

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Last term the school conducted a questionnaire to gain parent's views of the school. Thank you to all of those parents that took the time to complete the questionnaire. We had 84 returns. The results have now been analysed to inform our self-evaluation and future School Improvement Plan. Below are the collated responses from all returned forms.

Kelly Dunne
Headteacher

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL QUESTIONNAIRE FOR PARENTS 2018

Number of questionnaires returned			84
Number of questionnaires spoilt			0
SECTION ONE - ETHOS	Agree	Unsure	Disagree
I feel I am welcomed when I come into school.	83	1	0
The school encourages parents to play an active part in the life of the school. (Helping in class, attending acts of worships, school trips and information meetings for parents)	79	4	1
My child enjoys school.	82	2	0
My child feels safe and well cared for at St Joseph's School.	82	1	0
My child is encouraged to show good behaviour in school.	84	0	0
The school's values and attitudes have a positive effect on my child and are in keeping with the Catholic ethos of the school.	69	5	0
The school is well led and managed.	78	4	0

SECTION TWO – HEALTHY SCHOOLS	Agree	Unsure	Disagree
The school lunches are healthy and well balanced.	61	18	1
The school provides good opportunities for physical exercise. (PE, playtime and clubs)	78	5	0
St Joseph's deals effectively with bullying.	55	27	1
My child enjoys playtimes and lunchtimes.	81	2	1
The school offers a good range of after school clubs and activities.	71	9	4
The school environment is clean and welcoming.	78	6	0

SECTION THREE – CURRICULUM	Agree	Unsure	Disagree
I feel that the school has high expectations for my child to work hard and do their best.	82	2	0
My child likes their lessons and finds them challenging.	74	9	1
I am kept well informed about my child's learning.	75	8	1
My child makes good progress at St Joseph's School.	80	2	2
My child receives appropriate homework for their age.	68	11	4
My child has appropriate access to technology, at school, to support and promote their learning.	70	11	1
My child is encouraged to be independent in their learning.	79	5	0
My child is given opportunities to develop their spiritual growth and their faith. E.g. through assemblies, Masses and acts of worship	74	9	1

SECTION FOUR- COMMUNICATIONS	Agree	Unsure	Disagree
I am kept informed about how my child is getting on through consultation evenings, reports, informal teacher conversations.	78	5	0
I receive enough information to know how to support my child's learning at home.	70	11	2
I feel comfortable approaching the staff at school with any questions, concerns or problems.	81	2	0
The regular newsletter keeps me informed about events and school life.	83	0	0
The school takes account of pupil views.	60	23	0
The school asks for my views and takes account of suggestions and concerns.	59	21	3
I find the school website useful and informative.	67	12	4
I understand the roles and responsibilities of the Governing Body.	58	16	8

I like to be kept informed about school life by	Letter	Website	Email	Text	Social Media
	61	37	55	27	19

Would you recommend the school to another parent?	YES	78	NO	1
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St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

What do you like the most about St Joseph's School?

- Small, friendly, welcoming.
- The staff, how they always encourage my child to reach higher.
- How friendly and welcoming everyone at the school is.
- Teachers are nice and school is great.
- Everyone is very welcoming and friendly, my child is very settled and enjoys it here.
- The welcoming feeling and wonderful welcome in the mornings in the playground.
- My child enjoys having a buddy which helps her enjoy school life.
- The small friendly atmosphere and sense of community parents and the children feel when they are in school.
- Parents aren't judged and the children are treated with kindness and respect. My children are happy here.
- I think the school is making huge improvements and is going in the right direction.
- Friendly, competent staff and headteacher.
- Small number of pupils per class.
- Friendly staff.
- The encouragement my child receives in all aspects of her schooling.
- Prayer and Praise is a lovely idea for all to get together.
- Small & welcoming.
- The teachers & TAs are always so friendly; I feel like I can ask anything.
- My children are happy.
- Teachers are approachable
- Learning maths.
- Breakfast and After School Club staff have been fantastic.
- Improvement in the number of trips and activities at the school.
- The improvements in the reception area with regards to child safety.
- Everyone is continuing to make improvements, asking for and welcoming feedback from the parents.
- The quality of teachers and leadership is good.
- The people.
- The general caring nature of the school.
- How approachable and friendly staff are including the head.
- Small school, friendly approachable staff, family feel.
- There is a friendly, caring atmosphere, like a big family.
- The commitment of staff towards our children.
- The school is welcoming; my child feels safe.
- The school teaches respect to other people, no matter how different they are.
- Inclusion of faith
- Very friendly atmosphere.
- The class teachers go above and beyond to help the pupils and to keep parents informed.
- The mutual respect that is fostered between pupil-staff-parents.
- New policies being introduced i.e. the writing policy, accelerated reader programme.
- The overall sense of more purposeful learning and the developing culture of 'love of learning'.
- The talents of each child are recognised, our child feels valued for this.
- That the school is implementing changes and my child is happy going to school each day.
- Good range of activities, learning, support and ethos.
- The small friendly community.
- The good moral ground.
- St Joseph's is a close knit school and my children feel safe and secure here.
- How hard the school is working towards improving.
- Friendly and good environment.
- It's improving.
- Lovely friendly environment and attentive staff.
- Small, friendly atmosphere, good values instilled.
- Lasting friendships.
- Kind, caring learning environment with friendly staff.
- Caring, open and supportive community.

- Newsletters.
- Open assembly on Friday.
- Approachable staff.
- After school club is brilliant.
- It's close to home.
- Welcoming environment, with an excellent set of teachers and staff.
- The school is good and my child feels safe.
- The school teaches respect and good manners.
- Good friendly teachers.
- Teachers always approachable.
- Assemblies.

Are there any improvements that you would like to suggest to make St Joseph's even better?

Learning and Progress

- Better communication around child's progress would be useful.
- Knowing how to support my child's learning at home.
- Better tracking of progress.
- More sessions for parents so we have a greater understanding of how to support our child's learning.

Clubs

- More school clubs.
- More club provision, i.e. Drama.
- The sports clubs have been a great addition, it would be great to see even more activities added, perhaps more creative clubs.
- Make after school clubs more competitive with other schools.
- Children to learn a language in after school clubs.
- Football club for KS1
- Holiday club provision.

Other individual comments

- Encourage the children to wear coats/hats when going outside to play.
- Talk about bullying more, maybe in assembly.
- More PE lessons and team sports in the evening.
- Separate year groups.
- Improvements to the school environment.
- Sports day could be improved.
- More children to have the opportunity to be school council etc.
- For more Masses to be held at St Joseph's school.
- It would benefit the school if more Catholic teachers were employed, it is difficult for non-Catholic teachers to pass on the faith.
- More notice to be given if costumes are required.
- Reminders to be sent via text message.
- Better communication and opportunities for parents to join in if they work during school hours.
- Focus more on children's needs rather than Ofsted reports.
- More school trips for the children.
- More group projects.
- More school trips and sports matches between schools.
- Better use of eSchools.

The School's response to key areas

SECTION TWO – HEALTHY SCHOOLS	Agree	Unsure	Disagree
The school offers a good range of after school clubs and activities.	71	9	4

- School staff do run clubs. E.g. Marvellous maths club, Drama Club, Mindfulness, Homework and Calm Club. However, they also have a number of meetings to attend after school and lesson marking and preparation to complete, so their time after school is limited.
- The school provides three sports clubs a week at no cost to parents.
- We will investigate if there are more outside agencies that are willing to provide a wider range of clubs at a cost to parents.

SECTION THREE – CURRICULUM	Agree	Unsure	Disagree
I am kept well informed about my child's learning.	75	8	1
My child makes good progress at St Joseph's School.	80	2	2

Staff are consistently looking into ways to improve communication with parents so that no parent is unduly worried about their child's progress. There are many ways in which the school keeps parents informed and it may be helpful to list them:

- Three parent consultations are held for all parents across the school year, one in each term.
- Annual reports are sent home in the summer term.
- In this school year, we introduced the Interim Report so that parents have information during the year in addition to the annual report sent home at the end of the summer term.
- Parents of children with additional needs are involved in the setting and reviewing of targets on My Plans.
- This year we have tried to increase our parent workshops so that parents can be fully informed on their child's learning and how to support them. In addition to the phonics session we have run Accelerated Reader and Maths in KS1 workshops. We will continue to run them at different times so that all parents have an improved opportunity to attend.
- The school values home and school partnerships. We encourage parents to be proactive in meeting with the teachers - we are here to support your child's educational journey. If you need advice or want to talk, do not wait for a questionnaire, make an appointment.

SECTION THREE – CURRICULUM	Agree	Unsure	Disagree
My child receives appropriate homework for their age.	68	11	4

Four parents felt that children do not receive appropriate homework for their age. This was from a mixture of parents with children in different year groups across the school. We do not know whether these parents were concerned with too much and/or too little homework being given.

The school's policy for the provision of home learning to pupils and has been drawn up in accordance with guidance issued by the DfE, recognising that 'home learning tasks should be carefully designed to meet the child's individual needs, including children with special educational needs.'

The school will review the content and quantity of homework before the next academic year.

SECTION TWO – HEALTHY SCHOOLS	Agree	Unsure	Disagree
St Joseph's deals effectively with bullying.	55	27	1

We are heartened that most parents feel that the school deals effectively with bullying but it is clear that many of our parents feel that they do not know. Our approach to the prevention and resolving of bullying is as follows:

- On those very rare occasions when children's conflicts are serious the school implements its 'Anti Bullying Policy' which enables adults to facilitate the children in expressing their own views, taking responsibility for their action and developing their own solutions. This policy is available to all parents on our school website.
- Our PSHE curriculum covers anti-bullying and most importantly the religious and spiritual element of the school greatly contributes to developing an ethos of love, care and respect within our community.
- Our E-Safety curriculum covers cyber bullying.
- Every class addresses the annual Anti-Bullying Week by the AntiBullying Alliance.
- Each classroom has a 'Action Against Bullying - A Guide for Children' and this is referred to frequently.

SECTION FOUR- COMMUNICATIONS	Agree	Unsure	Disagree
I find the school website useful and informative.	67	12	4

Over the last year we have worked to improve the capacity of the school's website:

- The website contains what it needs to be compliant.
- It has all dates for the school year.
- The class areas have planning, homework and overview of learning for the term.
- Parent Consultation meetings are now booked via the website.

We welcome further suggestions for improvement of this key method of communication with parents and carers.

SECTION FOUR- COMMUNICATIONS	Agree	Unsure	Disagree
I understand the roles and responsibilities of the Governing Body.	58	16	8

The Local Governing Board of St Joseph's School is compelled to adopt and comply with all policies, protocols and procedures of the Multi-Academy Trust Company, the Bishop and the Diocesan Bishop as communicated to the Local Governing Board from time to time.

Why do we have Governors?

The governing body is accountable for the performance of the school and it fulfils this by setting the aims of the school and its priorities for improvement. It agrees monitors and evaluates the policies, targets and actions by which the school will move forward, including setting and monitoring the school budget.

The governing body's role is strategic. Governors are not expected to be involved in the detail of the day-to-day management of the school. The head teacher has responsibility for the internal organisation, management and control of the school and for implementation of the strategic framework established by the governing body. The governing body works in partnership with the head teacher and the senior leadership team. The governing body has a role to support and challenge the work of the school.

Governors must act corporately. Individual governors do not have the power to act alone unless the corporate governing body has given them the authority to do so. Individual governors have a broadly representative role but they are part of a team. They are not delegates and do not have any kind of mandate from the body who elected or appointed them.

What do governors do?

The full governing body meets regularly. In line with its strategic role, its focus for these meetings is school improvement. The governing body receives a report from the head teacher and discusses issues arising from this report. Most governing bodies manage a substantial part of their work through committees. We currently have two committees – Resources and Teaching & Learning. We welcome any interest in the work of the governing body. If you would like to know more about the governing body, please contact the Clerk to Governors (clerk@sjna.uk).