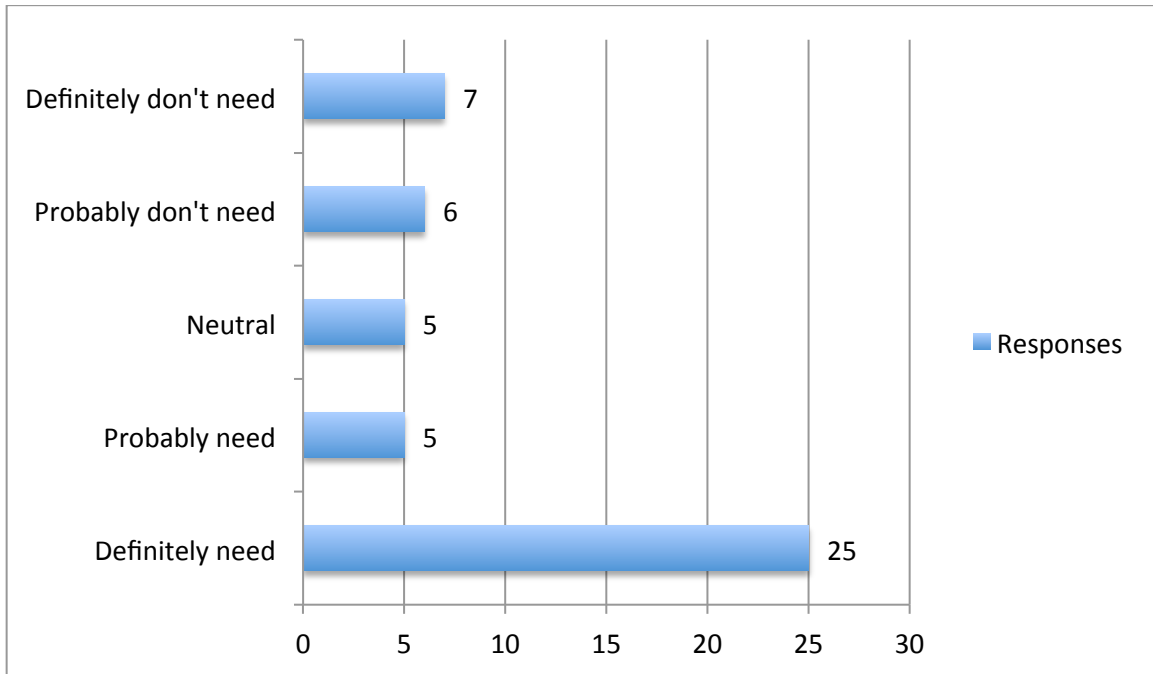
**Comments**

“Child not yet in care, starting kindergarten in 2017”

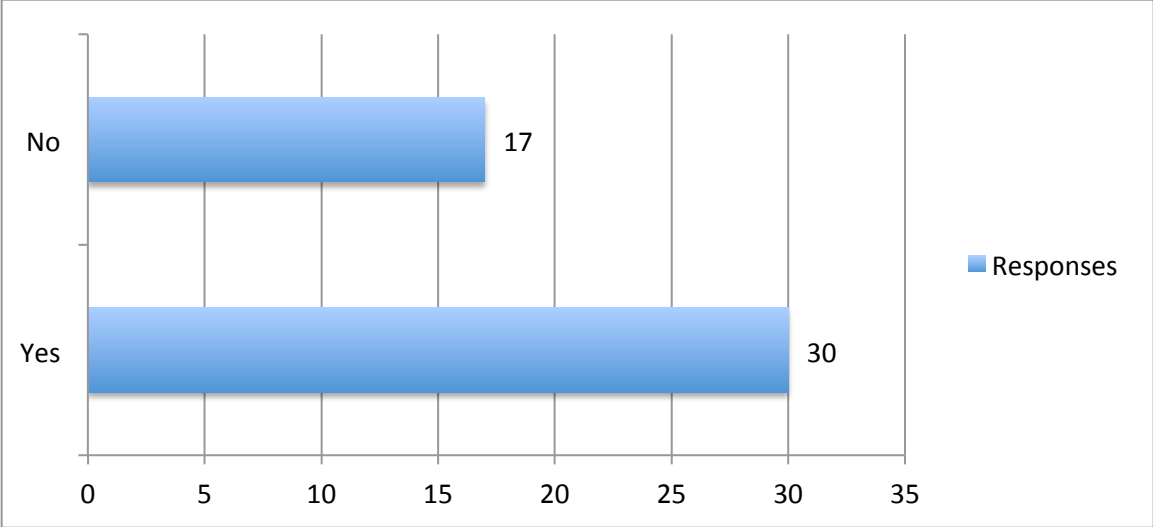
“We're on the waiting list for Dunbar Kids Club and Queen Elizabeth Out of school care”

“Was CSKC but we just transferred due to the imminent closing. Would like to have access to morning care too though... as we have lost that for now.”

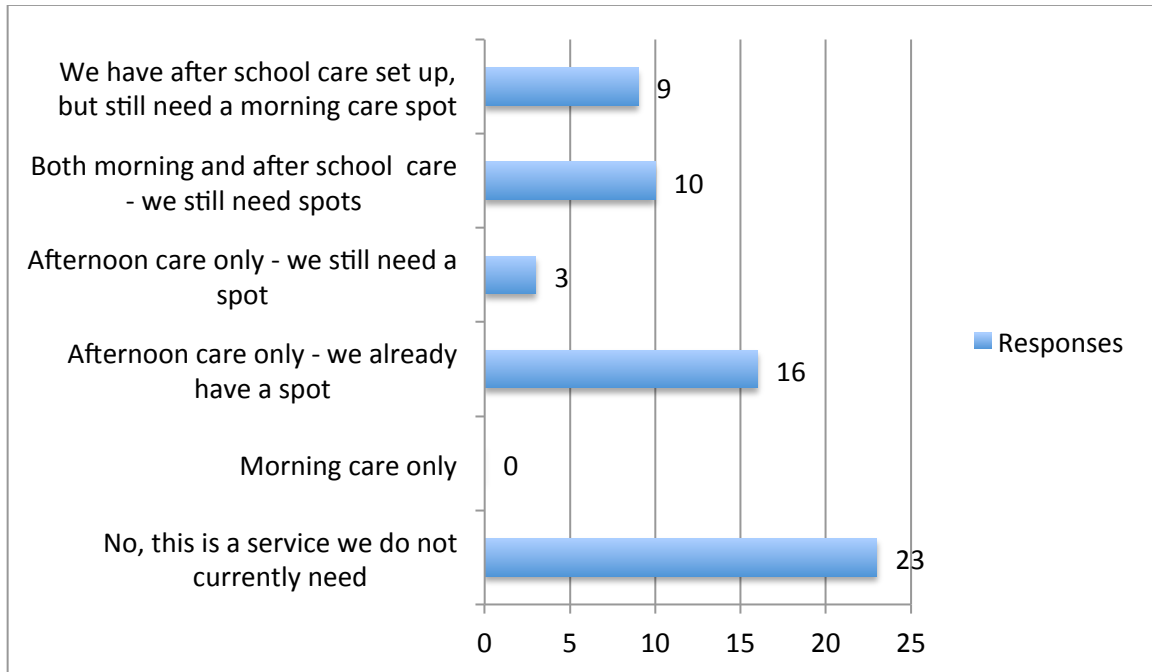
**Q4: When you think about Out of School Care, do you think of it as something you need or don't need? (48 respondents)**



**Q5: Are you aware Crown Street Kids Club will be closing as of June 30 2017, both the before and after school care program? (47 respondents)**



**Q6: For the 2017 - 2018 school year, what Out of School Care services will you need for any of your children attending QEA? (46 respondents)**



	Child 1	Child 2	Child 3	Total
No, this is a service we do not currently need	18	4	1	23
Morning care only	0	0	0	0
Afternoon care only - we already have a spot	13	3	0	16
Afternoon care only - we still need a spot	3	0	0	3
Both morning and after school care - we still need spots	7	3	0	10
We have after school care set up, but still need a morning care spot	7	2	0	9

**Comments**

“Crown Kids Club will be closed next year and I should be looking for morning care”

“May need after my 2nd child enters kindergarten”

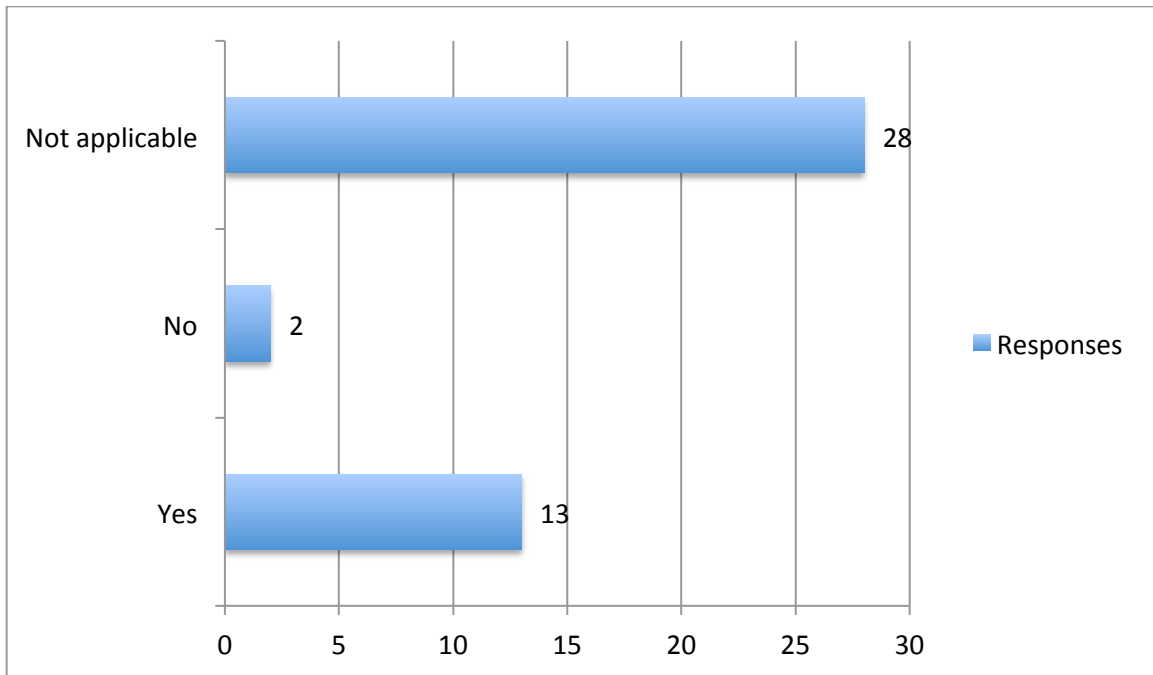
“We're on the waiting list for Dunbar Kids Club and Queen Elizabeth Out of school care”

“Our concern with Dunbar Kids Club is that they restrict the enrolment from QEA to six spots. While this benefits my older child as 4 of the other spots are filled with kids from her grade, my youngest child has no one from her year in the program. I would prefer a program with more kids from QEA”

“Child 2 is going to JQ”



**Q7: If you need both before school care and after school care - are you open to your children attending 2 separate programs – i.e. a new morning program, and a different after school care program? (43 respondents)**



**Comments**

“I don't want to deal with 4 separate pick ups and drops offs each day. That's ridiculously disruptive. There should be on-site care from a single provider. Use the library or the flex space!”

“Would prefer on site afterschool care at QEA for both morning and afterschool care.”

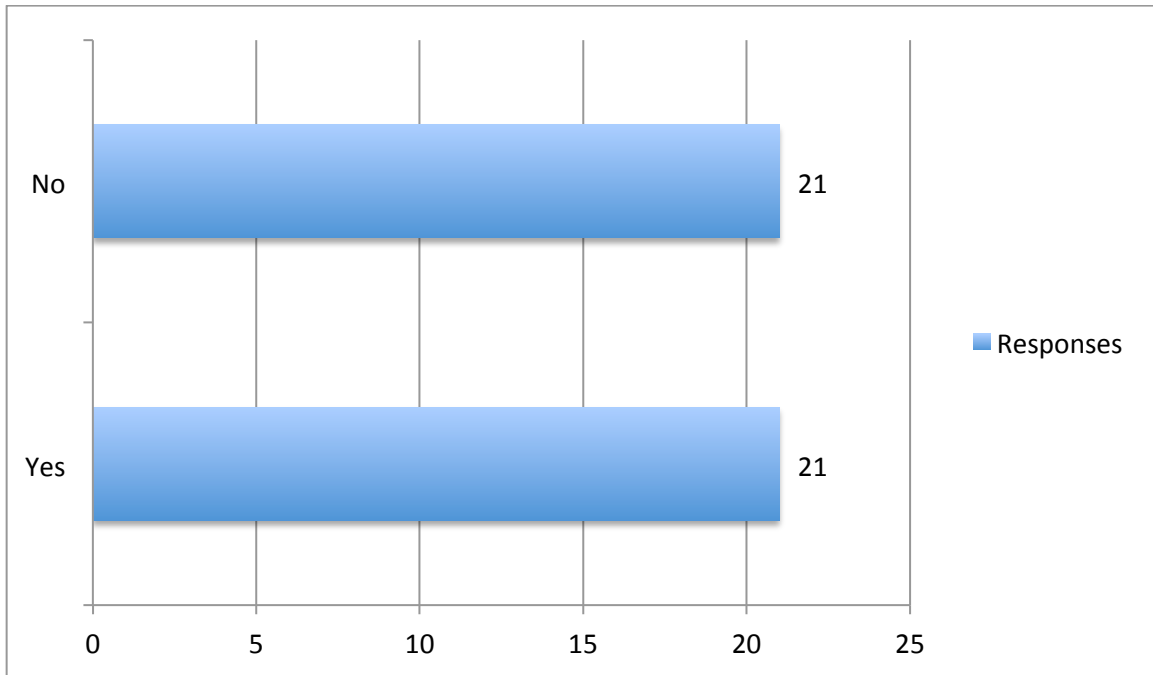
“At this time, we do not use before school care consistently because of the age of our children (we feel like because they are young it can make the day quite long for them). However, one of the parents in our family goes away for work and the before school care is necessary for us so that the other parent can get to work on time. Also, as our children get older, we may feel more comfortable with them attending before school care regularly.”

“This is less than ideal because my son has two separate homes and there is already so much movement. I would love to see both at the same location, but will have to settle on whatever we can get.”

“I'm open, but it's not an ideal solution”

“That would extremely unfair and complicated though.”

**Q8: At the present, there will only be Dunbar Kids Club and Queen Elizabeth out of School care that will be providing AFTER school care to the children at QEA. Are you willing to join a group of concerned parents to work on advocacy for more options in our neighbourhood?**



**Comments**

“Create on site care at QEA so children do not have to travel to a different location”

“I think that Adina, the coordinator for Crown Street Kids Club was looking into the potential of providing a before school care program. Perhaps you could contact her at Crown Street Kids Club. 604 760 4703”

“No idea how to initiate the change but it would be great if we could run the extra care program out of QEA, with a parent led board, similar to how many daycare programs are run. I was board chair of our daycare program so I can help with organizational flow”

“I think this is very important for working parents, let me know if I can help. My plans are a bit up in the air right now and it is a possibility that I might need some childcare in the future.”