

SUMMARY RESPONSE TO PARENTS/CARERS

Castle Primary School Parent/Carer Questionnaire – November 2021

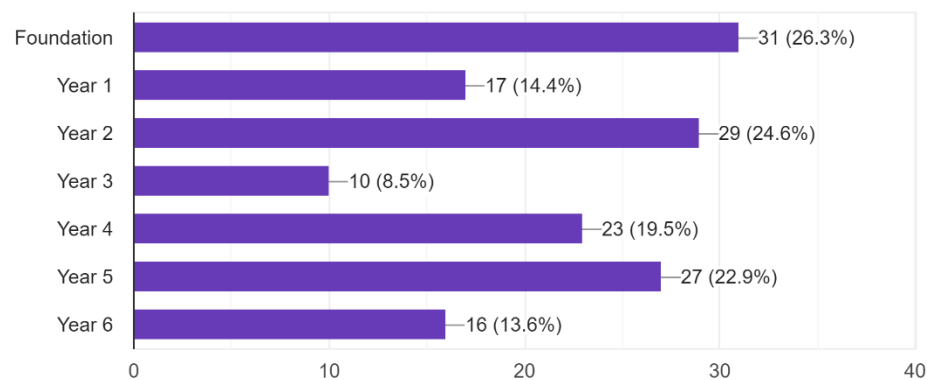
Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete our recent questionnaire. We are pleased to provide the following results for your information.

Results

Total of 118 responses

I have a child in the following year groups

118 responses



In order to analyse the questionnaire responses, it is useful to view them in the context of whose experience or view they are related to. To do this we have separated the questions into 3 areas: The Child's Experience, The Parent's Experience and The School's Performance.

The Child's Experience

The questions specifically relating to the Child's experience are

'My child is Happy at this school'

'My child feels safe at school'

'My child makes good progress at this school'

Results

97% of respondents indicated that their child was happy at the school.

99% of respondents indicated that children felt safe at the school.

96% of respondents felt that their child was making good progress.

The respondents who felt their child was not happy at the school were the same respondents who did not feel that their child was progressing well.

Conclusions

Most respondents indicate that their child is happy, safe and progressing well. This is a positive finding. It may be helpful for the small number (3) of parents and children who are not happy at the school to discuss their concerns directly with the appropriate staff to improve their child's learning experience. The questionnaire responses were anonymised unless a parent chose to include their contact details in one of the free text boxes, but we would welcome meetings with those parents to discuss further.

The Parent's Experience

A portion of the questionnaire is concerned with how the parents feel the school is performing both directly for the child and in a supportive and informative way for the parents. The questions relating to the Parent Experience can be separated in to *Information Giving and *Support

- *The questions relating to the Parent Experience of Information Giving;
- 'The school informs me about my child's progress'
 - 'The school makes me aware what my child will learn during the year'
 - 'I have a clear understanding of the behaviour the school expects from children'

Results

93% of Parents feel that they are adequately informed of their child's progress in school.

95% of parents felt that they were made aware of the upcoming learning expectations for their child for the year.

97% of parents were aware of the behavioural expectations of the school.

- *The questions relating to the Parent Experience of Support from the School;
- 'The school helps me to support my child's learning'
 - 'The school helps my child have a healthy lifestyle'
 - 'I know what to do if I have concerns about my child at school'
 - 'My views are sought and listened to'

Results

97% felt that they were supported with their child's learning.

97% agreed that the school helped their child to have a healthy lifestyle.

100% of the respondents agreed that knew what to do if they had any concerns about their child

92% of the respondents agreed that their views are sought and listened to

Conclusions

On balance parents have given positive feedback in most aspects of dealing with the school in terms of information exchange and support. However, it is noted that some improvement could be made in informing parents on their child's progress and expectations for future work. There are some specific requests around home learning, reading and maths. We are planning for the re-introduction of parent/carers workshops to support you with understanding the school curriculum and supporting your child in school. Please remember, regardless of how worried you may be about your ability to support your child in one of these areas the very fact you are working with them shows them the importance of learning. The biggest benefit you can give them is to read with them, show them that work is important and that you care that they do well.

It is noted that although generally parents/carers felt that the school supported them and their child with their learning, there were some who did not feel that their views were considered. The survey responses were anonymised unless a respondent chose to include their contact details in one of the free text boxes, however, we would welcome meetings with those respondents to discuss further.

The School Performance

The remaining questions relate to how the school is perceived to be performing by the parents, both in terms of the education and welfare of the child but also in terms of the service and interaction with the parent. This is the largest part of the questionnaire. In order to analyse these responses, it is useful to split them into categories. *How the school is directly impacting on the child's formal education, *How well the school are interacting with parents and communicating information and *How the school is approaching educating the child holistically and socially.

*The questions relating to formal educational program; 'The school has high expectations for pupil achievement, progress and behaviour'

'There is a good range of subjects available to my child at this school'

'I believe the school is committed to providing quality education for all'

Results

93% of respondents agree that the school has high achievement, progress and behavioural expectations.

92% feel that there is a good range of subjects offered.

97% support the belief that the school are committed to providing quality education for all.

The % drop in this category was based around the responses of two respondents. To further understand these respondents concerns the school would value a conversation with the respondents. Regarding music tuition, singing and after school clubs a lot of our extra provision has been reduced due to the current situation with COVID. We are aware of these issues and would like to re commence clubs etc but can only do so when the agreed risk assessments allow this to take place.

*The questions relating to Parental Information;

‘The school communicates well with parents’

‘I am given sufficient information about the school’s policies and plans’

‘I know how to contact a member of the School Governing Body if I need to’

Results

90% of respondents felt that the school communicated well with parents and carers.

94% of parents and carers felt that the school communicated sufficient information about the schools’ policies and plans.

82% of respondents reported that they knew how to contact a member of the School Governing Body.

Communication is always a tricky one for the school to get right. On occasions, we have limited time to share information with parents and carers, especially more recently with COVID communications. There is also the additional challenge of getting the balance right where some parents and carers want more information while others would like less. Online communications have been in response to a number of things. The cost of printing has meant that we have made the decision to change to online communication so that we can prioritise our spending on the education of the children. This also supports our dedication to promoting how we care for our environment. However, we recognise the need for some families to have a printed view of the Newsletter.

To support some of these issues in this area the school will be undertaking the following changes;

- Newsletters will now also be posted on the notice board at the school entrance and there will be several copies available in the reception area of the school.
- Contact details for the Governing Board will be placed on the notice board at the school entrance as well as on the School website.

*The questions relating to how the school is educating children holistically and socially.

‘The school meets my child’s particular needs and supports my child’s wider personal development’

‘The school community is leading by example to help my child to understand the importance of trust and honesty’

‘The school is helping my child to understand, respect and celebrate diversity in the UK and global society’

‘The school is helping my child to have a love of learning’

Results

92% believe the school is supporting their child’s wider development.

97% agree that the school is helping children understand the importance of trust and honesty.

97% feel that the school is helping the children to understand, respect and celebrate diversity.

98% of parents feel that the school is helping their child develop a love of learning.

Conclusions

On balance the school's performance in the areas specified is very positive. However, there are some areas for improvement. Some parents have expressed a desire to offer a wider range of subjects and activities, ranging from music and instrument lessons to outdoor learning. Further investigation into the possibility of offering some or all these options should be sought.

Some issues with school communication have been highlighted. A specific review could be taken on the speed and content of communications with parents and whether this could be improved in any way.

Many parents agree that the school is helping their child develop in a social and holistic way. Those who feel that the school is not supporting their child's wider development also feel that the school could increase the range of subjects offered.

Thank you to responding to this questionnaire and your patience in waiting for a response. We have taken note of issues and will be changing a number of aspects of school life.

We would also like to thank those of you who made offers for support in various ways, we will be in touch with you personally in due course, and thank those of you who included information about the successes of your children for us to celebrate in assembly. Please do not hesitate to continue to make contact via the school office if there is anything you feel we should know about your child's successes, struggles, or changes at home that may be impacting them. We feel communication is key to our success and thank you for continuing to support us in these difficult times

The Teaching and Governing Castle School team.