The impact of equine assisted learning

Jill Carey Festina Lente Ireland





The Project

- Background
- Funding
- Profile
- Referrals
- Programme / Sessions
- Mainstreaming

- Research objectives
- Methodology
- Results





Festina Lente: Horses & People

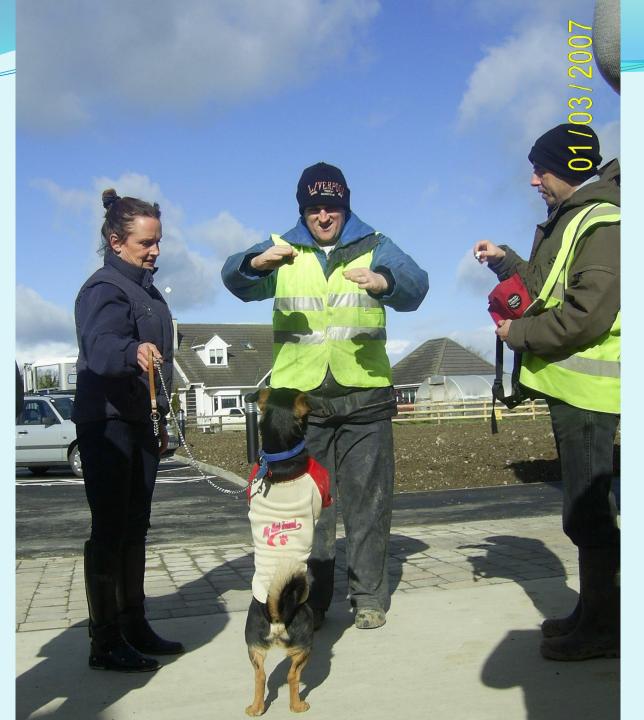


- Bray, Co Wicklow (32,000)
- Est. 1988
- 40 staff
- 32 horses
- Training
- Employment
- Therapeutic Riding
- Equine Assisted Learning
- Recreational riding
- Research
 - UCD
 - QUEENS UNIVERSITY
 - Masters
 - PhD























Equine assisted learning on youth experiencing educational inequity

Can it make a difference?



Communications



Festina Lente

Self-awareness

Self-confidence







Self-Esteem

Personal Effectiveness





Social Skills

Behavioural issues



The Research



- 4 Programmes
- 88 children / parents / teachers T₁, T₂ & T₃
- Interviews with 2 children / parents / teachers
- Self- report and observer
- Measures :
 - Children: 3 questionnaires
 - Parents/Teachers : 2 questionnaires
 - Interview Schedules

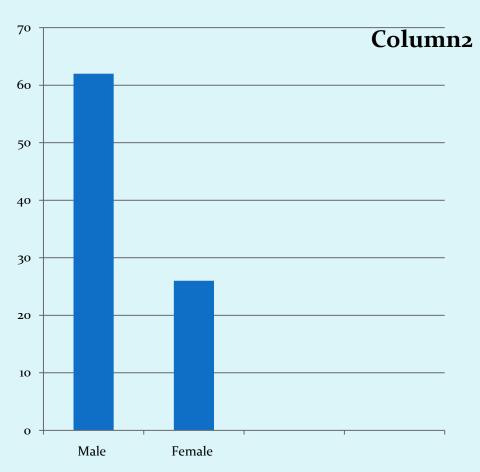
Methodology

Mixed Methods – Quantitative & Qualitative

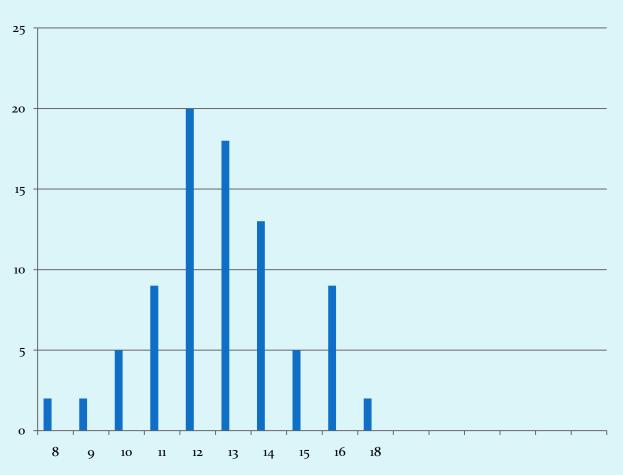
- Strengths & Difficulties Questionnaire (Goodman, 1997)
- Life Effectiveness Questionnaire (Youth at risk, O'Neill, 2003)
- Piers Harris Self-Concept Scale (1986)
- Open ended questionnaires



Participants - Gender



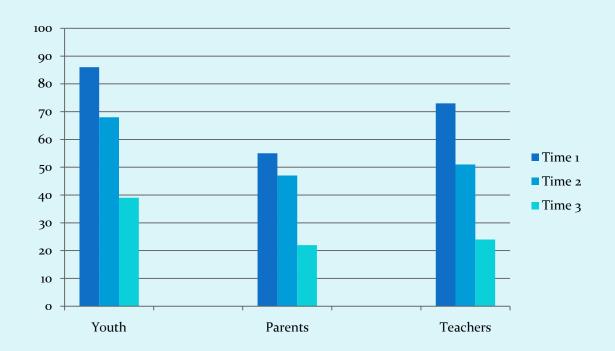
Ages of Young People



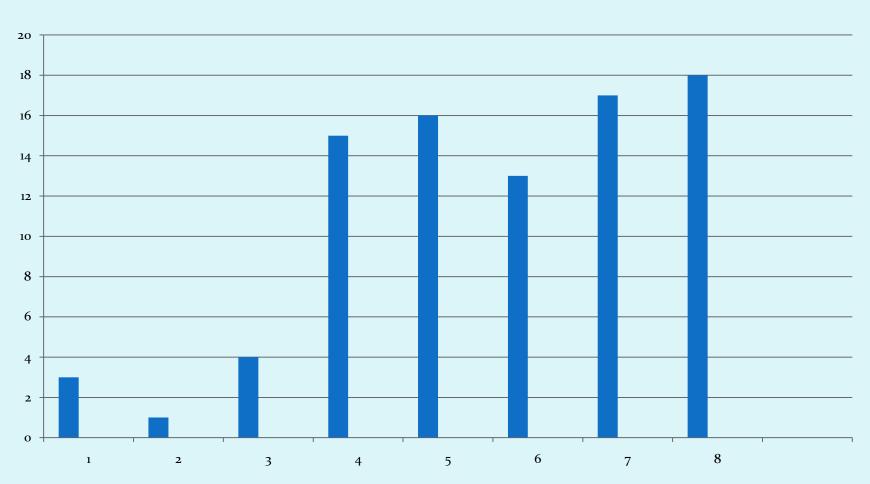
Progress to date

Results are based on T_1 , $T_2 \& T_3$ Interviews for all four Programmes

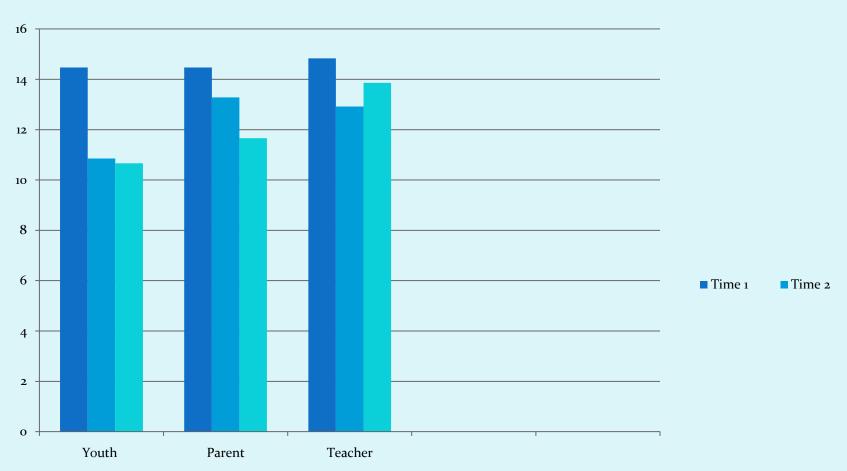
Response Rate



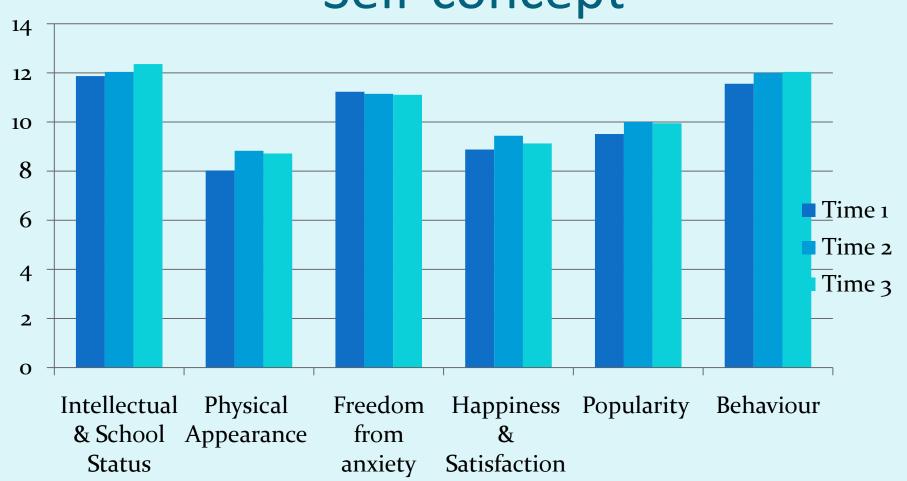
NUMBER OF SESSIONS COMPLETED



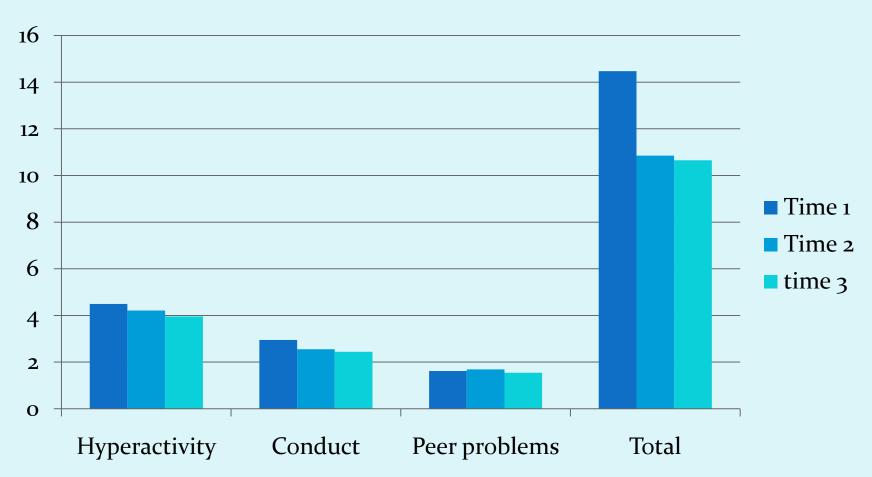
Strengths & Difficulties Total Scores



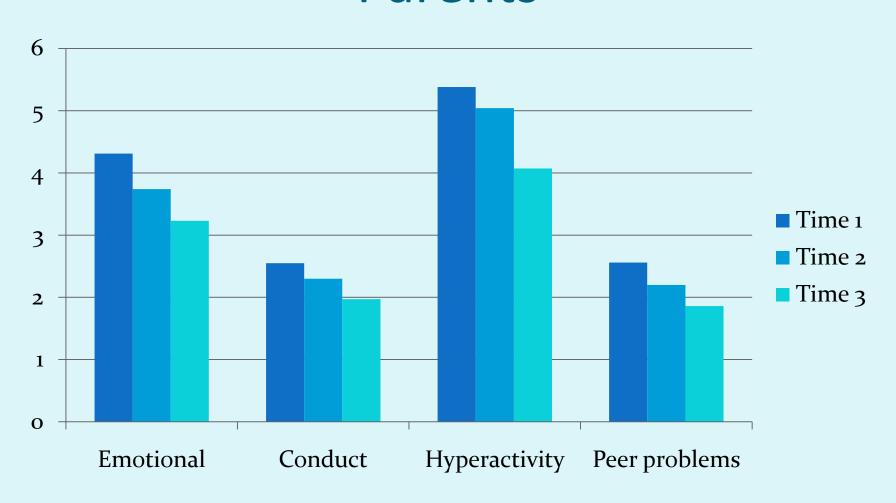
Piers Harris Self-concept



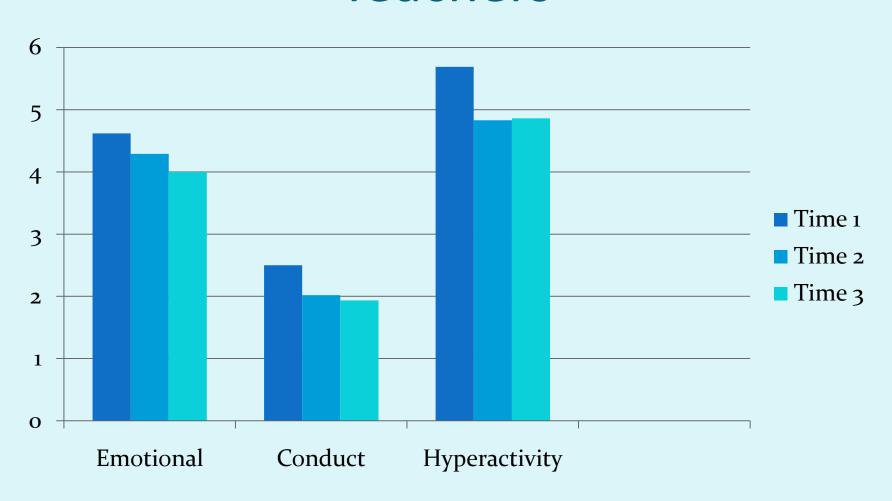
Strengths and Difficulties Young People



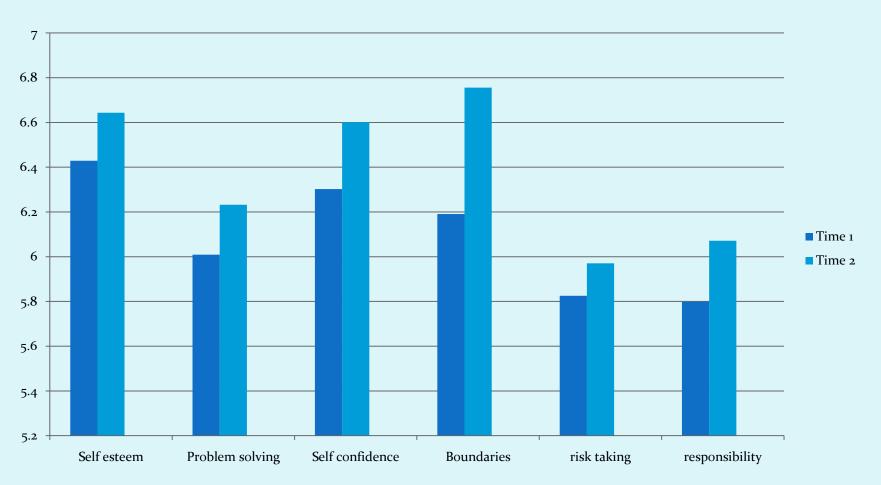
Strengths & Difficulties Parents



Strengths & Difficulties Teachers



Life Effectiveness Questionnaire



About listening.....

- It makes me listen a lot more to what people have to say Before I'd listen, hear it, but I wouldn't really listen to it, like take consideration
- I'd hear people, but I wouldn't listen
- But, now I, I'm a listener. I'd sit down and listen to someone talk for hours, I'd understand and say how I'd feel

About confidence.....

• "I feel more confident in school and around people now"

 "she's a lot more confident in different things that she does"

Conclusions.....at this point

