



St Francis Xavier Catholic Primary School

Parent's Survey 2017 -18

Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete a survey at parent's evening. In total 105 parents responded which represents an excellent number of responses. We really appreciate both your ongoing support, commendations and suggestions for improvement and we will endeavour to make changes wherever possible to ensure that we can continue to work closely in partnership to provide the best possible education and school experience for you and your child(ren).

This feedback will provide you with a summary of what parents said about our school and our response to comments made. *Please note: all feedback is greatly valued and we discuss and consider every suggestion made by parents.*

Survey Results:

1. 100% agreed that children are happy at this school.
2. 100% agreed that children feel safe at this school.
3. 99% agreed that children make good progress at this school.
4. 100% agreed that their children are well looked after at this school.
5. 99% agree that children are taught well at St Francis.
6. 97% agree that children receive appropriate homework for their age.
7. 100% agree that the school ensures pupils are well behaved.
8. 100% agree the school deals with bullying effectively.
9. 100% agree the school is well led and managed.
10. 100% agree that the school responds well to any concerns raised.
11. 99% agree parents receive valuable information from the school about children's progress.
12. 99% would recommend this school to other parents.

School's Response:

The staff at St Francis Xavier work extremely hard to help the children make as much progress as possible and aid the children in reaching their God given potential. We are delighted that the response from parents is overwhelmingly positive. The lovely comments received by teachers and staff around the school are always great to hear. Thank you.

Updates on your child's progress are formally given during parent consultation evenings (during autumn and spring terms) and through end of year reports (towards the end of the summer term). If, for any reason, you would like an update on your child's progress or want ideas about how to further challenge your child at home, staff are always available for a short meeting throughout the year at the end of a day. Simply contact the school office and arrange a meeting with a member of staff after school, we would happily guide you through how your child is getting on at school and offer advice.

Opinions to appropriate homework set:

School's Response:

There are always differing opinions from parents to the question of homework: the amount which is set and the difficulty of each task. Some parents have told us that homework is far too tough for their children and there is far too much set; others have the opinion that the homework set is not enough and the children should be completing more each week. Many feel that the homework set is in line with what their children need and the amount given is good.

Our aim at St Francis Xavier is to provide homework for the children that will support and challenge children and also help consolidate what they have learnt or provide help in what they will be learning about in the coming weeks. We also try to bear in mind the amount of work children do during the day and try to make sure we are not overloading the children with homework every day. We expect homework activities to take the children around 30 minutes to complete each week. We ask that at home, with parents, children are aided in learning new spellings and times-tables each day and also children are reading books at home. Home reading books are sent home for each child but the children are not limited to these books – any reading of books at home is greatly encouraged.

Can I also take this opportunity to remind parents requesting more homework that the school has invested in online software with this in mind. We have links on the school website to Mathletics, Oxford Owl and Skoolbo – logins have been given to every pupil – please ask a member of staff if you cannot find your child's. These sites are excellent for English and Maths and provide an opportunity for the children to further their understanding at home and challenge their knowledge.

What the School does well:

Your feedback included:

- I am very happy with the school, teachers and support staff who work really hard to make sure our children make good progress and achieve their best.
- The school is excellent for encouraging good morals and hard work
- Encourages the children to work at their own ability
- I think the school is looking after pupils very well, ensures that behaviour is at a high level
- Communication with parents and finding solutions for concerning problems
- Mathletics, Skoolbo and the texting of the parents. Keeping us up-to-date and regular invites to different things
- Encourages equality
- Religious events
- Involving parents
- Assemblies and productions
- Supports and develops the catholic ethos
- Communicates effectively and provides a high standard of education
- Lovely support / family support

- Teaches pupils to be respectful and to respect others. Aim to teach pupils to reach their best / targets work with parents
- The teaching level in this school is brilliant – both the teaching in education and spiritually is outstanding
- Makes the child feel that they are part of a school family

School's Response:

We have provided a small selection of the positive comments parents have made to give a flavour of what you feel that the school does well. On behalf of all the staff we thank you for the kind words and with your help will continue to improve all that we do for all of our children.

Family support / Learning / Provision you would like to see us develop at the school

You said:

- More musical instruments and sports activities
- More after school clubs – specific to Maths and English
- Breakfast Club
- Spanish instead of French

School's Response to some of the comments above:

We do provide a range of music opportunities for the children across the school, free of charge. All children have free music lessons (including all of Y3 learning the ukulele, all of Y4 learning the guitar, a number of children in KS2 learning to play the violin.) These are provided at a large cost to the school and with current financial pressures on schools it is hard to maintain the range of opportunities we provide in school.

Our choice of a foreign language to teach was made in consultation with the secondary schools that we feed into to ensure that children have continuity in what they are learning. It was agreed that French would be of the most benefit as it linked to the provision that most of our children would receive when starting secondary school.

We continue to provide a range of free afterschool clubs that are available for all children. Following parental requests for more variety of sports clubs we now offer one KS1 and one KS2 sports club run by external coaches that we have to charge parents for. Our homework club also runs each week for KS2 children. We will however endeavor to provide a wider range of clubs for children and will take your feedback on board when organizing this.

- If there are any other clubs that you would like to see us run or feel that you could help us to run then please come and talk to us to see if there is anything we can do to facilitate it happening.

We do already offer breakfast club provision (and afterschool care!) for all pupils through SinglePoint. Children can be dropped there in the morning and they are brought to school by the SinglePoint staff in time for the start of the school day. For more information please speak with the office staff at St Francis Xavier or pop in to SinglePoint.

What the school could do better:

Your feedback included:

- *Offer parents the chance to do workshops to offer child further support.*
- *Learning Log given to make parents aware of weak areas of their child's understanding*
- *Provide holiday dates earlier*
- *Teacher training days to be put into school holiday period*

School's Response to some of the comments above:

Every term you are invited into school to take part in a parent workshop with your child in class. To date we have tended to focus on more creative workshops. Moving forwards we will plan for some of the workshops to focus on other curriculum areas including Maths and English.

- We will also try to arrange more workshops for parents to help you to help your child in key areas of learning such as written mathematical methods and reading strategies.

Holiday dates are provided on our school website for the current year and the following academic year as soon as they can be agreed. We do understand that some parents book holidays well in advance and will endeavour to have future term dates available for you at the start of each school year.

All children must attend school for 190 days a year and all teachers must be in school for 195 days a year. The 5 teacher training days held are therefore in addition to the 190 days that children are being taught in school and are planned in to meet the needs of the school alongside the availability of any training required. We always try and put teacher training days at the start or ends of holidays so that parents are not having to have lots of individual days off work. It also enables you to have longer holidays (and sometimes secure slightly cheaper rates for travel as well!)

Our actions in response to this survey:

- Hold a parent information session on how to use our online home-learning software (Mathletics, Skoolbo, Spellodrome.)
- Ensure we vary the afterschool clubs on offer to children each term to provide more variety.
- Provide term dates at least a year in advance
- Ensure parent and child workshops are focused on a range of curriculum subjects including Maths and English.
- Hold more parent workshops to help you help your child in key areas of their learning.
- *We will meet 1-1 with any parents raising issues specific to their own child so that we can discuss any concerns and address them.*

Yours faithfully,

D Simmons
Deputy Head Teacher

A Dickinson
Head Teacher