

St. Lawrence Church of England Primary School

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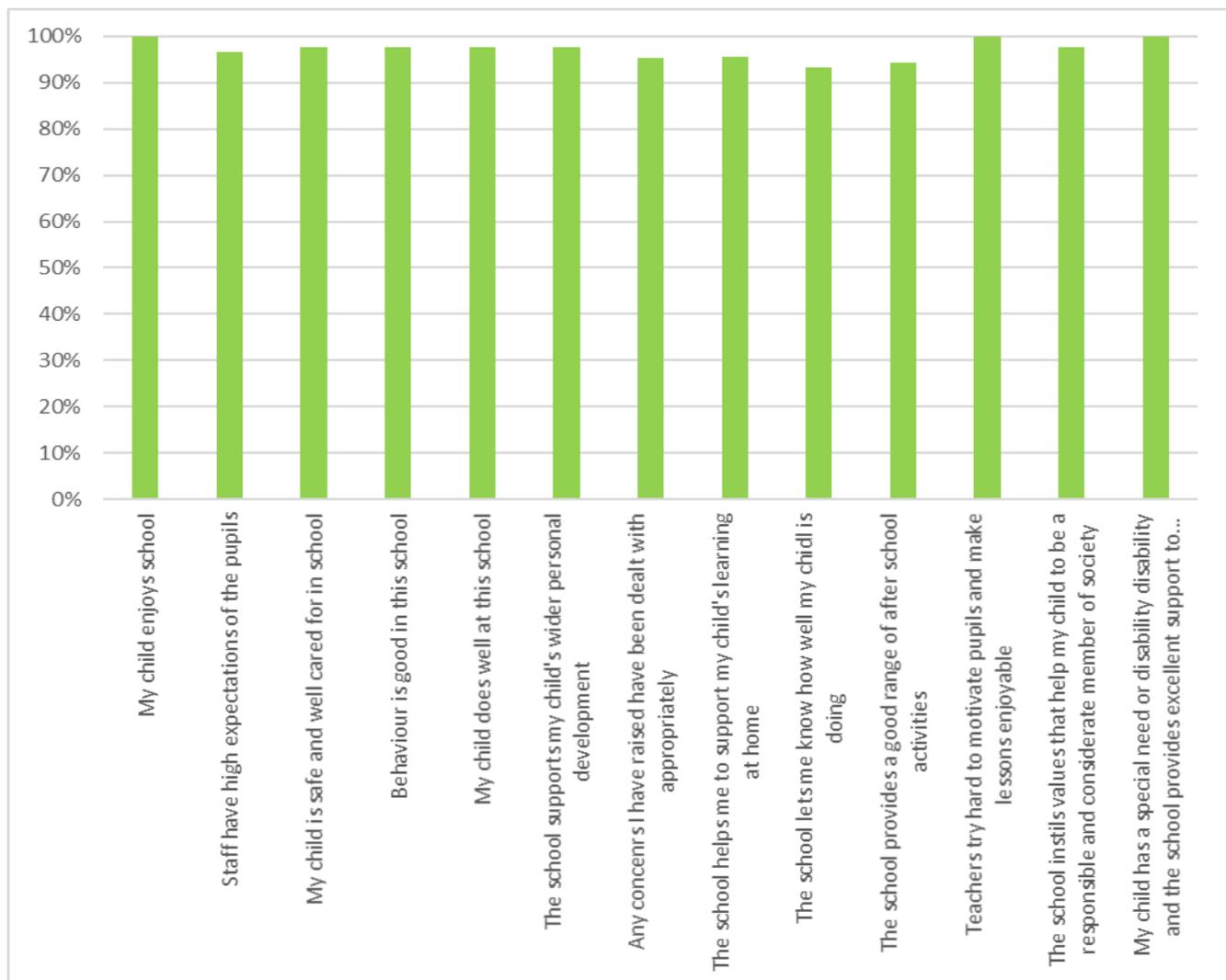


22nd October 2021

Dear Parents

Thank you for taking the time and trouble to complete the questionnaires we sent home prior to the half term break. We had 89 returns. The information will inform our future development of the school. We are delighted with the overwhelmingly positive response we received and the excellent commendations included in the additional comments section. It is pleasing to know that parents share the pride we have in our school and appreciate the work of the school staff. A full breakdown of the results is available on the school website.

PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE OCTOBER 2021 – PERCENTAGE OF POSITIVE RESPONSES



As you can see from the chart above, the vast majority of parents are extremely happy with all counts of school life and this is wonderful news. We do understand, however, that there is always room for improvement and comments about areas for development help us to make adjustments and improvements to

the provision we offer. As the questionnaire was anonymous, we have not always been able to approach individuals for further information but we have made general enquiries amongst parents wherever a return has raised questions or concerns. This has been very incredibly helpful so thank you to those parents too.

WHAT HAS THE QUESTIONNAIRE TOLD US AND WHAT HAVE WE DONE ABOUT IT?

Three parents felt that teachers do not have high enough expectations of pupils and six parents said that the school didn't let them know how well their child is doing. This did concern us, as we pride ourselves on our high standards and our communication with parents. One parent had included additional information; "I would welcome more teacher parent feedback but recognise this was impacted last year through the pandemic". This may well be the case for the other "disagree" responses. During the past eighteen months or so, we have been reluctant to push pupils academic achievement too much as we are concerned about the impact that the pandemic has had on children's mental health and well-being and have concentrated our efforts on getting every child back on track rather than pushing for any accelerated progress. Under normal conditions, parents receive updates on their child's attainment every half term. This equates to three parents evenings per year and three written reports per year (Christmas, Easter and Summer). Parents of children with special needs have additional meetings. If ever you are concerned about your child's progress between these reports or meetings, we are always happy to provide information on an individual basis, either face to face or over the phone. Hopefully, as the year progresses and things begin to return to normal improvements will be seen in this area.

Five parents feel that we could offer a wider range of extra-curricular activities with some pointing out that the activities on offer are all chargeable. We have taken this feedback on board and have included some free of charge activities this term. One parent asked for some before school activities and we have included tennis and basketball to take place before school to judge the popularity of this option. We do also have some lunchtime options available for those who have other commitments after school.

Four parents felt that the school does not do enough to support their child's learning at home. From discussion with parents and from feedback we received during home learning, we organised some parent maths sessions to help parents to support their child's maths homework. We also held a phonics session. These were held on Zoom and were very well attended with positive feedback. We aim to implement sessions for other subjects later in the year.

Sixty-one parents are happy with the outcome of a concern they had raised, 37 of them strongly so. We are pleased to see that parents feel able to approach the school with a concern and continue to urge anyone with any queries or concerns to get in touch. We will always do our very best to ensure your child has a very positive and happy primary school experience.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Comments included in the additional comments section were overwhelmingly positive (and very much appreciated!):

- We find this to be a wonderful school in all ways. We have never had any problems at all but if we did we know it would be dealt with. [Our daughter] is very happy at school and really enjoys her time there.
- Fantastic school, well run, caring and nurturing. Couldn't ask for a better school for my child.
- I think the help and support you offered our daughter has been wonderful, she is gaining confidence and really enjoys the extra things the school offers such as the fire department coming or a visit from the jolly postman
- We are extremely happy with school. Our children are happy and the staff are all fantastic. Thank you.
- Brilliant. Couldn't be happier
- The children are so happy at Barton St Lawrence. All the children get along together throughout the year groups. I feel this is a reflection on the caring, nurturing, inclusive leadership that runs throughout the school environment.
- My child is happy at school and feels valued. The staff are always friendly and approachable.
- We are happy with how welcome everyone makes us feel at the school.
- Love the school, friendly, welcoming and supportive.
- The school offers a lovely school community, with brilliant teachers and excellent leadership and support staff.

Responses about the way the school handled the pandemic were also positive:

- Excellent support and daily structure.
- The school handled the pandemic very well. I spoke to a lot of friends and family who were complaining that they were not receiving any work or communication from their school regarding home schooling. It was excellent having the two zoom lessons a day and the home challenges.
- Drop off and pick up is good as not exceptionally busy.
- The school has handled the pandemic in a thorough and well thought out way that has ensured the children 's health and safety has always been top priority
- The school has dealt with the pandemic exceptionally and the teachers and staff should all be very proud . It will take a while for the children to get used to their now expected maturity and academic levels as obviously missed some important growing time but I'm sure they will handle that well
- Very well organised with PPE, bubbles, cleaning etc. All risk assessments in place and updated regularly.
- Wonderful the lockdown school was well organised, the children were well cared for and a positive attitude was kept throughout. It was nice not having to worry whilst working that she was ok
- School has handled and delivered lessons very well , couldn't be more proud and content with my child being at this school.
- Handled exceptionally well
- Brilliant! Couldn't have asked for more! The school reacted well with a quick response to the provision of zoom lessons.
- Amazingly well - the support to home learning was fantastic. Teachers are always approachable
- We were very happy with the schoolwork sent home during the pandemic and also the pragmatic approach of the teachers to allow for as much or as little involvement on zoom as needed - which was appreciated when trying to balance other children and work.
The recent maths zoom was very useful and we'd be keen to know if we could support more with home learning - even if just through a brief summary of topics covered each week etc so we could corroborate learning as needed
- Excellent!
- I have no concerns with the way the school have handled the pandemic, my children and myself included have always been made to feel safe and reassured. Thank you all, I have high regard for all the teachers and helpers at Barton St Lawrence and my children are extremely happy there
- Fantastic. My child even had one to one zoom lessons for his IEP.
- We were happy with the way school handled pandemic. Clear to see Covid measures in place. We were happy with the home learning arrangements, and felt that there was a lot of work and planning that had gone into this to ensure that the children were still receiving a good level of learning.
- The school were amazing with our key worker children from day 1. They offered reassurance that our children would be well cared for whilst continuing to offer education. We have nothing but praise and appreciation for the teachers who guided key worker children through the early days. I think the school should be proud of the way they handled everything especially the senior management who as always were fantastic. Thank you.
- I've been impressed with how school have handled the pandemic. Sensible and safe but also pragmatic.
- I feel that school handled the pandemic extremely well. Communication was excellent and the amount of work set was suitable to keep my child engaged in learning. The tasks set were varied and interactive and the whole class zooms were a welcomed part of the day for wellbeing. I was impressed with the decisions and precautions taken in order to keep the children safe.
- The school has handled the pandemic in a professional and calm manner. Continuity of the children's education was of paramount importance and lessons, whether online or in school, were delivered to the usual high standards.
- I was very proud of the way the school handled zoom lessons etc compared to what was happening in other schools. This school always goes above and beyond. They are amazing!!
- School has done an amazing job throughout the pandemic. We've been able to contact various teachers and have always had a great response back. Everyone at school has worked so hard to

keep the children going and motivated

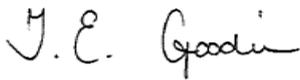
- We have felt very safe and comfortable being back at school. Clear information from Mrs Goodwin, good support with home learning- Mr McKnight was amazing. Good structures in place for school return, also loved the different format of end of year reports. Have felt very lucky to be at such a great school, particularly after hearing from friends whose children are at other schools and haven't had such a positive experience.
- We found this to be handled fantastically, zoom classes, purple mash, the understanding that attendance on the zoom classes wasn't mandatory and if work couldn't be done it was ok, there was plenty to do so we could keep [our daughter] occupied and keep her learning going but also no pressure to deliver on everything.

BULLYING

Clearly the best outcome from the questionnaire would have been that there were no issues whatsoever; however, we would be very naïve to think that there is never any bullying when 189 children come together, hence the reason why we do so much anti-bullying work in school. That said, we do think that instances of bullying are rare at St Lawrence's and this has (thankfully!) been reflected in the questionnaire. Ten parents reported that their child had been a victim of bullying during their time in this school. Nine of them said that they are completely happy with the way the school had handled the situation and it was resolved quickly.

As always, if you have any questions, my door is always open, please do come and see me.

Yours sincerely



Julie Goodwin

Learning **TOGETHER**, *Rooted in* **GOD**. John 15:5

