

Parent Survey July 2017

76 responses- 54% families 1 response = 1.3% All scores may not add up to 100% due to rounding	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know
My child enjoys school	76%	21%	1.3%	1.3%	-
My child feels safe at school	78%	20%	2%	-	-
My child makes good progress at this school	42%	49%	4%	-	4%
My child is well looked after at this school	73%	25%	1.3%	-	1.3%
My child is taught well at this school	47%	47%	4%	-	2.6%
My child receives appropriate homework for their age	29%	55%	10%	2.6%	2.6%
The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved	69%	23%	5%	1.3%	1.3%
The school deals effectively with bullying	32%	25%	10%	1.3%	12%*
The school is well led and managed	47%	48%	1.3%	-	4%
The school responds well to any concerns I raise	32%	55%	4%	-	- **
I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress	24%	55%	20%	1.3%	-
Would you recommend this school to another parent?	54%	38%	-	1.3%	7%

*A further 20% felt they couldn't comment as they had never had a bullying issue to deal with.

** A further 8% had never had to raise a concern so couldn't comment.

A large majority of the "Don't know" answers came from parents with their first child in Year R and they felt that they did not know the school well enough yet to be able to answer.

The percentages of Strongly Agree and Agree indicate that a very large majority of parents are very happy with the school.

Very many positive comments added to the sheets include;

- My child's confidence has grown since starting at St Mary's and she is always happy to go to school.
- The teachers at St Mary's are fantastic and very approachable.
- I am incredibly happy with the level of communication and support that both my child and I receive from the school.
- Any issues are dealt with in a very prompt and considered manner
- Both our girls are thriving at St Marys. They are always positive and happy with the way their teachers and other staff interact with them.
- We couldn't ask for a better place for our children.
- Thank you. We are very privileged to be able to send our children to such a wonderful school.
- We couldn't ask for any more. Fantastic school, fantastic teachers. Thank you all so much.
- The Christian values of the school pervade the school and offer a richness that appears fundamental to the excellent learning environment created.
- We are really glad that we chose St Mary's for our daughter; as with any organisation there are always things we might wish to change.
- The school has a very warm welcoming and inclusive culture and empowering environment.
- The school has gone above and beyond its duty of care.... Plus many more.

More general concerns raised by a few parents which need to be addressed are:

- Behaviour- why is poor behaviour rewarded?
A strategy for dealing with specific special needs children is to reward them for being well behaved when they normally find it difficult to do so and it is difficult to respond further to this comment without breaking confidentiality, good behaviour and not poor behaviour is expected and rewarded under normal circumstances.
- Bullying and other concerns- 10% of parents feel that issues are not passed on to the appropriate person and not enough feedback is given to them on what steps have been taken:
This obviously needs to be remedied with specific time scales given and agreed for feedback.
- Homework- this is always an issue as some parents feel there is too much and others not enough, issues regarding consistency in the amount of homework and how regularly it is set, marking and return of homework and the grids given in Upper KS2. KS1 parents are split evenly between too much and not enough and KS2 parents feel that more able children need homework that stretches them more. Some feel there should be stronger consequences for not doing homework:
Unfortunately we are not allowed to give after school detentions but we do have 'Homework Club' on Tuesday lunch times when children are expected to complete homework. The homework policy is reviewed every September so these issues will be looked at then.
- Progress and Communication- parents want more information regarding how their children compare to national standards, some have asked for half termly reports, more information about how to help at home, not enough time at consultation evenings:
End of year reports will have informed you of exactly where your child is in relation to national expectations and expected progress, unfortunately time is limited during consultation evenings and half termly report writing would place too heavy a burden on teachers' already extensive workloads. Reporting to parents is something we do survey every few years and the results from the last survey (2014) were that parents did not want to change the current system but the report format was changed. This will be reviewed again in the near future.
- Reading book bands are confusing and too wide especially for the lower bands:
This is something that does need to be reviewed as we also recognise that the lower bands are too wide. This review will take place this week.
- Preparation for sports events eg District Sports- some parents feel that our children are not as well prepared as some other schools who spend a lot of extra time training for this event:
We always do extra preparation for Cross Country but time is always of a premium and it is not always possible to do a lot of extra training for other events- District Sports selection this year was not as timely as it should have been and we will ensure that it will be timetabled better next year.
- Selection for teams and other events:
This is never going to please everybody as we can't select everyone and inevitably someone will be disappointed whether selection is by teacher or drawing names out of a hat/lolly sticks.
- Staff not being in class every day:
*All teachers have 10% of their teaching time as PPA time (Planning Preparation and Assessment) so will be missing 1 day per fortnight.
Other times teachers may be out of class for training purposes- eg Year 2 and Year 6 teachers have to attend LA assessment and moderation briefings and all teachers attend locality moderation events
Sometimes teachers are on courses which they attend and then cascade that training to the rest of the staff for the benefit of all children eg Mr Tombling has been undertaking some very specific RE training, Miss Fandrejewski Maths, Miss Mardle Writing and Computing and Mrs Barnes- Austin Forest School and First Aid.
All absences are covered by qualified teachers or HLTAs and the work is planned by the class teacher.*