
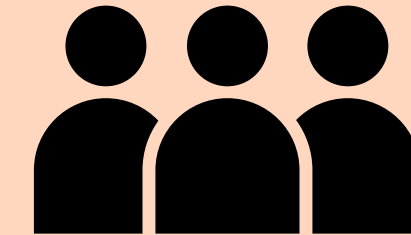


**Destinations Festival 2026**  
**Student and Staff Feedback**  
**Authored by Jess Ely**

# Destinations Festival: Demographic Information

3 February 2026 

Year 10s



Two schools



79 out of 79 (100%)  
young people completed  
the postcards



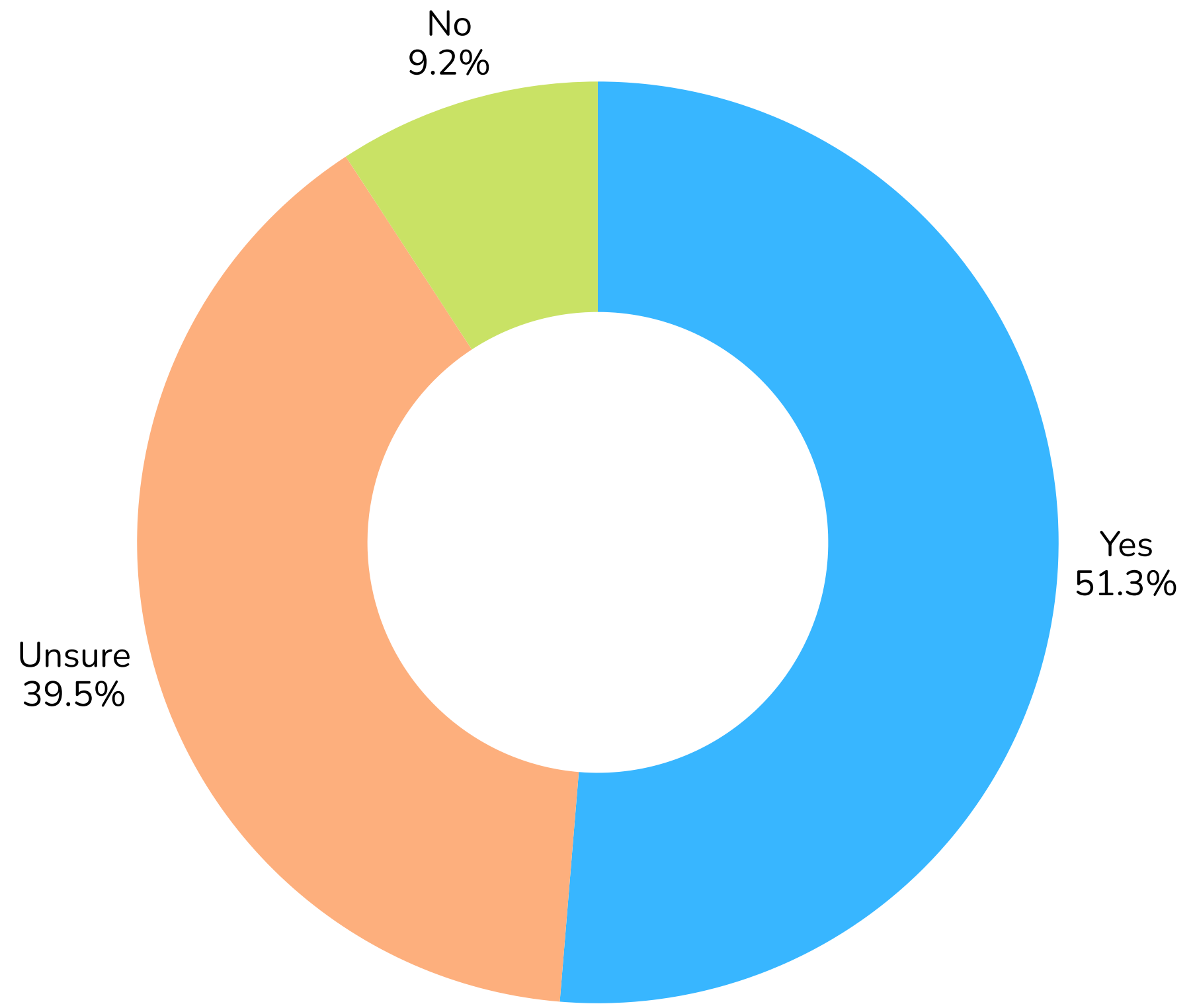
10 members of staff (including School Teachers, Student Ambassadors, higher education and academic staff) completed a Glasscubes survey.

The following slides contain  
the feedback from the  
young people

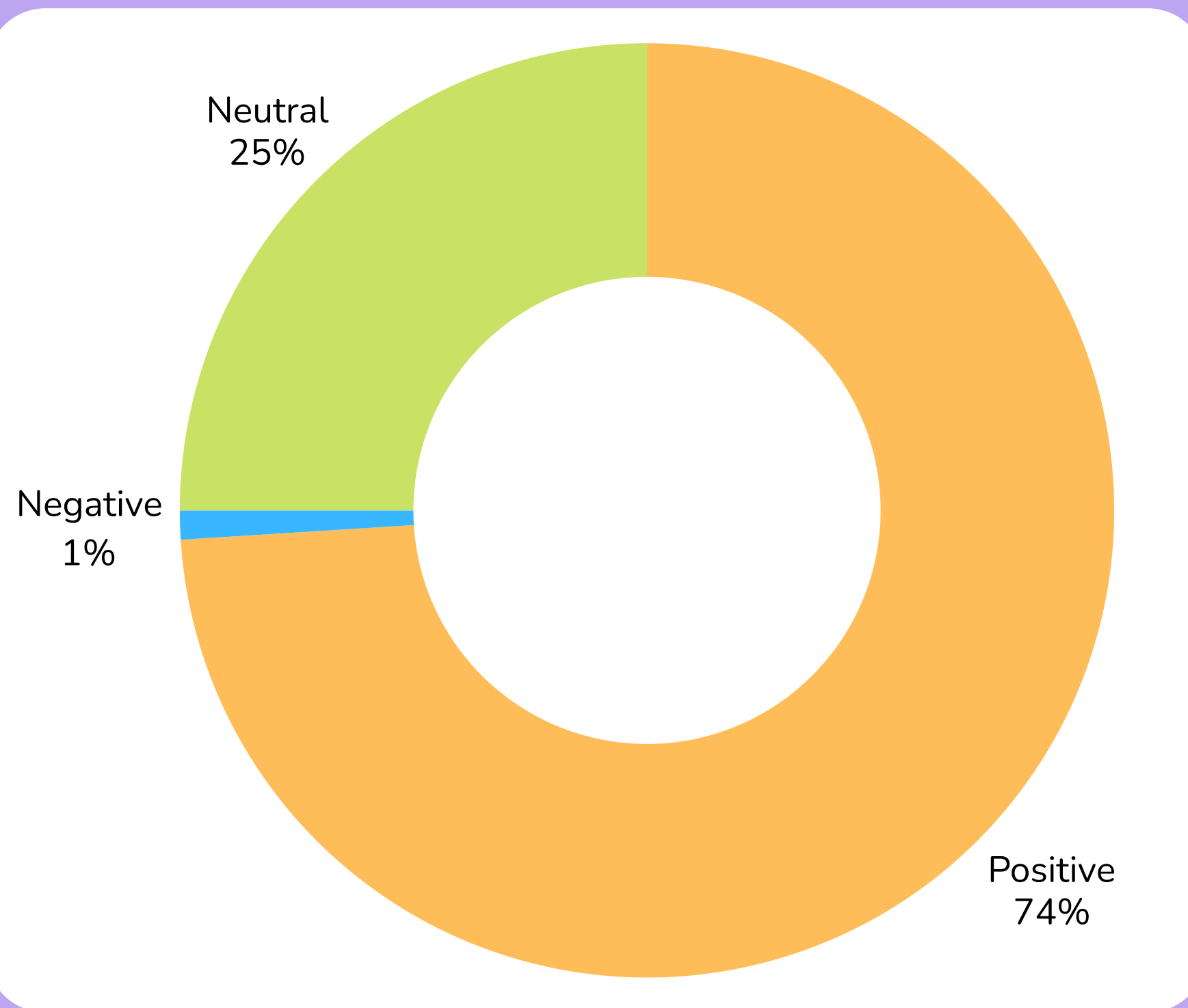
# Write one thing you've learned from today's session

Number of responses	%	Themes	Example
27	36.0	Academic and career opportunities	"A lot of different courses to choose from"
19	25.3	Personal experience	"How much I want to go to uni"
15	20.0	Financial awareness	"Money isn't an obstacle"
14	18.7	Student experience	"University isn't as daunting"

# Higher education is for people like me.



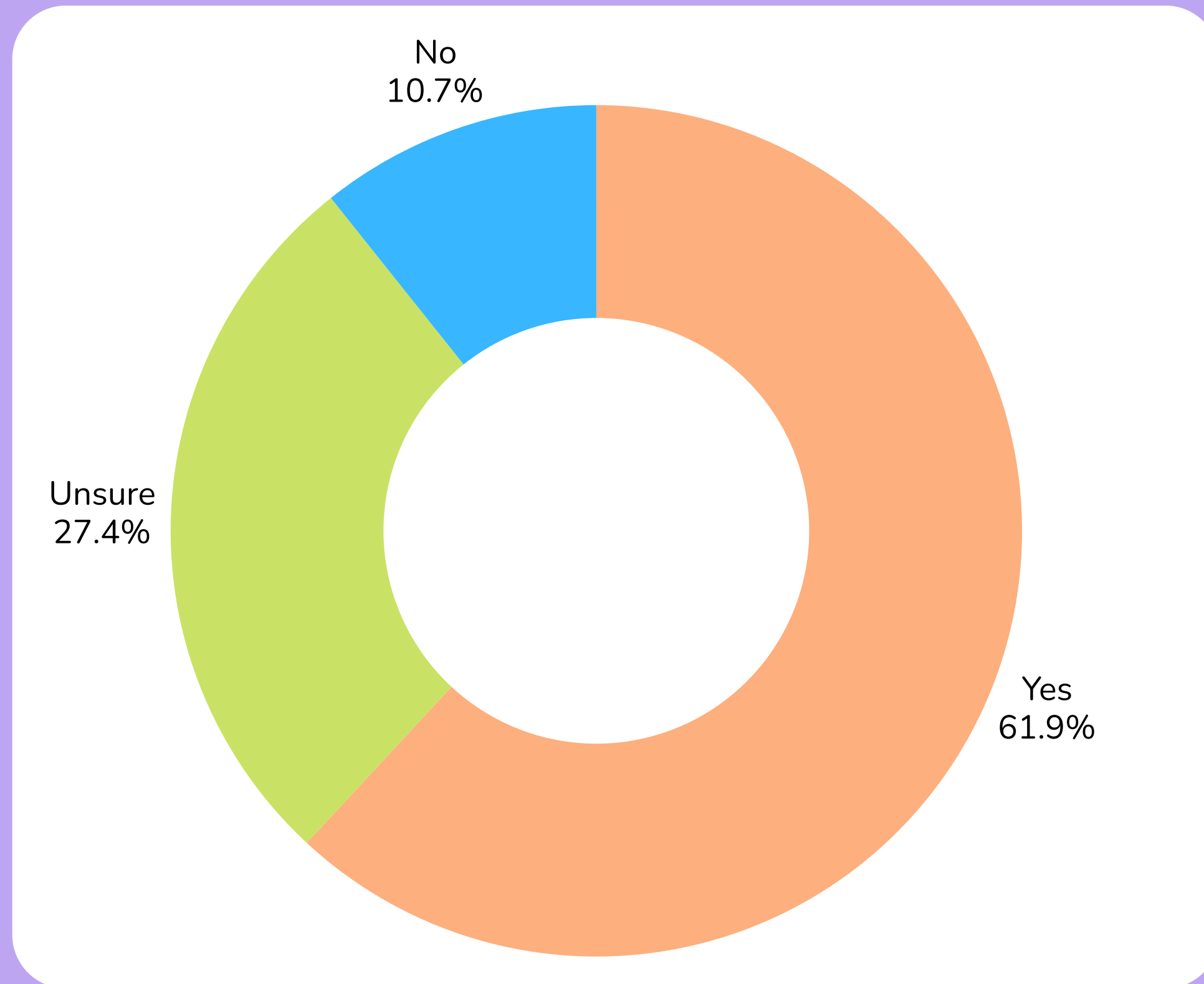
# How has Destinations Festival made you feel about higher education?



# How has Destinations Festival made you feel about higher education?

Number of responses	%	Broad Themes	Number of responses	%	Sub Themes	Examples
60	74.1	Positive	35	58.3	Optimistic	"Very good"
			25	41.7	Improved understanding or confidence	"It has made me feel better and more encouraged to go"
20	24.7	Neutral, unchanged or balanced	"Not sure"			
1	1.23	Negative	"Bad"			

**I'm thinking about going to higher education  
in the future.**



# How would you improve the session?

Number of responses	%	Themes	Example			
22	26	Positive or nothing to improve	"It was perfect"			
Number of suggestions	%	Themes	Sub Theme	Number of suggestions	%	Example
12	14.3	Preparation or planning	More variety in courses	5	41.7	"More subjects to visit"
			More variety in stands	1	8.33	"More unis to come"
			More lecture experience	2	16.7	"Show us a normal lecture"
			Organisation	4	33.3	"More organised"
50	59.5	Time management and duration	More time and freedom	25	50.0	"More time to do everything"
			More time to look at rooms	4	8.0	"Show more rooms from different courses"
			More interactive or activities	21	42.0	"More interactive activities and sports"
84	73.8	Total				

The following slides contain  
the feedback from the staff  
involved

# Which aspect of the day was most successful?

“Conversations with young people.”

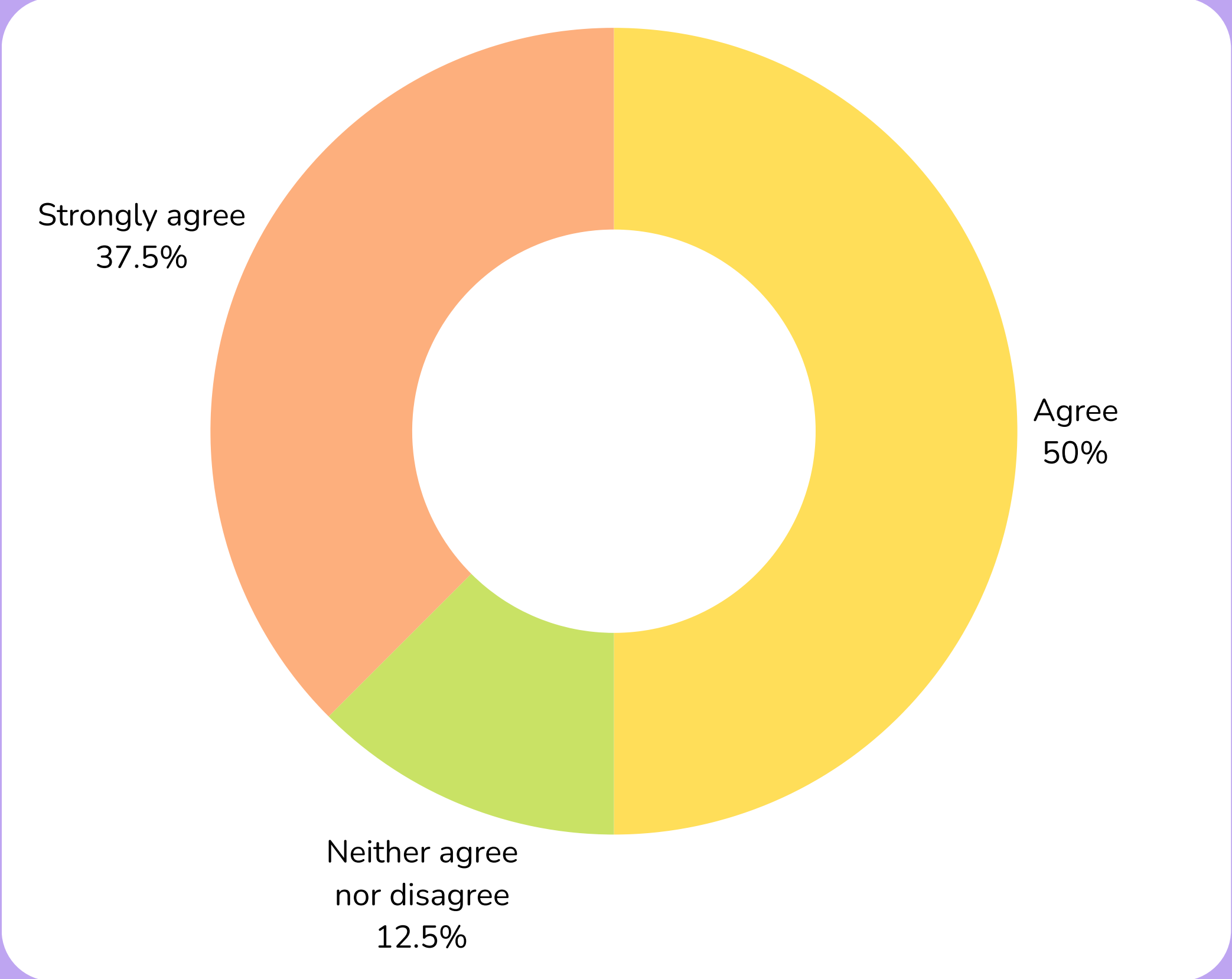
“Having the opportunity to speak with the students face to face.”

“Preparation information was great.”

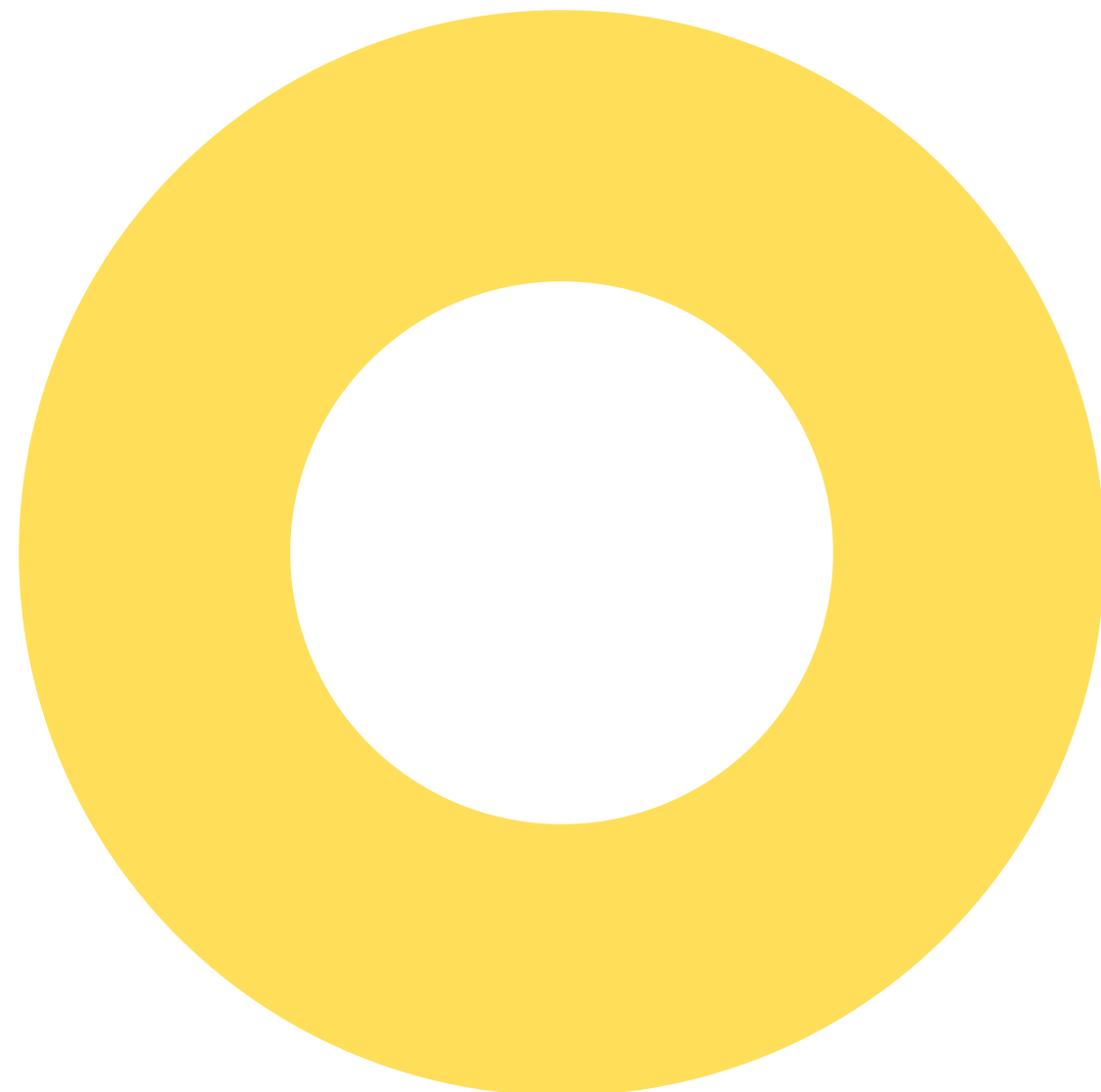
“The hands on sessions with the creative arts and media team and the tour of the medical classrooms seemed to really click with a lot of the students.”

“Film studies session.”

# The young people engaged well with my session.



# Do you think the festival was valuable for the young people? Why/why not?



Yes  
100%

“Opportunities to ask questions, find out about courses, speak to current students.”

“It gave them an opportunity to look at education progression options that some of them did not know about.”

“I think having a time for students to see a university campus and ask questions to specialists was valuable.”

“They were able to experience some of the opportunities that university can give them, and how to get there.”

# How would you improve the festival?

Number of responses	%	Themes	Quotes
1	11.1	Positive or nothing to improve	"N/A."

Number of suggestions	%	Themes	Quotes
5	55.6	Preparation and planning	"Young people having a choice over the talks, or all doing the same sessions."
			"Knowing information about the number of students, their age and where they're from."
			"The young people having example questions for the career stands."
			"More institutions represented across York and North Yorkshire."
			"More schools involved."
2	22.2	Logistics	"School being on time, but it's nothing you could affect."
			"The young people having access to the toilets first."
2	22.2	Time management	"More interaction. The students liked the sports section."
			"Longer sessions."
10	90.0	Total	

# Is there anything else you would like to tell us?

“The programme was very well designed and I think it was good that it had pictures of the rooms in it.”

“Lots of opportunities for higher education.”

“I learned that university can be inclusive.”

“It reminded me how much uni can open minds!”

# Summary

## Young people

26.0% said there is nothing to improve.

51.3% said HE is for people like them.

74.0% said Destinations Festival made them feel positive about HE.

61.9% said they were thinking about going to HE in the future.

73.8% of responses provided ways to improve the sessions. Of those responses:

- 59.5% suggested time management including more time, interaction and freedom.
- 14.3% mentioned changes to the planning of the day (more university stands, variety in subjects and more lecture experience).

When asked to write one thing you've learned from today's session:

- 36.0% mentioned academic and career opportunities
- 25.3% mentioned personal experience
- 20.0% mentioned financial awareness
- 18.7% mentioned student experience

## Staff

11.1% said there is nothing to improve.

87.5% of staff either strongly agreed or agreed that the young people engaged well with their session.

100% of staff said the festival was valuable for the young people.

90.0% of responses provided ways to improve the sessions. Of those responses:

- 55.6% suggested changes to preparation and planning
- 22.2% gave logistical suggestions
- 22.2% suggested time management

When asked which aspect of the day was most successful..

- Two people mentioned communicating with the young people
- Two people mentioned the interactive sessions
- One person mentioned the preparation information