Author’s response to reviews

Title: A Stepped-Wedge Implementation and Evaluation of the Healthy Active Peaceful Playgrounds for Youth (HAPPY) Intervention

Authors:

Dean Dudley (dean.dudley@mq.edu.au)
Wayne Cotton (wayne.cotton@sydney.edu.au)
Louisa Peralta (louisa.peralta@sydney.edu.au)
Matthew Winslade (mwinslade@csu.edu.au)

Version: 2 Date: 15 Mar 2018

Author’s response to reviews:

Reviewer reports:
Rachael W Taylor (Reviewer 1): The authors have addressed almost all of my comments with the following minor exceptions:
Response: We thank the reviewer for her comments and her ability to help us strengthen this paper.
1. Table 3 is still not entirely clear in terms of n and footnotes should be added. I would indicate that the (n=114) in the table heading refers to the number of scans (correct?) whereas the superscript n refer to the number of children undertaking that particular activity (or number of scans)? The authors said they have clarified in the table - but they have not, while it might be in the text, tables should "stand alone" and be able to be interpreted by themselves.
Response: We thank the reviewer for her comments and have added a footnote to Table 3 to clarify this concern.
2. Address whether you achieved your projected power. Your methods state you needed 1661 students and you did more than 20,000 scans - yet the data in the tables don't seem to match these figures? How many students were included in the end? If you didn't achieve planned power, what implications does this have for your findings?
Response: We draw the reviewer's attention to the highlighted paragraph on p6 L13-18

Patti-Jean Naylor, PhD (Reviewer 2): This manuscript adds to a limited number of studies exploring intervention strategies for recess/breaks. The authors responded well to the reviewers and this has strengthened the manuscript. It is well written, presents a thorough analysis and highlights the limitations of the research. This will make a valuable contribution to the literature.
Response: We thank the reviewer for her comments and her ability to help us strengthen this paper.