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Barnston Primary School

**‘a health promoting school’**

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Dear Parent(s),

**RE RESULTS OF PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE 2017/18 AND ACTIONS**

Thank you for taking the time to complete the Parent Questionnaire sent out on the 9th March 2018. **Your responses have provided valuable insight into some parent concerns and demonstrate that the vast majority of parents are very happy with the school**.

**N.B. This survey cannot be compared directly to the responses last year, as the F2 Parents are new, the previous Y6 parents have exited and we have had new pupils and parents throughout the age groups.**

**There were 99 responses in total:**

29 from F2

30 from KS1 (Y1/2)

40 from KS2 (Y3-6)

1. The **vast majority of children are happy in the school** and we see this as being a very important factor, as it is the children who are in school every day experiencing all our systems, teaching, discipline etc.
2. The **vast major said yes to feeling safe**. We always endeavour to make sure pupils feel very safe. We would encourage the parents who replied ‘no’ to this to please contact the school, teachers, managers or I, so that we can work with you. **A recent pupil survey highlighted that all the children felt happy and safe in school.**

The **vast majority thought their children were well looked after**. Again, please do talk to us if you have concerns.

1. The school provides appropriate homework. **The majority of parents are happy with this** and feedback was positive regarding the new reading scheme for homework and the electronic home works from RM Easy maths, SPAG on-line and SAM learning – the new reading newspaper on-line was also appreciated.
2. The **vast majority of parents believe that the pupils are well behaved**. The school monitoring of behaviour zones demonstrates that pupils are very well behaved and that there are very low percentages of children having to be zoned. One parent did comment on Y5 pupils. Y5 are as well behaved as other pupils in the school and the zoning records demonstrate this. When Y5/6 go on school visits, we often get phone calls or feedback through the lead teacher, saying that their behaviour is impeccable and that they are so friendly, polite and give a great deal of effort to the tasks.
3. & 8.The **vast majority either thought their child is taught well and makes good progress or didn’t know** (a number of these were from F2 parents who haven’t had enough experience of our information yet). What was appreciated:-

* Spring term report on pupil progress introduced over the last 2 years.
* Parent evenings which show the children’s books and progress within them twice a year.
* Planning on the website to see what your child is covering in each year group.
* Our open door policy and willingness to talk to parents about any worries.
* Children’s next steps shared in parents’ evenings and end of year reports – so termly.
* Workshops to inform parents how to help their child progress.
* Verbal and non verbal scores in Y3/Y6 so parents have a guage regarding the 11+ assessment.
* A penultimate point – children progress at different rates – parents need to be aware that we get the **vast majority (in some academic** **years 100%)** to the expected levels and a very high percentage beyond this **by the end of Year 6, so they are ready for High School, including those with Special Educational Needs.** It is important to appreciate that **this has been sustained over the last 5 years and this** **academic year will be the 9th**- so you can have confidence in us and trust us as professionals.
* Lastly, one comment said that we are only interested in results and Ofsted – of course we are interested in results, as this shows that the children are ready academically to take the next step**, but we balance** **this by** doing a great deal to promote the children’s confidence, self-esteem, Social, Spiritual, Cultural and Moral aspects of learning, providing a well-rounded curriculum incorporating high academic expectations as well as sport, Music, Art, DT, Drama, Enterprise, Modern Foreign Languages and a Creative Curriculum in the afternoon which engages the pupils and promotes skills for life. Mindfulness has been introduced throughout the school since 2014 in order to help children and staff cope with the raised expectations and demonstrates that we are having regard for mental health.

1. The **vast majority agree that the school is well led and managed**. The leadership and management team consist of Mr Dixon, Mrs Birch, Mrs While, Mrs Lewis and I. We thank you for your faith in us, but are always open to, and value any comments you may have for improvement. For instance, as well as the Parent Council, you may want us to have a ‘leadership open surgery’ times, where you can ask questions/put forward your opinions and ideas.
2. The **vast majority either agree that the school deals effectively with bullying or they don’t** **know as they have never experienced bullying**. Parent comments highlight that bullying has been dealt with quickly and effectively when brought to the attention of various staff. Our school policy is to promote tolerance and equality, teaching the children to be kind, considerate and to have empathy for others.
3. See previous
4. The **vast majority believe that the school responds well to concerns that are raised**. Unfortunately, the school cannot always say ‘yes’ to parents – for instance if parents have worries about their child and think they are Special Needs, but the child’s work does not reflect this, the school has not got resources to give children **without SEN** extra one to one support – we do, however, run intervention groups regularly for those children who we feel may be falling slightly behind. If a child is working well within lessons and progressing at the correct rate for them, they would not get extra intervention. What the school can do in this instance is go through the child’s progress and ability with the parents, to reassure them that they are progressing well.

Another example would be that the school cannot respond to loose statements like ‘there are so many parents who are unhappy with….’ We need individuals to come and see us to address issues, or contact the Parent Council, as we cannot act on hearsay.

1. The **vast majority said that they would recommend our school**. **We have had full numbers in F2 for the last 4 years whilst other 1 form entry schools have not filled.**

Yours sincerely,

Mrs S J Pearson

Headteacher