



Parent Questionnaire Summary 2022

Thank you to those parents/carers who took the time to respond to the governor parent questionnaire in the summer, either online or on paper during our July open evening. We had 295 responses from across the school – a much higher response rate than the previous year and with good representation across the year groups. Once again, YR parents returned the highest number of responses (54) but the lowest response rate from an individual year group was 38 (compared to 12 in 2021). Below and overleaf is a summary of the responses. The figures in brackets are from last years' survey where there was an equivalent/similar question for comparison. The school's own questions (rather than those from the Ofsted questionnaire) are marked with a *.

Please note that any 'don't know' responses were removed before calculating the 'Overall Positive responses' which are expressed as a percentage of those who were able to answer the question.

Question	Overall positive responses	Strongly agree %	Agree %	Disagree %	Strongly disagree %	Don't Know %
1. My child is happy at this school	98% (97)	69 (63)	29 (34)	<1 (3)	<1 (<1)	<1 (0)
2. My child feels safe at this school	97% (97)	73 (66)	24 (31)	2 (2)	<1 (<1)	0 (0)
3. This school makes sure its pupils are well behaved	96% (96)	50 (41)	44 (52)	4 (3)	<1 (0)	2 (3)
4. The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year	96% (96)	58 (46)	38 (48)	3 (4)	<1 (0)	0 (2)
5. My child does well at this school	96% (95)	55 (50)	40 (45)	3 (5)	<1 (1)	<1 (0)
6. The school lets me know how my child is doing	90% (88)	42 (31)	47 (55)	9 (11)	<1 (<1)	1 (2)
7. The school has a broad, balanced curriculum	99% (97)	57 (43)	39 (50)	<1 (<1)	<1 (<1)	3 (5)
8. The school supports my child's wider personal development	91% (92%)	47 (33)	40 (47)	7 (6)	1 (1)	5 (13)
9. The school considers my child's well-being.*	96%	52	42	3	1	2
10. My child regularly (more than three times a week) reads at home (to an adult, if your child is not yet an independent reader)*	94%	63	30	5	<1	1

Question	Overall positive responses	My child has not been bullied %	Strongly agree %	Agree %	Disagree %	Strongly disagree %
11. Thinking about the last 12 months, my child has been bullied and the school dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively	95% (93)	80 (82)	5 (2)	11 (10)	4 (5)	<1 (2)

Question	Overall positive responses	I have not raised any concerns %	Strongly agree %	Agree %	Disagree %	Strongly disagree %	Don't know %
12. Thinking about the last 12 months, when I have raised concerns with the school they have been dealt with properly	94% (92)	47 (48)	22 (23)	23 (19)	5 (7)	<1 (<1)	2 (3)

Question	Yes %	No %
13. I would recommend this school to another parent	98 (97)	2 (3)

It is really pleasing to see that the overall positive responses are at least 90% for all questions, and in most cases, over 95%. Overall positive responses are similar to those from 2021, and in some cases exceed last years' results. It's also particularly pleasing to see an increase in those who selected 'strongly agree' for all of the first set of questions with a reduction in 'don't know' responses. We feel that the gradual return to greater contact between teachers and parents, including face-to-face parent meetings, as well as the continued use of email for communication along with the Blogs and Facebook page, have helped parents to feel more involved and knowledgeable about their child's schooling and we are looking forward to that continued contact this year.

Q10. My child regularly (more than three times a week) reads at home (to an adult, if your child is not yet an independent reader)

Governors added this question this year as reading is a high focus on the school improvement plan, and they were keen to know whether reading was prioritised at home. Whilst the majority of our children are doing well in reading, and 81% of our pupils achieved age related expectations at the end of Y6 (compared to 74% nationally), there are a higher proportion of children across the school than pre-Covid who have gaps in their phonic knowledge, or those whose lack of reading fluency hinders their understanding and enjoyment of reading. We recognise that children in our middle year groups (Y2 – Y4) missed out on some of the key foundations of learning in YR/1/2 due to Covid. Although many of our children continued to read for learning and for pleasure during the lockdowns, the impact of that missed schooling is still impacting on a number of our pupils. Whilst we work hard in school to teach children the skills of reading, and to provide opportunities to practice and apply their skills, regular (preferably daily) reading practice at home can make a huge difference to children's confidence and fluency in reading. It's great to see that 63% of parents strongly agreed with the statement, implying that their children were reading at least 4 times a week. 30% agreed with the statement – we are assuming that in these households children are probably reading around 3 times a week. We would love to see the majority of our children reading most days, and we can't emphasise enough to parents how valuable your support is in this area.

Individual Comments

As in previous years, phase leaders have looked in detail at the responses and comments from within their phase to look at whether there are any key actions to identify. They also share the individual comments with their teams – thank you to everyone who took the time to share these as it is great to know where their efforts are particularly appreciated. Below is just a flavour of the positive comments received:

- *'The class teachers have provided a safe nurturing environment for my child where they have felt cared for and listened to.'*
- *'My children love going to school ... I have nothing negative to say and feel blessed to have such a wonderful primary school on the doorstep, that has allowed my children to flourish in all areas.'*
- *'The school has a fabulous culture and approach to learning.'*
- *'I think the teachers and staff at the school really care and want the children to learn and grow into well behaved young adults'.*
- *'My daughter has really enjoyed being a pupil at this school from the first day she started until now. The school has helped her develop and learn good values as well as making all subjects enjoyable'*

It was particularly pleasing to read the comments from our YR parents who praised the transition for their child into school, showing that the changes that we have made post-Covid appear to be affective in helping children to settle into school.

We are also grateful for parents' honesty in letting us know where there are aspects of our provision which don't meet expectations as this helps us to review our practice. In some cases, this may lead to specific changes; in others, it helps us to recognise where we need to better communicate with parents to help others understand the reasoning behind our decisions. The results of the questionnaire are also reviewed by governors, helping to ensure that parental views are taken in to consideration within their strategic overview. Analysing the comments this year, there were very few patterns or commonalities between any concerns raised, but it was nevertheless useful to know where the school hadn't met parents' expectations. Below, we have responded to some of the concerns:

Q.6 The school lets me know how my child is doing

This question had the lowest number of overall positive responses, although we are pleased that 90% of parents do agree with this statement. Comments show that the face to face parent's meetings, as well as other communication methods such as emails and phone calls, have been greatly appreciated by many parents this year. There were a few comments regarding some of the unhelpful data included on the individual Pupil Report sheets which were provided for Y1-Y6 children, showing the breakdown of their strengths and areas for development in reading, writing and maths. You will be pleased to know that we have invested in a new assessment management system this year which should allow us greater control over the appearance of the print-outs for parents so we hope to resolve this issue for you.

A small number of parents expressed that they didn't receive any information about what their child would be learning over the year. All parents should receive this via Parentmail (learning journey overviews are sent out at the start of each curriculum learning journey in Y1-Y6, giving information about what will be covered in all subjects). You should receive a minimum of 2 learning journey overviews a term, and often more frequently as some learning journeys last 2-3 weeks. In YR/1/2, the year group blogs are also updated every week to provide you information about what is being covered in school and ideas to support your child at home. If you aren't receiving this information, or aren't sure how to access it, please do contact the school office who can check your Parentmail account.

Q11. 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 80% of parents felt that their children hadn't experienced bullying at our school. Of those parents who felt their child had experienced bullying, 78% agreed that it had been dealt with effectively. We would obviously like all parents to feel confident that incidents have been dealt with appropriately. From the comments, there were some incidents referenced which had not been brought to our attention, or had only been raised at the classroom level. We would urge any parents who have concerns to contact the school, and whilst the class teacher should usually be the first port of call, parents may also reach out to one of the senior leaders to help investigate a matter where they are not satisfied that it has been resolved. The Headteacher (Mrs Pennington), deputy head (Ms Bolton) or assistant head (Mrs Gallagher) can be contacted via the school office – you can also find one of us on duty at the main gate every day at 3.10pm. Whilst the class teacher can often resolve issues effectively, our senior leaders have time during the school day to investigate concerns and speak to parents in ways which class teachers find more difficult due to their teaching commitments.

Once again, I'd like to thank all those who took the time to give their feedback. If you have any feedback during the year, please do let us know – you don't have to wait until our end of year questionnaire, and we would much rather know sooner rather than later of any issues so that we have the opportunity to address these. Similarly, if you made individual comments on the parent questionnaire that you would like to explore with us in more detail, please do get in touch. If feel worried about speaking to a senior leader, our home-school link worker, Nicola Bevan, can also pass on questions or concerns – you can find her on duty at the main gate most mornings at drop off.

Lesley Pennington – Headteacher

