



Margaret McMillan
Primary School

Inspiration • Aspiration • Determination

Parent Questionnaire

16 January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

You may remember that we asked you to complete a Parental Survey during the recent Parents Evening in school. It asked a wide variety of questions about your experiences of school and will provide us with feedback on how you think we are doing, and what we could do better.

We would like to thank all of you who responded and gave us feedback and comments. The leadership team contacted any parents who did not feel positively about any element of the survey, in order to better understand any issues. However, the majority of responses were extremely positive. Thank you for taking time to respond to our survey. We will be carrying out further questionnaires and holding regular parent events over the course of the year. However, if you have any concerns or feedback please do not wait for a questionnaire—please contact school and speak to your child’s class teacher or Phase leader directly.

For each question we had between 215 and 27 responses depending on the question. Only parents whose child had experienced bullying or had SEND were asked to answer those particular questions.

Below are the results of the survey and any comments that we received, along with a response.

Parental Engagement Survey Autumn 2022	Number of responses	Strongly agree /agree
My child is happy at this school	213	99%
My child feels safe at this school	215	99%
The school makes sure my child is well behaved	213	100%
My child has been bullied and the school dealt with the bullying quickly	63	95%
The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year	202	92%
When I have raised concerns, they have been properly dealt with.	189	100%
The school has high expectations for my child	187	96%
My child does well at this school	207	98%
The school lets me know how well my child is doing	192	97%
There are a good range of subjects available to my child at this school	205	99.5%
The school supports my child’s wider personal development	194	96%
I would recommend this school to another parent	183	96%
Does the school give your child with SEND the support they need to	27	92.5%

We also received a number of additional comments;

- ◆ *Teachers are always available for any concerns. Feedback is taken well.*
- ◆ *Very happy at this school. Teachers and staff are supportive. The curriculum and teaching methods are good.*
- ◆ *Thank you for all your love and care and effort with my kids.*
- ◆ *Thank you for all the support and concerns raised being dealt with accordingly—5 stars*
- ◆ *A fantastic school—keep it up MMPS*
- ◆ *Great school and great people.*
- ◆ *My child is settling in really well, looking forward to more fun times. Mum would like the curriculum sessions to enable us to follow up/teach at home.*
- ◆ *Best school ever*
- ◆ *School picked up on autism before I did and quickly got him onto the waiting list for assessment. Also helped with speech therapy.*
- ◆ *Overall I have good experiences with the school.*
- ◆ *Really pleased with the report. Everything well explained.*
- ◆ *My child loves this school and has very high expectations. My child does well in this school.*
- ◆ *Well behaved kids in the school. Well done.*
- ◆ *This school is so good. I am happy to send my daughter to this school.*
- ◆ *Really good school. Provides help and support with everything, thank you so much.*
- ◆ *Teacher parent interaction is required regularly. Concerns by the teacher or parent must be taken immediately.*
- ◆ *The school should let me know what my child finds difficult more often other than just parents evening.*

We do offer 3 progress reports and parents evening across the year (1 each term) and additional meetings with the class teacher and/or SENCO are arranged as and when needed such as SEN progress meetings for some children and annual reviews for children with an EHCP. Class teachers speak to parents, were there are particular points to discuss, at the doors at the end of the school day and all members of leadership team are on the school path in the morning. If you have any particular concerns please catch the class teacher at the end of the day or ring to make an appointment.

- ◆ *Just want their homework in paper form rather than on seesaw as its sometimes hard to deal with.*
- ◆ *Can my children have maths and English homework please rather than online.*

We are trying to reduce our carbon footprint and paper waste. Much of our homework is practise and reading which does not require lots of paper. Research suggests that written homework has minimal impact on children's learning but daily reading and number facts practice is the most impactful and will help with their recall skills. You can find maths learn by heart activities on the school website.

We are mindful that many children attend Madrassa after school and do not want to make homework an additional burden for families.

If you are finding it difficult to access SeeSaw online—please speak to your child's Phase Leader who maybe able to help.

- ◆ *Is there a reward system that the children get offered for their progress as we don't get any information home. Also where can we find the information about their progress outside parents evening. More information on child's wider development. Thank you.*

We believe that immediate praise and recognition for achievement and effort is the best motivator and this happens constantly in class. We also celebrate progress and effort weekly in our celebration assembly—it is reported in our weekly newsletter.

Children are regularly awarded “smilies” in class for all areas of school life including good progress, learning behaviours and for personal achievements. Once children have been awarded 100 smilies they receive a certificate and a small prize to recognise their achievements in our weekly celebration assemblies. The children can also earn marbles for their class—that goes towards a class reward.

- ◆ *There should be more sports activities for children.*

Our children have a full PE curriculum with access to a wide variety of sports and activities including Forest schools, Yoga in Y1, cycling in Y2, Swimming in Y4 and ballet in Y5. Children have the opportunity to participate in a variety of tournaments and competitions across the year. In addition, we have a wide range of afterschool clubs that include sports including football, gymnastics and cricket. During lunchtime play, Sports Leaders (children from Key Stage 2) organise and run games for children on the playground.

Unfortunately, not all parents felt they could agree with all of statements. In particular;

5% (3 parents) disagreed that any incidents of bullying are dealt with quickly and effectively.

Our response...

Sometimes it is believed that bullying describes any incident which involves poor behaviour or disagreements. There is a sustained and deliberate nature to bullying rather than an argument or falling out. On rare occasions we may have to follow up an incidence of bullying which doesn't resolve immediately.

Our PSHE and relationships curriculum focuses on teaching children how to build healthy and positive relationships and how to recognise poor friendships including bullying and what they can do to challenge those who are being unkind.

We have a robust behaviour policy in place and any incidents of poor behaviour are dealt with promptly. Class teachers and phase leaders will meet with parents to discuss any issues to ensure that the standard of behaviour at school remains high. We follow a restorative approach to incidents in school which focuses on repairing relationships between individuals and encourages children to take responsibility for their own behaviour and actions.

8% (17 parents) did not feel that school has made them aware of what their child will learn over the year.

Our response...

We agree that we could do better in this area. Our curriculum plans are on the website and homework mats are sent out each term with ideas for home learning linked to current units. Some parents wanted more information and support to enable them to support their children's learning at home. Like most Primary schools we are currently revising our curriculum and our curriculum approaches and we have run some parent workshops and are planning more in order to help parents to do this. For parents of a child with Special Educational Needs, please speak to your child's class teacher or the school SENCO who will be able to help.

As a school we want you to be satisfied with the service we provide. If you have any concerns or questions, please do not wait for the termly parents evenings or questionnaires— contact your child's class teacher, the assistant head of Phase or catch us on the path in the morning. We want to resolve any concerns or issues as soon as we can.

Lorraine Martin
Headteacher