

Interview 1: My life – food, education, play/leisure ...and the pandemic

Introduce the project; ethical information and consent form.

Fill out separate participant details sheet (i.e. 'About You').

Part 1: Education

Note: some YP may not have been in education (or may have had a very difficult relationship with education) - check whether the YP was or is in education, before, during and/or after COVID-19

If YP is in education, use these questions:

Where

- Where did you study before the pandemic?
- Where did you study during the pandemic?
- **Do you still study now and if so where?** Where do you study now?

Prompts

- *Grade?*
- *Transitions?*
- *Tell us about when schools (or other institutions) closed...where did you study?*
- *Which spaces – within the home, libraries, public spaces, online...*
- *How appropriate was your home space for studying (if you studied at home)?*

How and when?

- How and when did you study before the pandemic?
- What changes were there to how and when you studied during the pandemic?
- How and when do you study now?

Prompts

- *Were there key changes or periods during the pandemic? E.g. at the beginning when nothing happened?*
- *How much information did you have about what was happening at different stages?*

Challenges?

- What were the main challenges to studying before COVID-19?
- How did those challenges change during COVID-19?
- What are the main challenges to studying now?

Lockdown/restrictions in education spaces (e.g. schools/Universities)

- What was your experience of school/University, etc. before the pandemic?
- What was your experience of school/University, etc. before the pandemic?
- What did you miss out on when schools were closed?
- What has been your experience of school/University since?

Prompts: comments on these measures; also whether they followed, ignored or countered these

- *What are your happiest/unhappiest moments in school and why?*
- *Protection measures e.g. masks; social distancing; cleaning, washing hands; ventilation in classrooms – e.g. windows open in winter*
- *School routines*
- *Socialising and emotional aspects*
- *Schools as hubs*
- *Schools as ‘happy spaces’?*

Who did you learn with?

- Who supported your learning before, during and after? How?
- Who facilitated your learning before, during and after? How?

Prompts

- *Teachers delivering materials*
- *Learning with siblings*
- *Learning with friends*
- *NGOs/community organisations*

- *Difficulties faced by parents/carers in providing support – e.g. technical, knowledge, own learning experiences, language, literacy*

Digital/technology (note: clarify with young person which are the appropriate technologies – TV, radio, social media, internet...)

- What was the role of digital technologies in your learning before COVID-19?
- What was the role of digital technologies in your learning during COVID-19?
- What is the role of digital technologies in your learning now?

Prompts

- *Digital inequalities*
- *More positive aspects – e.g. equality of access, being visible*
- *Interruptions – e.g. internet access, others using devices...*
- *What did you enjoy about learning online? What were the worst aspects?*

Content

- What did you enjoy studying before, during and after COVID-19? What did you enjoy *about* studying?
- How easy/difficult did you find certain subjects/skills before, during and after COVID-19?

Prompt (if YP seems able to answer)

- *Do you think the knowledge and skills you are learning in school are useful and relevant for your future? Which knowledge or skills should be kept and which should be eliminated? What new knowledge or skills should be taught instead?*

Adaptations

- How did you try to adapt or find solutions (on your own or with others)? Where did you get educational content if you couldn't access materials from your school/University?

Wider reflections and the future

- What was and is the role of school (and/or learning) for you in your life?
- Do you feel your right to education was supported during the pandemic?

- How do you think the pandemic has affected your aspirations for the future?
- After the pandemic, what kind of changes would you like to see in your school so it would be a happier and better place?

Prompts

- *Lost learning?*
- *Missed qualifications?*
- *Missed employment opportunities?*
- *Effects on other aspects of your life and life transitions?*

If YP is NOT in education, use these questions, then move on:

When last did you study?

What is your highest level of qualification?

Did the pandemic disrupt your learning plans? If yes, how so?

Do you have plans for any further studies?

Part 2: play/leisure/socialising

Play / Leisure / Social interactions (convert to questions, as above)

Play/leisure activities

- What did you do for play/leisure before COVID-19?
- What did you do for play/leisure during COVID-19?
- What did you do for play/leisure after COVID-19?

Prompts

- *Where did you go? Inside/outside/digital spaces?*
- *Organisations/services - e.g. sports, religious institutions, educational institutions, youth groups*
- *With whom? E.g. family, friends?*
- *When?*

Lockdown restrictions

Can you tell us what the lockdown restrictions were in your area? How did they impact on your play/leisure?

Prompts

- *How were the movements of children and young people policed/controlled (e.g. by police/army, other organisations, community members, families)*
- *Did people break the rules? How? Why?*
- *Did you or other young people feel unfairly treated? How? Why?*
- *Were there aspects of your identity (gender, class, ethnicity, religion, disability) that affected your experiences of play/leisure?*
- *Are you aware that play and leisure are a right for children and young people? To what extent was this addressed?*

Positives during COVID-19?

What made you happy during COVID? What brought joy?

Did you try anything new during COVID? Are you still doing it?

After lockdown

What was it like 'going back to normal' when restrictions were lifted? Who were good friends (still)? Anxieties? Joy? Relief?

Catching up on lost activities? What was lost (e.g. birthday parties?) Trying to catch up – e.g. having loads of parties...?

Part 3: Food

Where your food comes from

- Where did you get your food from before COVID-19? (open question – subsequent questions will prompt if unsure)
- Where did you get your food from during COVID-19?
- Where do you get your food from now?

Prompts (before, during, after)

- *Where do you buy your food from? (give examples of different types of foods and where it comes from / supermarkets / local producers / fast food / restaurants / launchette / food banks? Is this sufficient for your needs)*
- *What was the role of food banks and food deliveries for you and your household?*
- *How often do you buy food and how did this change during COVID-19?*
- *Which kinds of food could you simply not access?*
- *What role do you have in buying food? (who buys food in your family / what role do you play / what is your experience of this?)*
- *How do you pay for the food you eat? Are you involved in the process of paying? Does money you earn contribute to the cost of food? Were there changes in the cost of food before, during and after COVID-19?*
- *How do you travel to buy food? (can you tell us about your experiences of this?)*
- *Are there any other ways in which you get food (bartering / sharing/ growing)?*
- *What were the impacts of lockdowns on how you accessed food?*

How food is prepared

- How was food prepared in your house before COVID-19?
- How was food prepared in your house during COVID-19?
- How is food prepared in your house now?

Prompts

- *Were there changes in terms of how food was cooked (e.g. what fuels were used)?*
- *Were there any changes in terms of how you stored food during COVID-19?*
- *How often do you cook or prepare food in the home? (can you talk me through this /how often / what is the reason / what do you like or not like about this / do you do this alone or with others?)*

Eating food

- Can you tell us what you usually ate before COVID-19? At what times?

- How did the pandemic change what you ate? At what times? What triggered these changes?
- How has what you eat changed since COVID-19? At what times? What triggered these changes?

Prompts

- *Did you eat more or less during COVID-19? Did you have to skip meals?*
- *Did members of your household have to go without food so that others could eat?*
- *What do you think it is good food (please give us examples)?*
- *Do you think you ate good food before COVID-19? During? After?*
- *Who did you eat with before COVID-19? During? After?*
- *Where did you eat before COVID-19? During? After?*
- *Did/does what you eat vary depending on who you eat with, and where?*

Anything else: is there anything else you would like to tell us about your experiences of food before, during and after COVID-19?

Part 4: Wider reflections and the future

Whether these questions are asked will depend on the time/energy levels of the interviewee; they may also have been covered elsewhere in the interview

- Do you feel your rights as a person were supported during the pandemic?
- Do you think that you and your voice were heard during the pandemic? Were you *listened to and taken seriously?* *Prompt: Were you ever consulted by any authority (government, school, family) about your needs during the pandemic and in the post pandemic period? (UNICEF)*
- To what extent do you think that your welfare and wellbeing were considered during the pandemic? What were your main fears?
- Did anything positive come out of the pandemic for you? Were there any changes or learnings that were positive?

- Were there any spaces outside of the home that offered services or support? E.g. school, community centre, leisure facility, playground? Which were the most important, and why?
- What would have improved your life during COVID? What else could governments/authorities/institutions have done?
- How do you think the pandemic has affected your aspirations (e.g. employment, education, family, housing) for the future? Reflecting on what happened during COVID, what are your hopes for the future? (here prompt about e.g. climate change and cost of living crises, as well as future pandemics)?

End with explaining next steps (details in 'visual mapping exercise instructions' document)

- Visual exercise
- Local Café
- Possibility to participate to international café (see if they are interested)