

Parental Questionnaire Feedback 2016/17

Thank you to everyone who responded to our parental questionnaire during the spring term. We had a total of 353 replies compared to 222 replies in 2015/16 and 174 replies in 2014/15. We appreciate the invaluable feedback about the school, both positive and constructive. We are extremely pleased with the increased number of responses over the past few years.

Overall there was far more consensus about the school's strengths, with particular mentions for the school's strong sense of community, its caring, enthusiastic and motivated staff, the arts and wide range of extra-curricular activities and the warm and welcoming atmosphere. Particular areas identified for development related to reporting progress, behaviour systems and homework. These will feed into further discussions with staff and governors and will be addressed within next year's School Improvement Plan. We are also extremely grateful for the positive feedback which we received during the year either in person or via email. Thank you to the whole Churchtown team for providing quality provision for all children.

Questionnaire results:

| | % Agree or Strongly Agree | Disagree | Don't know |
|---|---------------------------|----------|------------|
| 1. My child is happy at school. | 98% | 1% | 1% |
| 2. The school provides a safe environment for my child. | 97% | 1.5% | 1.5% |
| 3. My child makes good progress at this school. | 97% | 1% | 2% |
| 4. My child is well taught at this school. | 99% | 0% | 1% |
| 5. I am made to feel welcome when I come into school. | 97.5% | 2% | 0.5% |
| 6. I find it easy to approach the school with questions or problems to do with my child. | 96% | 2% | 2% |
| 7. Staff and children respect and trust each other. | 97% | 0% | 3% |
| 8. The school is well led and managed. | 98% | 0.5% | 1.5% |
| 9. Parents/guardians are encouraged to play an active part in the life of the school. | 96% | 2% | 2% |
| 10. Newsletters are helpful and informative. | 97% | 2.5% | 0.5% |
| 11. School reports and parents evenings keep me well informed about how my child is getting on. | 97.5% | 2% | 0.5% |
| 12. The homework that is given builds well on what my child learns in school. | 95% | 2.5% | 2.5% |
| 13. The school provides an interesting range of activities, clubs and sports outside lessons. | 93% | 1% | 6% |
| 14. My child is encouraged to be healthy and to take regular exercise. | 95.5% | 0.5% | 4% |
| 15. My child likes the curriculum content including topic and themed weeks. | 94% | 1.5% | 4.5% |

It was a privilege to read all the positive comments that you made about Churchtown, here is a flavour of what was said by many of you. You felt that:

- **Churchtown School is a very well run school and my son has come on leaps and bounds, once a shy boy, he's now confident, enjoys school and has made good progress.**
- **My daughter has a great teacher and enjoys her lessons**
- **My son loves nursery, I didn't realise how much the teachers do regarding activities, until I attended parents evening**
- **My children are progressing so well at Churchtown**
- **Since my son joined Churchtown in January, he has learnt so much and enjoys playing**

- and making new friends
- It is very well organised and structured for such a big school
- My child loves the topics covered in his year group, they have been fun with hands on practical activities
- I've always liked the positive atmosphere around the school
- My son is happy, feels safe and enjoys it, so we are happy
- I like that there are a different range of clubs and activities, that staff are highly qualified and well experienced
- The school is well organised and well managed and our daughter feels safe and happy
- It has been an excellent environment for our daughter to thrive
- My child likes the way he is taught, loves all the activities and likes the themes he has at school
- The school provides very good healthy lunches
- A friendly safe and happy environment for learning. Very understanding and accommodating with regard to religious needs
- It is good there is a rounded curriculum including academic subjects, art, sports, music, mindfulness, computing
- My son's teacher is an inspirational teacher
- My daughter has recently been talking about eating healthily and keeping active, which I think is great
- Although a large school, it never feels that way
- Friendly school, very welcoming and the children are pushed to do well
- Office staff always helpful and friendly
- Any fears I had about the size of the school have been completely dispelled, would highly recommend
- Couldn't ask for more, the staff go over and beyond

We have also drawn out some of the key successes and highlighted areas that we need to work on:

Key Areas of Success Identified

My child enjoys coming to school We were delighted that the vast majority of you reported that your child enjoyed coming to school. We aim to make Churchtown Primary an exciting and stimulating place to learn and through our recent work on 'Growth Mindsets', children continue to grow in confidence and resilience and to be more prepared to take risks and embrace challenge.

My child is taught well at school We were very pleased that many of you recognised the fantastic role that the teachers and support staff play in providing your children with high quality education. This was echoed in many of the positive comments which were written. This is reflected in the children's achievements and attitudes towards learning. We are also grateful to you for the support which you provide, not only to your own children but to the school as a whole.

My child is encouraged to be healthy and take regular exercise This year, we have been working hard to raise the profile of healthy lifestyles through class work, assemblies, extra - curricular activities, healthy schools ambassadors, cookery for each year group, and 'wake-up and shake up' on a Wednesday morning. The draft Healthy Foods Policy was recently discussed at the School Forum and a 'healthy lunchbox' competition took place over the Easter holidays. We are proud to be one of only a few schools in Sefton who manage their own kitchen, which allows us to have strong links between the kitchen and the curriculum.

My child is kept safe at school - Keeping children safe is extremely important at Churchtown Primary School and we are glad to see this reflected in the survey. This year, we have conducted two separate reviews into 'health and safety' with external advisors. We also received a 5 star rating from environmental health for food safety and hygiene in our kitchens and provided some e-safety workshops for parents and carers. Where specific issues were highlighted, we have taken / are taking steps to address these and continue to work hard to embed rights and respect and find further ways to strengthen our approach to developing 'positive and supportive relationships'.

Areas of Development

There are always areas to improve upon and we are keen to do so. We have picked out the areas and shown you below how we are working on these issues already and further actions that we will take as the year progresses.

| | What you said..... | What we will do about it..... |
|---|--|---|
| My child is healthy and is encouraged to take regular exercise | Sometimes miss field/ PE times | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send out Healthy Food Policy to all parents and put on school website. This policy was created with the Healthy Champions and discussed at School Forum • Monitor amount of Physical Education - each class teacher to monitor this and feedback back termly to PE Subject Leader • Focus on healthy snacks and healthy lunch boxes • 'Come Dine with me' with set year groups, to start from September 2017 • Use of specialist sports coaches to teach games from September 2017 for year 1 - 6 once a week |
| Behaviour Policy 'Going for Green' | Unsure about the system for bronze, silver and gold for Years 1 and 2 children | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the Behaviour Policy for start of summer term so that KS1 children are inline with same system for KS2, based on the point system • Each child starts each day with a point; there are a number of points to achieve to get a bronze, silver and gold • Still allows for spontaneous awards to be given out by staff |
| Reporting and Assessment | I would like to know about how my child is doing on a more regular basis | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With 30 children in a class, we are only able to offer 10 minutes for each appointment for parents evenings. However, when the teacher and parent feel that there is more to be discussed, a follow up appointment is always offered. • Meet the teacher evenings explains the year groups curriculum and expectations for that year group. This is followed up by a year group booklet and information presented on the school website • Review 'parents evening' procedures with all teachers so that every parent knows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. how their child is performing against end of year expectations at the spring term meeting 2. what their child's areas of development are in Reading, Writing and Maths at both Autumn term and Spring term meeting 3. how to support their child's learning at home at both Autumn and Spring term meeting • Build on good practice in EY that has been started this year; invite parents in at the end of each term for children to share their books with their parent/grown up and complete a learning receipt • Carry out specific information sessions for parents to explain how progress is measured in school and how we measure individual learners progress based on their ability and starting points. We will also be providing information sessions on how the school measures attainment and progress without levels and how that relates to measuring progress against old style SATs levels and new SATs scores. We hope that with greater information about how the school measures progress, that parents will then be better equipped to discuss progress. |
| Homework | <p>My daughter often struggles to understand her homework</p> <p>There is too much homework at times</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Homework Policy was created 2 years ago following discussion about clarity of homework at School Forum • The policy states the amount and time that should be spent on homework for each year group (whether the child finishes their homework or not) • There is a Homework Club for year 5 and year 6 children at lunch time if they are unable to do their homework at home our would like extra help with their work • If your child is stuck, please encourage them to ask their class teacher for help or write a note in their book explaining that they needed help. • Homework is differentiated in KS2 so children can choose the ability that is most suited to themselves. |

| | What you said..... | What we will do about it..... |
|--|--|--|
| Parent Involvement/ Communication | <p>More opportunities to partake in child's learning</p> <p>Parents to be involved in joint projects</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is an area that has received many positive comments and has shown an improvement from previous years, however we realise that there is always more we can do • We have three different types of newsletters which can be found on the school website under 'News and Events'. If you have sent in your email address to the school office you will receive the newsletters via email. Please ensure your contact details are up to date at the school office. You will be notified via text when the whole school newsletter is updated weekly. Paper copies are available at the school office. For parents in Early Years or who use the Botanic Gate entrance, paper copies will now be made available for collection from RS at the beginning or end of the day. • Whole School Newsletter - 'Churchtown Chatter' - weekly • Champions Newsletter - 'Churchtown Champions' - weekly • Year group newsletters - half termly or termly linked to new topic area • Workshop dates to be advertised in September • Opportunity for parents to work alongside children on topics or projects in school • Teachers are available at the end of the day to talk to informally when they bring their classes out to meet parents. The external doors are manned in the morning by a member of staff and messages can always be passed on through the staff member. If you need to speak to the teacher at another time please let the office know and an appointment or telephone conversation can be arranged. • We welcome parents/guardians to help in school, if you are able to give any of your time and would like to help please contact the school office. |

An area of development is traffic and parking, which is frequently discussed at School Forum and Resident's meetings. We continue to address this area through the actions below:

| | What you said..... | What we will do about it..... |
|---|----------------------------------|--|
| Traffic and parking issues around school at drop off and pick up times | Concerns about parking at school | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Item on School Forum agenda • Meeting with Sefton Council to discuss solutions • Actions below to address parking issues which can be influenced: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Drop-Off and Pick-up Zone will be re-classified with a time-specific loading ban that negates use of Blue Badge waiting 2. Unrestricted parking spaces on St Cuthbert's Road between junction and first white H on the right hand side will be yellow lined with time-specific no waiting to facilitate Blue Badge waiting and resident parking in evening and weekends 3. School signage communicating drop-off and pick-up zone to be generated and erected on school property on St Cuthberts Road 4. Replacement banners for yellow zig zags 'No Stopping' to be created and erected 5. Look at re-siting zig zag restrictions notice to a position before natural stopping point 6. School to close Sunny Road gate at 8.50am to prevent later arrivals using Sunny Road cul-de-sac as drop and run parking 7. School to promote Verulam Road parking/ Botanic Gardens entrance more frequently 8. School to communicate expectations and restrictions to all carers through information on a letter, the newsletter and the website 9. School to promote alternative staff parking for those not carrying heavy loads 10. School to start a group involving parents that can work on raising awareness of issues with parking 11. Bollards to be added to pavement by Sunny Road cul de sac to prevent pavement parking. |