

St Mary's C of E Primary School

Parent Questionnaire March 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for all your helpful comments. Your views and those of your children are very important to us. They help us move the school forward and are an effective way of checking that we are getting things right. School leaders take them into account when we are planning for the future of our school.

We were very heartened once again by the huge number of positive comments about St Mary's.

Themes emerging from parent comments

Many parents were keen to tell us that teaching is excellent and that children make excellent progress in learning across the full range of subjects; that children are well supported and have their individual needs met; that children develop good behaviour and social skills.

Parents also said that children feel safe and secure and enjoy coming to school; that the school is a welcoming place and teachers are approachable; that communication to parents is helpful.

Positive comments really help staff to feel motivated and continue to do their best for your children.

In terms of what we might do to make the school even better, we had the usual split between a minority of parents who think there should be more homework and another minority of parents who think there should be less homework. We hope to strike the right balance and the survey shows that most parents agree that the school provides appropriate homework.

Some parents have asked for more notice to be given for school events such as concerts, trips, presentations. We try to include all events on the calendar in the newsletter as far in advance as possible so do check the diary of events in the newsletter every week. We will take these comments on board and work to send letters and texts out in further advance where possible.

Some parents have asked for more after school clubs. We are very pleased that parents and children enjoy our after school clubs and that they prove so popular. We offer at least ten after school clubs and these are largely run by our staff. We would like to run more after school clubs but we are limited by the space and the number of staff. We need our class teachers to mark work and plan for the next day after school so they do not run clubs. We also need our teaching assistants to support the teachers after school and attend training so we are careful not to ask them to run more clubs. We are fortunate that two local play centres will collect children from St Mary's every day and stay open until at least 6.00pm so that working parents can collect children later. These are P3, based at Kingsgate School, and PACE, based in Fortune Green Road. Information leaflets for both services can be collected from the school office.

Finally, we are glad to hear that many of you find our parent information coffee mornings useful. We will use your suggestions for topics to plan our programme over the next year. We have already run sessions on some of the suggestions but are happy to repeat these. Some parents have requested these to be held in the evenings to enable working parents to attend. We will look at putting on evening information sessions for parents.

Many of you commented that there was nothing for the school to improve on! That is great to hear but we don't pretend to be perfect so if there are things that you think we could do to improve the school, do come to speak to me and let me know.

We try our hardest to be a really good school.

Best wishes
Mr Webb
Head of School

Questionnaire responses

135 responses

Responses below 1% have not been included

1. My child enjoys coming to school

Strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	don't know
66%	33%	1%		
Overall 99% agree				

2. My child feels safe at school

Strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	don't know
72%	27%	1%		
Overall 99% agree				

3. My child is making good progress

Strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	don't know
65%	33%	2%		
Overall 98% agree				

4. Most children behave well at St Mary's

Strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	don't know
61%	31%	4%		4%
Overall 92% agree				

5. Teaching is good

Strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	don't know
71%	27%	1%		
Overall 98% agree				

6. I am kept informed about how my child is getting on
 Strongly agree 61% agree 36% disagree 2% strongly disagree don't know
 Overall 97% agree
7. I feel comfortable about approaching the school with a question or a problem
 Strongly agree 67% agree 32% disagree strongly disagree don't know
 Overall 99% agree
8. Staff expect my child to work hard and do his/her best
 Strongly agree 66% agree 33% disagree strongly disagree don't know
 Overall 99% agree
9. Staff treat my child fairly
 Strongly agree 64% agree 32% disagree strongly disagree don't know 3%
 Overall 96% agree
10. The school is led and managed well
 Strongly agree 63% agree 32% disagree 1% strongly disagree don't know 2%
 Overall 95% agree
11. The school provides appropriate homework
 Strongly agree 61% agree 30% disagree 4% strongly disagree 2% don't know 2%
 Overall 91% agree
12. There is a good range of activities that my child finds interesting and enjoyable
 Strongly agree 62% agree 32% disagree 4% strongly disagree don't know 1%
 Overall 94% agree
13. The school upholds its Christian ethos well
 Strongly agree 58% agree 34% disagree 2% strongly disagree don't know 6%
 Overall 92% agree
14. The school provides opportunities for spiritual growth and development
 Strongly agree 59% agree 33% disagree 2% strongly disagree don't know 5%
 Overall 92% agree