

# QUESTION OF THE WEEK, WEEK 16 (17-21.4.2024)

NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS: 509

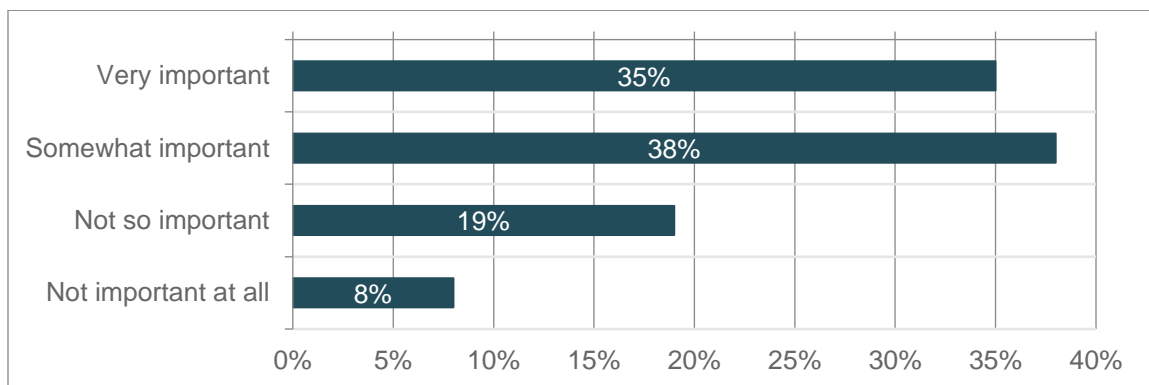
The margin of error is 4 % and thereby the answers are considered to reflect the opinions of the population in Jakobstad.

## SUMMER HOLIDAY LUNCH FOR PUPILS

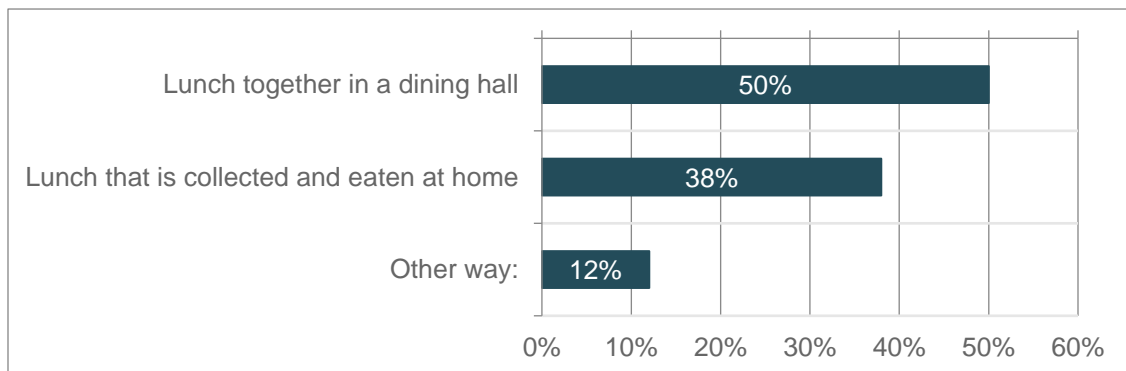
In the Question of the Week the residents were asked: *“The town of Jakobstad is aiming to secure the well-being of the pupils also during the summer holidays. As a part of this initiative, the town is considering providing lunches for pupils in the basic education also during the summer months. The purpose is to ensure that no pupils need to go hungry during the time off from school.*

*The purpose of this questionnaire is to hear the residents’ opinions (and collect information) on this potential offer. It is important for us to hear your opinion in order for us to make future decisions. We kindly ask you to take your time and answer the following questions.*

*How important do you think it is to provide lunches for children during the summer holidays in order to promote nutritious diet and equality?”*



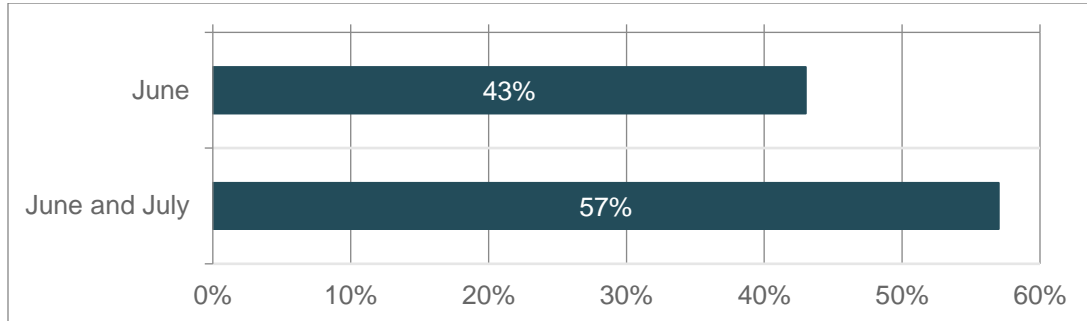
*“How could a summer holiday lunch best be served?”*



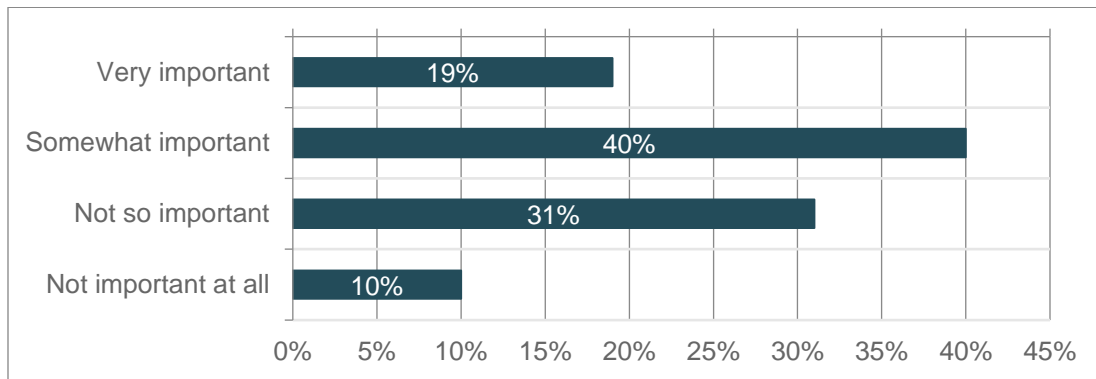
Those who have answered “other way”: Many suggest that it is the parents’ responsibility to provide their children with food during the summer holidays. Many say that there should be alternatives for either eating the lunch at the school or for take away. There is a considerable

group questioning if it is the town's responsibility to provide lunch during the summer holidays. It was suggested that before providing summer lunches, an analysis of the need would be conducted in order to see if lunch really is needed.

***"When is it best to provide lunches for school children?"***



***"How important do you think it would be to have some kind of short, supervised activity for children in connection with the lunch?"***



***"Other comments:"***

The suggestion about providing lunch for pupils during the summer holidays has generated mixed reactions. Some see it as a good initiative to guarantee that children in danger of being without food will get enough nutrition and social life during the holidays. Many are emphasising the importance of assessing the need in order to allocate the resources towards those actually in need of them. Others are doubting and think that it is the parents' responsibility to provide food for their children during the holidays. There is also a worry about the quality of the food not being good enough and that it would be a burden to the taxpayers. In conclusion, there seems to be support for providing lunch during summer, provided that it is based on a need and done effectively.

**NEXT STEP**

The matter is being discussed in the Education and Welfare Committee this week, on 25 April 2024.

*More information:*

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