

Parent Questionnaire 2017

David Moores, our former Chair of Governors reported the results of the Parent Questionnaire which was conducted earlier this year. I am now in a position to provide further feedback regarding this questionnaire, now that we have had time to fully address the responses and implement some changes, taking on board your valued comments and feedback. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who took part – our successful school is a result of all the hard work of the staff and children who attend as well as the valuable and highly appreciated input and engagement of the parents and carers at our school.

I would also like to reiterate that if you have any concerns or feedback we operate an open door policy and you are welcome at any time to see me or the class teachers.

In all, we received 29 completed questionnaires.

My child is happy at school

93% said their child is happy, with 7% saying they didn't know. Positives mentioned were caring staff and pupil support in place across year groups, which is hugely encouraging to read.

My child feels safe at school and My child is well looked after

These responses were very positive, with only 3 'don't knows' across both headings.

One response mentioned an issue with After School Club, which has been rectified this year with the newly established Naburn Kids Club, which is providing the highest quality after school care. It is run privately by Mrs Pemberton and is proving to be increasingly popular and I have every confidence that it will continue to go from strength to strength.

My child is well taught

90% said yes, with one negative and two 'don't knows'.

Positives included our use of specialist teachers, for example in French and PE, which I believe is a real strength of our school.

The negative comment was focused on issues around teaching in KS1 in the past, which have now been fully addressed.

My child makes good progress

80% Yes

20% I don't know

Uncertainties here focused on the split teaching of Maths and English in KS1 last year. This practice has now been altered and the children are learning core subjects throughout the whole week.

There was also a concern that French, Music and PE may be being squeezed out. We have again looked into this and are allowing more time for French, PE and Music at KS2, with the children still having the good fortune of being taught a foreign language from Reception upwards, which we are particularly proud of, as most schools are not able to offer this.

My child receives appropriate homework

There were a wide range of responses for this question, with some parents feeling we give too much homework and some not enough.

76% said yes

16% said no

8% said 'don't know'

We have looked into this area as staff and governors and as a result, have decided to offer more varied homework tasks through purchasing Mathletics and Reading Eggs, which enable the children to work at home in a fun way and also enable those children who want to do more, to spend longer on

these sites. Staff will have further training on these resources in January, with a view to using them more in class to enhance learning and also to iron out any teething problems which have been encountered. There will also be assemblies for parents and a question and answer session with a trainer from the company on 10th January.

Homework continues to be a good opportunity for parents to interact at home with what their child is learning at school, and as such is incredibly valuable. We continue to strive to make it more varied and to support and stretch the children, and will continue to respond to suggestions given in feedback. Children are also encouraged to read at home and to practise their times tables, both of which are valuable skills which will prepare them well for life.

School ensures good behaviour and deals effectively with bullying

69% said yes

0% said no

31% said 'don't know'

As was pointed out in the Chair of Governor's response earlier this year, this response is less alarming than the figures may suggest. Most of the 'don't knows' added the comment that they had no experience of their child being bullied so could not comment on the way bullying was dealt with.

We constantly review our approach to bullying and continuously strive to improve. We requested two new 'buddy benches' which are being provided by the Y6 leavers and we will encourage children to use these if they are feeling insecure. Our School Council organised Anti-Bullying Week recently and held a poster competition and as a result the whole school has gained a greater awareness and understanding of the different forms of bullying and reminders of the positive messages to reinforce.

I receive valuable information about my child's progress

83% said yes

3% said no

14% said 'don't know'

A number of parents felt that information on the children's progress could be improved. We have analysed these responses further and have now changed the timing of the second parents' evening in the spring, to bring it earlier in the year. Parents are given information sheets at 'Meet the Teacher' events and are made aware of targets at Parents' evenings too.

Continued use of OTrack for teachers and governors to track data has now led to more confidence in assessing without levels and more detailed tracking of progress which is reviewed continuously throughout the year.

Our Open Afternoons continue to provide opportunities to celebrate the work done in class and to share with your child. Many schools do not offer this opportunity and we value it as a real strength of Naburn.

School is well managed and responds well to concerns

62% said yes

10% said no

28% said 'don't know'

Particular concerns were raised around the increased emphasis on R.E. and Collective Worship.

This emphasis was in direct response to the SIAMS report of 2012 which was critical of some aspects of this area of the curriculum and was very clear about the need to develop what we did in order to raise standards from 'good' to 'outstanding'. As you know, this has now been achieved and we are very proud of our result. As a Church of England Maintained School, we are required to provide Religious Education and a daily act of Collective Worship and we regularly evaluate this provision. We offer the children experiences of other religions, within our broad, balanced curriculum, as well as underpinning our school values of trust, perseverance and compassion.

Leadership and management was praised in our SIAMS report and awarded an 'Outstanding' grade, which I think reflects the hard work that Governors and I do to ensure that school moves forward. We constantly strive to improve, and key areas of need are outlined in our School Development Plan to be worked on throughout the year.

Compassion Trust Perseverance

I would recommend Naburn School

69% said yes

0% said no

31% said 'don't know'

Concerns raised here are those already mentioned above. Positives include praising the staff for their happy, positive attitudes and recognising that much of what we do is focused on making the best of our old, small building and relishing our small classes and community spirit.

Thank you again to everyone who spent time completing the questionnaire. Please always remember that we are always available to chat through any concerns you may have.

Thankyou,
Mrs Christison
Headteacher