



Higham St John's C. of E (Controlled) Primary School

Headteacher: Mr G. Hollinghurst

www.highamstjohns.com

Higham Hall Road
Higham
Burnley
Lancashire
BB12 9EU

Tel: 01282 772376

Fax: 01282 680643

E-mail: bursar@higham.lancs.sch.uk

Parental Questionnaire Feedback

March 2017

Back in October we sent out our bi-annual Parental Questionnaire to gauge your views on what our school does well and what we could improve. We received 64 responses in total, which were gratefully received.

Here are the most common written responses from the survey in order of frequency:-

Strengths of the School:- (117 comments made)

1. High quality of staff (24)
2. Positive / Happy learning environment (16)
3. Relationships between Staff and Pupils (11)
4. Range / Quality of extra-curricular activities (9)
5. Approachability of staff (9)
6. Behaviour of children (6)
7. Strong Leadership (6)
8. Inclusive (4)
9. Feel involved (e.g. Twitter/Dropbox) (4)
10. High Expectations (4)

Issues to address:- (42 comments made)

1. Greater amount of feedback (4)
2. One class per year group (3)
3. Shelter for parents outside (2)
4. An additional school report (2)
5. Formal Parents' Evening in Autumn (2)
6. Greater notice of events (2)
7. Behaviour of children (2)

What have we done in response to the above?

Issues 1, 4 & 5 - Greater amount of feedback / Additional written reports / Formal Parents' Evening in Autumn.

We are always looking to improve the quality of the feedback we provide to you so that you can feel fully informed with how your child is progressing and what they need to do to improve. At the moment, we have the two Parents' Evenings and the end of year report. To improve, we will shortly be trialling a termly parents' information session, where you can come and find out more about what will be covered in class and how you can help at home. Should this be useful and well-attended, we hope to make this a more permanent fixture in the school calendar. If there is something more specific you wish to know about, please make an appointment with your child's teacher, via the office. Alternatively, in most instances, a quick chat can be had at the start/end of the school day.

With regard to the autumn term parents' evening, in response to requests, we have made all our infant parents' evenings appointment only. Within Key Stage 2, we have kept the 'drop-in' approach, as in many cases, there is only a quick update required. I would however stress that, for all children, longer appointments can be made for a separate occasion at any time of the year, should you feel it necessary. Please make an appointment via the Office.

Mid-year reports are something that we have considered in the past, but we haven't completed this due to the amount of time it would take up. Typically, a full class set of reports can take a minimum of 20-30 hours to complete and to do this twice a year would result in time being taken away from the children. As with the above suggestions, we actively encourage you to get in touch if you require further information.

Issue 6. Greater notice of events

We launched our online school diary last year and this is updated frequently with the key school dates. Our weekly newsletter also has dates for the term ahead. We will endeavour to provide you with as much notice as possible for future events, although we can't guarantee every date will be known well in advance...sometimes opportunities come along which are relatively last minute!

Issue 7. Behaviour of children

Like all schools, it would be incorrect to say that behaviour is always immaculate. However, we are confident that our behaviour policy is robust enough to deal with issues that arise. Where we have concerns, we will always get in touch with you so that you are kept informed. OfSTED, SIAMs and this same survey all agreed that our children's behaviour is generally excellent. As always, if you have a specific concern, please get in touch with the class teacher in the first instance.

What can't we take action on?

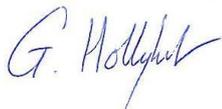
- **2. Keeping year groups together** – Given that we only have five classrooms, there is nothing that can be done in this regard. We do not have the funds to add additional classrooms onto the school.
- **3. Shelter for parents** - Sadly we just haven't the funds for this and placing some form of canopy over part of the playground would affect our outdoor P.E.

Road Issues / Traffic

After nearly four years of trying, we are closer to receiving planning permission for a car park on the field adjacent to school. We have had planning applications rejected previously, but we are confident that our latest submission meets all requirements of the authorities, including the many comments you have submitted in this survey and over the years. Part funding is in place, however this would be our next objective should permission be granted. In the meantime, please help us to keep our children safe by taking care when driving in the village and parking safely.

Thank you once again for your responses, both positive and negative; they really do help us to move the school forward. If you would like to see a copy of the full report, including the numerical analysis, this can be obtained from the office. Can I also remind you that if you have any ideas or suggestions, we have a suggestions box outside the office, or feel free to discuss any ideas with any of our staff.

Yours sincerely



Mr G. Hollinghurst
Headteacher