



Parent Questionnaire Summary 2020

Thank you to all those parents/carers who took the time to respond to the governor parent questionnaire in the summer. This was the first year we have run a solely online survey and we were delighted to have 332 responses – the highest we have ever had! Responses came from a good cross-section of the year teams, although there were more responses from YR, Y1 and Y4. Questions were updated this year to use new Ofsted parent questions - the figures in brackets are from last year's survey where there was an equivalent/similar question for comparison. New questions are marked with * - some of these have just been re-worded from last year.

Question	Overall positive responses	Strongly agree %	Agree %	Disagree %	Strongly disagree %	Don't Know %
1. My child is happy at this school	98% (99)	69 (67)	29 (32)	<1 (<1)	<1 (<1)	<1 (<1)
2. My child feels safe at this school	98% (99)	75 (69)	23 (30)	<1 (1)	<1 (0)	<1 (0)
3. This school makes sure its pupils are well behaved	96% (92)	47 (43)	49 (49)	2 (4)	0 (1)	3 (3)
4. The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year*	95% (92)	50	45	4	0	1
5. My child does well at this school*	96% (94)	57	38	3	<1	2
6. The school lets me know how my child is doing	96% (90)	48 (50)	48 (40)	2 (8)	<1 (<1)	2 (2)
7. The school has a broad, balanced curriculum	94% (89)	51 (45)	43 (44)	<1 (3)	<1 (0)	5 (7)
8. The school supports my child's wider personal development*	88%	43	45	5	<1	6
9. I am satisfied with the home learning offer provided by the school during the Covid-19 pandemic* (school's own question)	87%	47	40	6	3	3

Question	Overall positive responses	My child has not been bullied %	Strongly agree %	Agree %	Disagree %	Strongly disagree %
10. Thinking about the last 12 months, my child has been bullied and the school dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively*	95% (92)	84	3	8	3	2

Question	Overall positive responses	I have not raised any concerns %	Strongly agree %	Agree %	Disagree %	Strongly disagree %	Don't know %
11. Thinking about the last 12 months, when I have raised concerns with the school they have been dealt with properly*	94% (93)	54	19	21	4	<1	2

Question	Yes %	No %
12. I would recommend this school to another parent*	98	2

We are delighted that in the vast majority of cases, parents remain extremely satisfied with the provision which we are offering at Whiteley Primary School. Almost all children continue to feel safe and happy at our school, and responses are consistently positive. This year, we were overwhelmed with the kind comments that parents have made in support of the school during the Covid crisis. In particular, parents frequently commented positively about

- The speed in which home learning was activated, and the fact that children in KS2 had some sessions on how to use Google Classroom in the week prior to lockdown which helped them to become familiar with the system;
- The regular updates of information that parents were provided with, and the way in which decisions were clearly explained;
- The way in which the school helped families to still feel connected to the school community;
- The phased return which enabled 5 year groups to return for some schooling before the summer holidays, as parents frequently commented that this was beyond the provision offered at many other schools;
- The way in which the school was concerned for pupil well-being, not just their academic development during lockdown.

No-one could have anticipated or planned ahead for what we had to deal with over the past 6 months, but I must pass on my thanks to the whole staff team who pulled together at such a difficult time to enable us to respond in the way that we did.

Q.9 – Home Learning Offer

There were a few parents whose expectations of what the school could or should offer during the lockdown were different to that available. This was particularly evident when it came to the remote learning offer – although overall satisfaction was high at 87% (with some year groups at 95% positive responses), this question had the highest proportion of ‘disagrees’ and drew the most frequent additional comments. As we have frequently found with parent surveys regarding homework, it is rarely possible to meet preferences for all. Views regarding home learning vary widely depending on access to the internet/devices; the self-motivation/confidence of the child; the number of children at home and their ages; whether there is a parent available to support or if they are trying to also work from home; and the emotional state of the child and/or family members at the time. As you will hopefully have seen from the recent communications about our remote learning offer, the provision we have developed for the year ahead has moved on from the summer term. There will be an expectation that new content will be introduced, rather than just consolidation work, and where appropriate there will be more teacher explanations and/or video content which we hope will help your child feel in touch with the class teacher. Many families commented on how the children appreciated seeing their teachers on screen. However, we have continued to build in flexibility for families to use the remote learning at the times of the day which work for them as a family, rather than making use of ‘live’ sessions.

Our current understanding is that primary schools will remain open whenever possible, even in the event of tighter local restrictions, closing only for 2 week periods to respond to positive cases in the school. However, should there be another longer period of school closure, we are also exploring how we might offer some weekly direct contact between the classroom adults and pupils, for example through the use of Google Meet.

Q.7 The school has a broad, balanced curriculum

We are particularly pleased to see that positive responses regarding the school’s curriculum have increased this year, with fewer ‘don’t know’ responses. Parents from Y1-6 will know that we introduced our new curriculum ‘learning journey’ approach last September, with the overviews being shared with parents for each new learning journey. These appear to have helped increase parental knowledge of the broad curriculum we offer in school, and so we will be continuing to develop these

over the course of the year. We are also in the process of updating our website, which will hopefully make it easier for parents to access information about our curriculum, including the guidance we have produced for parents to support at home, sorted with the relevant subject – please go to ww.whiteleyprimary.co.uk and select the ‘curriculum’ tab for more information.

Q8. The school supports my child’s wider personal development

This was a completely new question for 2020 and received the highest number of ‘don’t know’ responses. We see it as closely related to the above question about a broad and balanced curriculum as for us, the school curriculum is not only about the subjects children learn about, but also how we develop children’s wider skills (related to our learning values – independence, perseverance, participation, creativity and global thinker); how we cater for their emotional and mental well-being; the breadth of enrichment experiences they are offered; and how well they are prepared for the next stage in their education and the world beyond. Whilst you might get a flavour of some of these aspects through the learning journey overviews, we appreciate that it’s hard for parents to be fully aware of the full range of experiences that children receive in school. If you are interested in our approach to the wider curriculum, our Curriculum Policy and Rationale may be useful for you – both can be found on the website. We will continue to make use of newsletters and other Parentmail communications to help you to be aware of the wider curriculum offer.

Q10. Dealing with bullying

Whilst we always hope that children will not experience incidents of bullying, it is an issue which all schools have to deal with over the course of the year. We are pleased that the vast majority of parents felt that their children hadn’t experienced bullying at our school, and that where it had occurred, most felt that it had been dealt with effectively. We would obviously like all parents to feel confident that incidents have been dealt with appropriately and so we would continue to urge parents to let us know if you have any concerns about your child.

Q11. Dealing with concerns

Similarly, with question 11, the positive responses were very high and we are pleased that you feel satisfied with the way we have dealt with your questions and concerns. There were a small number of parents who expressed very individual and specific concerns on the questionnaire that had not been raised with the leadership team previously. Where these concerns are raised anonymously, I am unable to explore them with the parent and so I would urge you to make contact should you feel that a concern has not been resolved or dealt with appropriately. There will, of course, be times when we make decisions as a school which won’t meet the expectations of parents, but if you are unhappy about a situation, please do let me know so that I can look into the matter, or ensure that you are aware of the reasons behind a decision.

Whilst face-to-face communication with the school is a bit harder for parents this year, we encourage parents to make use of email or phone calls to let us know if you have questions or concerns. Whilst the class teacher would usually be the first port of call, members of the leadership team are still willing and able to deal with individual parental questions and concerns that you want to explore further or are of a sensitive nature. Contact can be made with us via the school office.

We would like to thank parents for the time taken to provide individual feedback – it is always a pleasure to share the individual comments made about particular staff or year groups which show your appreciation of what they do.

Lesley Pennington – Headteacher