

PARENT QUESTIONNAIRES

We received **138** responses to our parent questionnaires -
here's some of the things you said ...

1) *What do you and your family like about St. Bede Primary Academy?*

The school is well respected and supportive, with professional, passionate and approachable staff, who cater to each child's individual needs and work well with parents. It has a warm, friendly and welcoming environment which is underpinned by Christian values. Children are encouraged to reach their full potential and staff care for them like they are their own. Lessons are taught in a fun way observing the school values, providing a caring ethos and positive atmosphere, whilst ensuring that discipline and the school rules are observed. The school has good results and likes to involve parents in school life through initiatives such as stay and play sessions, class assemblies, collective worship, craft workshops etc. Different tools are used to teach children with good structure and approachability and the environment is stimulating, with colourful displays.

Other comments: staff are amazing; great school; helpful with English as a second language; location and accessibility; out of school club.

2) *How does the school encourage children to welcome diversity in the community?*

There is a diverse mix of children in the school from all backgrounds and ethnicities, and the ethos of the school is inclusive for all pupils. Children are taught about different faiths and diverse families, to be open and encouraging and to live the school values ... they are treated equally.

Other comments: showcasing different cultural food.

3) *How does the school meet your child's individual needs?*

Teachers get to know children's individual strengths and weaknesses and activities are planned to suit an individual child's needs, with additional help always available if required. Children are challenged and motivated, often working in smaller groups, and are provided with the learning tools that they need. Regular assessments ensure that children are in the correct groups. Teachers are patient with children, encouraging them to progress at their own pace, whilst also pushing them to achieve their full potential such as Gifted & Talented. The school is respectful of children with special education needs and support is always provided.

Other comments: very focussed on learning; teachers are welcoming and easy to talk to; children are encouraged to be kind, compassionate and sincere.

4) *How is your child's progress and attainment reported to you?*

Parent's evenings, which are verbal and happen twice yearly, and end of year written school report. In Early Years there are Learning Journeys and also parents can chat to teachers during stay and play sessions. Reading Records, where comments can be written by both the parent and the teacher; books which are taken home for homework purposes; dojo app; golden phone calls; spellings scoresheet; pictures or pieces of work sent home with comments from the teacher; speaking to the teacher at the end of the day when necessary. Receiving feedback enables parents to get involved in their child's learning and see areas of capability and improvement.

5) *How does homework support your child's progress in school?*

Homework helps to embed what has been learnt in school and helps to increase knowledge. It shows what a child can do, keeps a child's mind active at home and encourages a child to learn independently by taking responsibility out of the school setting to be focussed and build up confidence. Homework also encourages a routine and can allow parents to support learning and provide one-to-one time with their child. Families can also learn too!

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6) How does the school make sure that your child is safe?

Parents feel their child is safe in school. The school gates are all locked promptly at 9:00am each morning, checks take place before a child is released to an adult and a password system is in place for EYFS and KS1 children. Children are taught about e-safety and safeguarding is promoted well around the school.

Teachers are all DBS checked and look after the children well. When incidents/accidents have happened these have been dealt with appropriately, children have been well cared for and parents kept up to date.

7) Which lessons do you feel your child enjoys most and why?

Overall, all lessons are enjoyed in particular: Literacy – enjoys writing and fun tools are used to learn; Art – takes projects home to work on; Phonics - reading and practising sounds; Outdoor learning – fun with messy play and construction; Modern Foreign Languages - being able to speak another language; P.E. – likes to be active; Numeracy – enjoys solving problems and how it is taught; Science – fun to see what happens and why.

8) Who do you approach when you have an issue or concern?

The class teacher is the main person who is approached, also the Head of School or the school office.

9) Which behaviour management strategies/rewards do you feel work well?

Verbal recognition, encouragement and praise works well, as well as rewards such as: stickers, star of the week, teacher for the day, happy bucket, certificates, prize box etc. School-wide initiatives are also welcomed like the positive pennies and dojos. The Red/Green/Yellow traffic light system and peg system works well for monitoring behaviour, and teachers talk to children about good and bad behaviour, how this links to our values and how actions can affect others.

10) How does the school encourage children to lead a healthy lifestyle?

The school provides healthy lunches and snacks and promotes healthy eating and exercise. Healthy eating is taught at an early age, from Nursery, and higher up the school experiments take place with healthy foods. Children have started asking for more healthy options at home. The school introduced 'wake up shake up' which takes place each morning in classes; there is also a 'Walking Bus' each Wednesday morning, afterschool clubs such as netball and football and sports days take place each year. Water only is allowed in school and children are encouraged to drink regularly. They have their own allotment which children help maintain and hygiene is taught and monitored daily.