**2019 Annual Parent/Carer Survey – Results**

A big thank you to all of you that took the time to fill in this year’s annual survey. There were **70** respondents this year compared with 73 last year, 65 in 2017 and 97 in 2016. It has been really valuable and interesting reading your responses and comments; thank you for all the lovely things you said about the school and specific members of staff.

We asked for comments about the strengths of the school, what you would like to see changed and for any other comments. Again, thank you for taking the time to respond to this section; it really informs us about how you perceive the school and gives you a direct chance to express your opinion.

Please find below some of the comments made (a few have been shortened and, if repeated by more than one respondent, only included once). The comments all have the school’s initial response as a direct way to answer/reply.

If your comment has not been included or you wish to have a more in depth response, please contact the school directly to arrange a face-to-face meeting with myself or email me at:

ryan.brown@hanslope.milton-keynes.sch.uk

Here are the percentages from the Parent/Carer Survey conducted this year. Please note that the figures have been rounded to the nearest percent for ease of reading.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | Strongly Agree | Agree | Disagree | Strongly Disagree | Don’t Know/Not Applicable |
|  | **Behaviour and Welfare** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Q1 | My child enjoys coming to school | 60% | 36% | 4%(3 responses)  |  |  |
| Q2 | My child is safe and is well looked after at school | 66% | 34% |  |  |  |
| Q3 | I feel able to, and know who to approach, if I have any concerns about the safety and welfare of my child or of another child | 67% | 30% | 1%(1 response) |  | 1%(1 response) |
| Q4 | The school has high expectations of behaviour | 64% | 36% |  |  |  |
|  | **Leadership and Management** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Q5 | The school is well managed and led | 64% | 32% |  | 1%(1 response) | 1%(1 response) |
| Q6 | Does the Governing Body fulfil its role? | 50% | 32% |  |  | 17%(12 responses) |
|  | **Teaching and Learning** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Q7 | My child is making good progress over time | 58% | 39% | 3%(2 responses) |  |  |
| Q8 | The school takes account of my child’s individual needs (specific learning or medical) | 64% | 29% | 3%(2 responses) |  | 6%(4 responses) |
| Q9 | The school offers a good range of extra-curricular activities (this includes residential trips) | 70% | 22% | 7%(5 responses) |  | 1%(1 response) |
|  | **Communication** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Q10 | The school keeps me informed about the work my child is doing in class | 52% | 37% | 10%(7 responses) | 1%(1 response) |  |
| Q11 | I receive valuable information about my child's progress at the school | 53% | 36% | 10%(7 responses) | 1%(1 response) | 1%(1 response) |
| Q12 | The school helps me to support my child's learning | 53% | 41% | 6%(4 responses) |  |  |
| Q13 | I am kept up to date with current and future events, and news (for example; via the website and the newsletter) | 53% | 44% | 3%(2 responses) |  |  |
| Q14 | The school welcomes parental involvement | 53% | 37% | 7%(5 responses) | 1%(1 response) | 1%(1 response) |
| Q15 | Overall I am happy with my child’s experience at Hanslope school | 66% | 31% | 3%(2 responses) |  |  |
| Q16 | I would recommend Hanslope school to others | 67% | 30% | 3%(2 responses) |  |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Strengths of The School – You Said This………** | **Initial School Response Is This …………..** |
| **Good teachers and good teacher/parent relationships** | Thanks. I am pleased to hear this. |
| **Celebrating children’s individual backgrounds and achievements** | We really feel this is important. |
| **An approachable/present head teacher** | Thank you. |
| **Lovely and professional teaching staff** | Thank you. |
| **Identifying weaknesses in learning and taking steps to resolve these with children** | This is really pleasing to hear. |
| **Access to lots of sports and competitions which is impressive considering the size of the school.** | Thank you. |
| **Some of the teachers are absolutely fantastic.** | Thank you. |
| **Bad behaviour is dealt with quickly.** | We feel this is important and where possible act calmly and swiftly. |
| **The school is well managed and led, all the staff are excellent in all aspects.** | Thank you. |
| **A wonderful range of extra-curricular activities.** | Thank you. Our staff put a lot of effort into extra- curricular activities/trips. Teachers are only paid to the end of the school day, 3:15pm, so any additional club is purely voluntary. |
| **Friendly atmosphere and excellent staff who are easy to approach.** | Thank you. |
| **Close to the local community, excellent approach to pastoral care, well considered allocation of funds despite budgetary constraints.** | This is always so very difficult to get right. |
| **Truly dedicated leadership by the head who knows and treats each child as a valued individual.** | Thank you. |
| **Making children settle in well and having a sound knowledge of my child’s developing areas.** | This is pleasing to hear and so important. |
| **We feel the teachers are very caring and always look after the kids. All the staff are very friendly and all the events have been very well organised.** | Thank you. |
| **Routine, role play and boundaries.** | Thank you. |
| **Overall, the school has a very positive atmosphere towards learning with happy pupils.** | Thank you. |
| **High standard of teaching, good expectations and consistent in managing behaviour.** | We try our best. |
| **Small and friendly** | Thank you. |
| **Great communication, high expectations and caring towards children’s individual needs.** | Thank you. |
| **The integration of allowing all years to mix in a safe and secure environment.** | We all feel this is something we enjoy about working in our school too. |
| **A community feel, lots of events, good resources. It is easy to communicate with teachers as they are available on the playground every morning.** | Thank you. |
| **Approachable office staff that are willing to help with any situation that arise.** | Thank you. |
| **Exciting curriculum** | Thank you. |
| **Leadership** | Thank you. |
| **A good moral attitude, pupils learn the importance of manners, teamwork and mindfulness.** | Thank you. |
| **All the teachers work together.** | Thank you. |
| **Passionate staff** | Thank you. |
| **Teachers encourage the children.** | Thank you. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **What you would like to see changed – You Said This………** | **Initial School Response Is This …………..** |
| **More art (club or lessons)** | I totally agree. We try and have some form of Art Club in the year and art is a lesson that often comes through our topic work or is taught discretely as a separate subject.  |
| **Nothing** | Thank you. |
| **The way sporting activities are organised, more inclusion in sport and not selective.** | Our clubs are run on the basis that anyone within the year group can attend if there is space. The only time we select groups of children as a team is when we have entered a competition against other schools where they will also be fielding their best competitive team.  |
| **Behaviour management- teaching children of all ages to respect each other rather than separating year groups during playtime when conflict arises e.g. football.** | As much as possible we allow our children to mix during lunchtimes. We have been particularly lucky this year as we have had so many dry days and have been able to go on the school field for a long period of time. Due to space and safety, we do use the different KS playgrounds in wet/colder weather.Football takes up a huge amount of space both on the field and playground. It also requires an adult referee and this is not feasible during lunchtimes. The majority of the time when football is played in year groups, we get very little trouble and have very little falling out. Inter year group games have occasionally resulted in more complicated issues and have needed considerable time to sort, this has often resulted in unnecessary time being taken from the afternoon curriculum. |
| **Sporting clubs should not be charged for especially with the Year of Sports next year. Children should be encouraged to participate in sports and not disadvantaged because they can’t always afford them.** | This year we had to ask Premier Sports to run sporting clubs for us and we had to ask parents to pay the amount we are charged for buying in a specialist provider. Similarly, when Mr Broughton is back next year, his clubs will also be at a charge of £3 per session.Any parent/career has the opportunity for their child’s club to be paid for them if they are eligible for free school meals. Also anyone who isn’t eligible for free school meals but is finding paying for clubs a problem should contact myself for assistance. |
| **Residential trips in the UK.** | The feedback from both of the trips to France has been overwhelmingly positive. I agree the cost of going abroad is difficult but as much as possible we try and keep the cost down. As above, anybody whose child is eligible for free school meals or facing difficulties can contact me to discuss payment. |
| **Improved communications to parents. Communication can sometimes be confusing.** | We have had a couple of moments lately where we have had trouble with parent mailing out unedited versions of the newsletter. In all fairness, Mrs Loveday use to do all the parent mails and now other members of staff have had to learn how to do so quite quickly. |
| **The expectation that parents should contribute financially so often i.e. sponsored run, raffle tickets, buy/make cakes then buy all again in one day.** | I’m sorry that you feel this way. We do try and spread any request for money across the term. We do like to provide as many inclusive opportunities for the children and their families and these do cost money, for example, Breakfast with a Book requires money to pay for the breakfast. There is never an expectation from school or staff for parents to buy raffle tickets, cakes etc., this is purely an individual choice. |
| **Increased visibility of the activities and contribution of the governors.** | This is something we will discuss as a Governing Body. Our governors are volunteers and put lots of effort and enthusiasm into school life. There is always a governor present at the disco, parental assemblies, after school curriculum workshops, sports day etc. I think perhaps we need to get better as voicing this to parents to show how lucky we are that our governors are so involved and passionate about our school. |
| **Teachers escorting KS2 children to parents after school.** | I think this a great idea and should be happening at the moment. This is something I can check on. |
| **More updates on progress, two parents’ evenings a year for 10 minutes isn’t enough. Maybe a report every quarter.** | Knowing your child’s progress is incredibly important. As a parent myself, I know how valuable it is. I have said before and wish to make it very clear again, all of the teachers have emails that you are encouraged to use. This is an ideal way of asking a question about your child, including about their progress.Increased reporting is very difficult as our teachers already work incredibly hard and because of the workload of being a teacher, most find it difficult to find a home/life balance. Equally each child is an individual and so each parent will probably want to know a different thing about their child at any given point.Emailing and asking immediately overcomes this problem and can result in swift contact. |
| **Would like to see awareness of good work, recognition and house point detail.** | Next year we will be re-establishing examples of great work being on display in the main hall for children and parents to see. Great examples of work are shared in assembly. So many house points are awarded each day that it would be almost impossible for each teacher to write down the reason. I suggest asking your child and if they are uncertain, getting in contact with your child’s teacher. |
| **More insight into my child’s learning and development.** | As mentioned above, please email, arrange to meet or write to your child’s teacher to ask them what you specifically wish to know. Teachers are also avaible every morning to speak to, either on the playground (KS2) or at the class doors (KS1).Our teachers and friendly and approachable and are more than happy to talk to you. |
| **A shelter for children/parents on rainy days.** | Unfortunately, this would be lovely but is impossible out of our limited school budget to provide. However, with the possibility of the school growing in the future, this is something I will definitely keep in mind. |
| **More science lessons** | We are refocussing on all the subjects that are required to be taught through the national curriculum and further developing a skills based curriculum. Hopefully you will see more science being taught that builds upon previous skills. |
| **More help/information regarding starting school and how parents can support their child’s learning at home.** | We do hold a new parents’ meeting and offer information and help. Again, it is stressed in this meeting that any individual needs/advice that is required simply needs to be asked of the EYFS Team, they are fantastic and willing to help in any matter. |
| **More sessions in the evenings, from 6:30pm, on how parents can support children.** | We do try and extend meeting times up till 6pm. Beyond this time it gets very late for children to be up and at school rather than having down time with their families and, indeed getting ready for bed.Equally, our teachers are generally in school by 8am, many of them by 7:30am. Extending meeting times beyond 6:30pm means teachers working extremely long days. We are very lucky to have a dedicated staff team and have very little staff turnover.  |
| **List of ingredients of school meals so parents can see if their child will eat the meal.** | I think this is a good idea and will ask the school office to request this from the school meal provider. |
| **More field trips to support learning.** | We continue to do this as much as possible. We all know and field trip is a great way to fire imagination, consolidate learning or approach the curriculum in a hands on manner. The down side of such trips is usually the cost of the coaches needed to get and return from anywhere. |
| **More communication on what children are learning.** | We will look into this and discuss it with our SLT.  |
| **Increased number of male teaching/support staff.** | When we advertise for teachers/teaching assistants applications are welcome an encouraged from everybody. |
| **More responsibilities for the older children.** | This is something I will discuss with the SLT. |
| **A store for bikes/scooters** | Again, I would like one of these too but I am afraid it comes down to a budgetary constraint.  |
| **A social event for feeder school parents to meet Hanslope parents.** | This is a good suggestion. This year we invited of existing y2 parents and y2 parents from our feeder schools to come and meet/watch of y3/4 teaching team. This was great opportunity to meet other parents and will be repeated next year. |
| **School office slow to respond to removal of my details as a primary contact.** | I can only apologise for this. Our office staff are fantastic and are worth their weight in gold. However, in a busy school with sometimes complicated electronic systems, things are not always recognised immediately. |
| **More use of IT** | This is something we are striving for. |
| **More focus on the children’s weaknesses and address them in depth.** | As a school we are good at this and 93% of survey replies agreed or strongly agreed. We can never claim to be perfect as all children are individuals with individual needs. The best thing is to contact your child’s class teacher or Mrs Edwards, our SENCo immediately if you have any concerns. |
| **The format of sports day to be changed so children are involved with more activities and less races.** | This is a difficult issue. The overwhelming response from our sports day was positive. There is a need to balance competition with more activities and unfortunately any format doesn’t fit a whole school. Our sports day is run in a way that parents have praised and supported for around the last 6 years. Any round robin event is unpopular with our older children as it lacks competition and parents with multiple children find it hard to support all their children. |
| **More regular communication - newsletters** | I send out at least one newsletter a term, often there are two. Depending on the need and the length of the term, the time between them may vary. All the information shared is put on the website too either as separate items our within access to the newsletter. |
| **More after school clubs for younger children** | We tried to have more clubs for the younger children this year. Unfortunately, these were not attended in high numbers. We will keep trying. |
| **Improvements to outdoor play facilities, particularly the KS2 playground which has been taped off for a while.** | Again, this is down to a limited allocated budget.  |
| **More inclusion of parents in assemblies and opportunities to help.** | This is something we will hopefully be changing. The children have requested the “Golden Book” back again, this will mean parents of the selected children being invited into our Friday afternoon assembly.We are always pleased of any help in school. Please contact your child’s class teacher if you wish to offer help. |
| **My child has not wanted to come to school this year, which I believe has partially been a response to negative teaching methods used this year. I have not been able to discuss this with the teaching staff or management team for the fear of making the situation in school worse for my child.** | I am sorry that you feel this way. You have indicated that your child is in a y6 class and we did indeed get a small group of parents writing to us questioning why we expected children in y6 to remember to use capital letters in their writing. As stated to the parents at the time, this is a requirement of children in y2 and something that children should be checking their own work for in KS2. Mrs Knight and Miss Smith implement a system where if children missed three capital letters, they were asked to stay in for 5 minutes of their break time to check their own work. This is something that Mrs Czornyj and Mrs Fox did when they previously taught in y6 and we did not have a problem from parents then, interestingly many of our current y6s had siblings in y6 at this point and it wasn’t a problem! Naturally, each child is taken as an individual and a realistic expectation of them is used. To some extent, this method also goes someway to prepare children for their transition to secondary schools at the end of the year.In regard to not speaking to school about this issue, I would recommend that when a parent feels strongly about something it is imperative that they communicate their feelings for the sake of their child. |
| **I haven’t been able to approach the majority of the teaching staff this year, and have felt unable to approach the senior management team in any circumstance for some time. The office staff have, however, been very approachable this year.** | I’m sorry that you feel this way. We can never get everything right or please everyone. However, I am heartened from the survey response from other parents who have commented on staff approachability and friendliness. |
| **I do not believe the Governing Body fulfils its role. I understand that it is the Governing Body’s job to support and challenge the leaders and teachers at the school and I don’t believe that they are able to do this with the current management team.** | We have a great governing body and the thing that makes them so good is the experience they have and the willingness to challenge for the benefit of all pupils and staff. The minutes of meetings reflect this challenge. |
| **I don’t feel that there has been a sufficient range of after school (or lunchtime) clubs this year.** | With a limited number of teachers, we always find it a challenge to offer a range of free clubs. However, 92 % of parents/careers thought there were a good range of clubs this year. |
| **Some information about the work that the children are expected to complete in class is provided, however this is often not received in a timely manner.** | Information is shared by the second Friday of each term. |
| **I don’t think that extra-curricular clubs should be run at lunchtime as I believe that the children should be given sufficient time to eat lunch.** | As you have already mentioned clubs it is important to emphasise that the range you wish to see needs sufficient time in the school day to happen. A lot of our clubs that run at lunchtime are very popular with our children and offer a different lunchtime experience. Some children find the pastoral care of being in a lunchtime club rewarding. |
| **I only get feedback on my child’s progress at parents’ evenings – none other has been given.** | As mentioned before, many parents email their child’s teacher if more information is needed. This is something that works well and is always encouraged. |
| **Occasional “ad hoc” workshops in Maths/English are offered to parents. No assistance has been offered to help my child learn.** | Our Maths and English leads put a lot of time and thought into the meetings they held. We received super feedback from the events. |
| **I have been made to feel that I and any other parent who disagree with anything the teaching staff or leadership team do are not welcome in school.** | We always stress that everybody is welcome in school and 90% of parents/careers feel that the school welcomes them.  |
| **I would like to see the external entrance door to the reception area unlocked while the office is manned.** | Due to modern safeguarding this would be unwise and dangerous for our children. We need a double door system and with this we are then similar to the vast majority of other schools. As you have already said, the office staff are very welcoming and buzz people in as quickly as possible. |
| **I would like to see the home/School Book used to keep parents informed of their child’s progress.** | I agree that in KS2 we need to get better at having a consistent approach to Home/School Book communication. This is something we have already discussed as a staff. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Any other comments – You Said This………** | **Initial School Response Is This …………..** |
| **Thank you for all your hard work, I am extremely pleased with my child’s progress at Hanslope.** | That’s great hear and thank you. |
| **I would like to see all my children be offered a race in sports day., ideally a race and a field event.** | I agree and we’ll look into this for next year. |
| **Thank you for another fantastic year at Hanslope. We are very happy with the care and education our child receives.** | Thank you. |
| **Thank you for all your hard work and the progress my children make at your school.** | Thank you. |
| **As a family we are very happy with the school and feel very lucky our children attend and are part of a great community.** | Thank you. |
| **My three children came to the school under a different head teacher and the same standards are there, it was and still is a great school.** | That’s lovely to hear, thank you. |
| **Both our children love school which speaks volumes.** | Thank you. |
| **Unless I write in the home/school book I have no idea outside of parent’s evening how my child is getting on.** | As discussed above in a reply to |
| **My child’s confidence has grown in y3, the residential trip was a great success with opportunities for my child to do new activities.** | I am pleased to hear this. |
| **Very pleased with my child’s transition from another school and the progress he has made.** | Thank you. |
| **More events inviting parents into school.** | This year we have had more events than ever but will continue to look for opportunities to invite parents/carers into school. |
| **More lunchtime staff.** | We already have 8 lunchtime staff and a member of SLT or a senior teacher is also on duty at lunchtime. |
| **An assumption that every parent is avaible at 3pm, it would be nice to have something parents could attend at 6:30 pm** | As mentioned above, we sometimes do this but it makes the working day extremely long for teachers, many of whom are parents too. |
| **Regular and consistent homework marking and recognition of my child’s efforts.** | I agree and have noted the class to which you refer. We will monitor this next year. |
| **Each y3/4 class to have a teaching assistant** | Again, this is a result of shrinking budget shares allocated to maintained schools. |
| **Children to be spoken to about kind behaviour to each other.** | We do this regularly in class, in assemblies and generally around school. We will continue to do this. |
| **Thank you for providing the most wonderful care and sound education to my daughter for the last 7 years.** | Thank you. |
| **The teachers go above and beyond and my child has flourished both academically and emotionally due to their commitment.** | Thank you |
| **My son has had his learning challenged and extended well this year.** | I am pleased to hear this. |
| **A quicker response if parents ask for information about their child.** | I agree and would expect a response to happen on the day if it is written in the home School Book or with 24hrs if emailed. |
| **Recycling of cutlery, plates and cups at lunchtimes, it is not cleaned properly and just wiped down.** | All the plates and cutlery are taken away by our meal providers and put through an industrial dishwasher. |

Ryan Fensham-Brown