

Our Parent / Carer Survey 2022

Thank you again for all the responses we received for this year's parent / carer survey. I think it represents the most pupils we have had for some time and gives me a reasonable sample on which to base my conclusions.

This process forms part of our school self-evaluation and the questions used are those which Ofsted use when inspecting a school. I added one extra question linked with Covid for my own interest but the others are exactly what would be sent out when we are next inspected – which could be any time soon.

Positives

The first two questions are key for me and relate to pupils feeling happy and safe. Both of these questions received 100% agreement with a significant proportion stating that they strongly agreed that this was the case.

In a similar vein, all bar two parents (who indicated they didn't know) felt the school ensured its pupils were well-behaved.

Other exceptionally high responses were seen in the questions relating to there being a good range of subjects available to pupils and also extra-curricular activities; something that always gets favourable comments from visitors to the school.

Well-being is something the school has been prioritising since the start of the pandemic. We all hold with the belief that 'happy children learn'. It was therefore very pleasing to see again that all bar one response agreed that the school supports pupils' wider personal development.

Another question I was very pleased to see agreement with was in relation to the school's response to 'a concern'. Although many stated that they had not had to raise a concern, of those that said they had, whether with a teacher or me, they were happy with the way that the school dealt with it. I think it is important to accept that we might not always agree with the final outcome, as long as the question has been dealt with fairly and honestly.

All of the other questions also had over 90% positive responses with the final question, in relation to recommending Whitehill to other families, scoring 100% agreement which is lovely to hear.

Questions to Consider

As I said, it is important that we look at ways we can improve and the specific questions you asked. Below are some responses along the lines of 'you said, we did...'

'The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year' – this question had 93% agreement but could we do even better? There were also two specific comments asking for information on what pupils will learn in class.

Over the last two years, year group staff and subject leads have developed overviews of what will be taught across the year. All of these can be found on our school website under the [Curriculum](#) tab. Here you will find a general overview of the way we structure our curriculum together with a page for each year group and every subject in the national curriculum. These appear in different forms but all provide details as to what we teach in each subject and why.

'I would like the school to monitor [school lunch] if possible and / or provide encouragement for children to eat healthily' – During lunchtimes, there is at least one member of the school leadership team (usually two) as well as at least one midday supervisory assistant. Although I believe a child should not be forced to clear a plate, we will gently encourage a child if we notice they regularly leave their lunch or if we have had specific conversations with a family to monitor food consumption.

'Is information not shared about my child from year to year, teacher to teacher?' – Class teachers meet termly with two members of the leadership team to talk about the progress of every child in the school. These are known as Pupil Progress Meetings. In the summer term, these meetings also include the teacher the child will be moving to the following year. This ensures a good initial understanding of the children at the start of the year. In addition to this, for pupils on our SEND register, the class teacher and Mrs McConnell Smith will have shared the child's learning plan and specific interventions. Parents of these pupils are also invited to meet with the child's new class teacher at the beginning of July once this information has been shared.

Thank You for Saying

The detailed outcomes and evaluation will be discussed with the governors over the coming months as well as with the teaching teams to see how else we can improve yet further.

To finish here, however, I would like to share with you a few (of the many) comments from parents which have really lifted our spirits in school. Your time and effort in completing the survey are very much appreciated.

"It is clear all staff are passionate about their work at Whitehill. My children genuinely go to school with a spring in their step each day and come home buzzing..."

"The school is a shining example of a broad and balanced curriculum..."

"What more could I ask for than a happy, well-educated child. Thank you."

"A friendly, supervising staff with a smile and a personal greeting each morning when arriving at school is lovely."

"Going to Whitehill... is such a positive and enriching experience for our girls..."

"Can't recommend this school enough; outstanding staff and leadership..."

"Such a great school! Lots of praise to all of the teachers and head!"

Thank you again!



Steve Mills
Headteacher