

PLEY COVID-19 Key Findings Series

School

Play and Learning in the Early Years



School and Friends



"Isolation and anxiety. Misses the routine of school. He misses meeting his friends" (Age: 7 years)



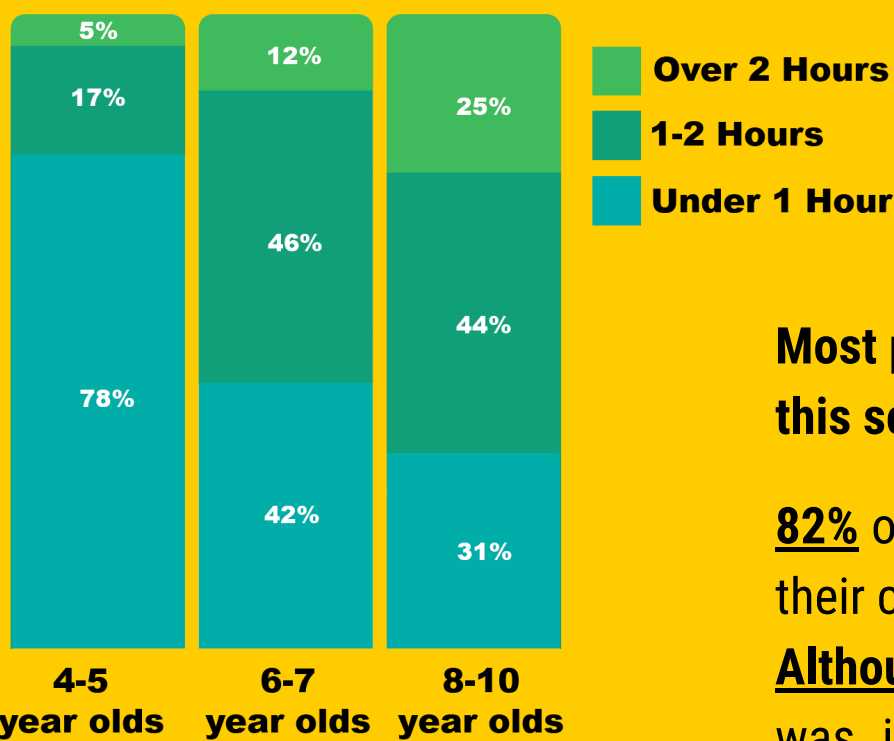
Most children are missing school and their friends

- 80%** of children miss school
- 87%** miss playing with other children
- 90%** miss their friends

"Missing friends and school so tantrums are regular and bed time is disrupted" (Age: 7 years)

Education and School Work

Most children spent less than 2 hours per day on school work



Most parents were engaged in this school work

- 82%** of parents did school work with their children everyday
- Although 81%** of parents agreed it was important to continue school work at home,
- 55%** of families stated school work as a source of conflict between parents and children

80% of school age children watched educational TV at least once a week
53% also played educational games on screens devices at least once a week

Understanding Restrictions

"Covid 19 is often incorporated into their play e.g. dolls having to social distance." (Age: 8 years)

Nearly all 6-10 year olds, and over two thirds of 4-5 year olds:

Understand the restrictions, understand social distancing and have practised social distancing (e.g., in the park, with family members)

About the PLEY Survey:
 Data provided by 506 parents of children aged 1-10, collected online between May 21st and June 3rd 2020

This research was carried out by the **Cognition, Development, and Learning Lab** @MIC Limerick

