Table 4. Item reduction in Phase 4

Items removed – VQoL_Child		Items removed – VQoL_Young Person	
Item	**Removal criteria**	**Item**	**Removal criteria**
I have got some good friends	Item distribution	I have got some good friends	Item distribution
I am happy with how many friends I have	Item distribution		
I spend enough time with my friends	Rasch *- removed due to ordering of person abilities and response scales (not in the right order)*		
		Other young people my age pick on me because of my eyesight	Rasch *- removed because of DIF* by gender (more difficult for females to endorse as true)*
		I can stand up for myself if someone picks on me	Rasch *- removed because of DIF by age (more difficult for older age group to endorse as true)*
		My friends understand how things are for me because of my eyesight	Rasch *- removed due to item fit (OUTFIT MNSQ** = 1.56)*
My friends help me at school	Rasch *- removed due to item fit (OUTFIT MNSQ = 1.74)*	My friends help me when I need it	Item distribution
My teachers understand how things are for me because of my eyesight	Item distribution	My teachers and tutors understand how things are for me because of my eyesight	Rasch *- removed due to item fit (OUTFIT MNSQ = 2.23)*
I get along with my family	Item distribution		Item distribution
		I am comfortable going places on my own	Rasch *- removed because of DIF by gender (more difficult for females to endorse as true)*

		People give me a chance to do things on my own	Rasch *- removed because of ordering of person abilities and response scales (not in the right order)*
		People overprotect me because of my eyesight	Rasch *- removed due to item fit (OUTFIT MNSQ = 2.23)*
		I have enough private time to myself	Item distribution
		I feel tired because of my eyesight	Rasch *- removed due to item fit (OUTFIT MSQ = 1.62) and ordering of person abilities and response scales (not in the right order)*
I feel lonely because of my eyesight	Item distribution	I feel lonely because of my eyesight	Item distribution
I feel confident	Rasch *- removed due to ordering of person abilities and response scales (not in the right order)*		
		I am treated fairly by my friends	Rasch *- removed because of ordering of person abilities and response scales (not in the right order)*
I like to have a go at everything, although my eyesight isn't perfect	Item distribution		
I can do most activities on my own	Rasch *- removed due to ordering of person abilities and response scales (not in the right order)*		

	I worry my eyesight will get worse	Rasch *- removed due to item fit (OUTFIT MNSQ = 1.53)*
	I can get around on my own	Rasch *- removed because of DIF by gender (more difficult for females to endorse as true)*
	I have to work harder at school/college because of my eyesight	Rasch *- removed due to item fit (OUTFIT MNSQ = 1.59)*

*DIF = Differential item functioning
**MNSQ = Mean squared standardized residuals