



Friday 14 February 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

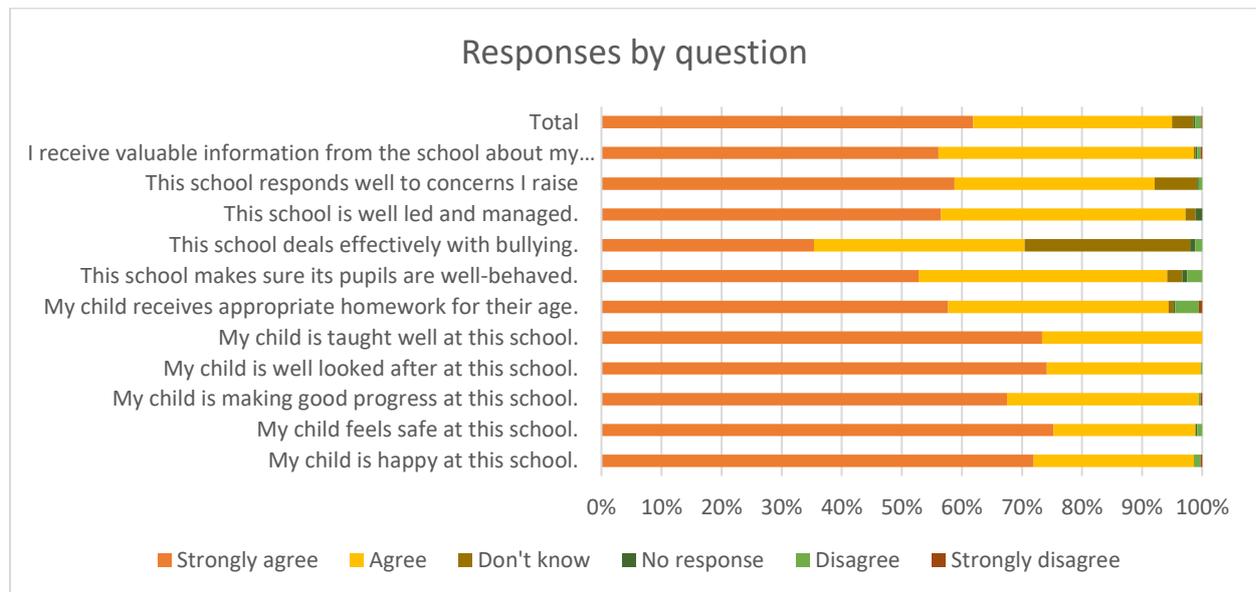
Parent Questionnaire November 2019

Thank you to all who took the time to complete the Parent Questionnaire which was issued on parents' evening in November 2019. In total, we received 360 responses, representing over 50% of pupils, with a fairly even distribution across all seven year groups. It is really helpful to receive such a significant amount of responses and feedback from parents as it helps us to know what we are doing right and can do better as a school.

General questions

Overall 94% answers were positive with only 1% answers disagreeing or strongly disagreeing with the statements presented. Figure 1 and the accompanying table show the breakdown by the 11 questions.

Figure 1



Question	Percentage agreeing or strongly agreeing	Percentage disagreeing or strongly disagreeing
My child is happy at this school.	99%	1.4%
My child feels safe at this school.	99%	0.8%
My child is making good progress at this school.	99%	0.6%
My child is well looked after at this school.	100%	0.3%
My child is taught well at this school.	100%	0.0%
My child receives appropriate homework for their age.	94%	4.4%
This school makes sure its pupils are well-behaved.	94%	2.5%
This school deals effectively with bullying.	68%	1.1%
This school is well led and managed.	97%	0.0%
This school responds well to concerns I raise	91%	0.6%
I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress	99%	0.8%
OVERALL	94%	1.1%

Note: highlighted cells are those with agreement levels above 95% or disagreement levels over 5%

Figure 1 shows there was overwhelming support for the happiness, safety, progress, teaching, leadership and information, with “my child is well taught” receiving 100% agreement.

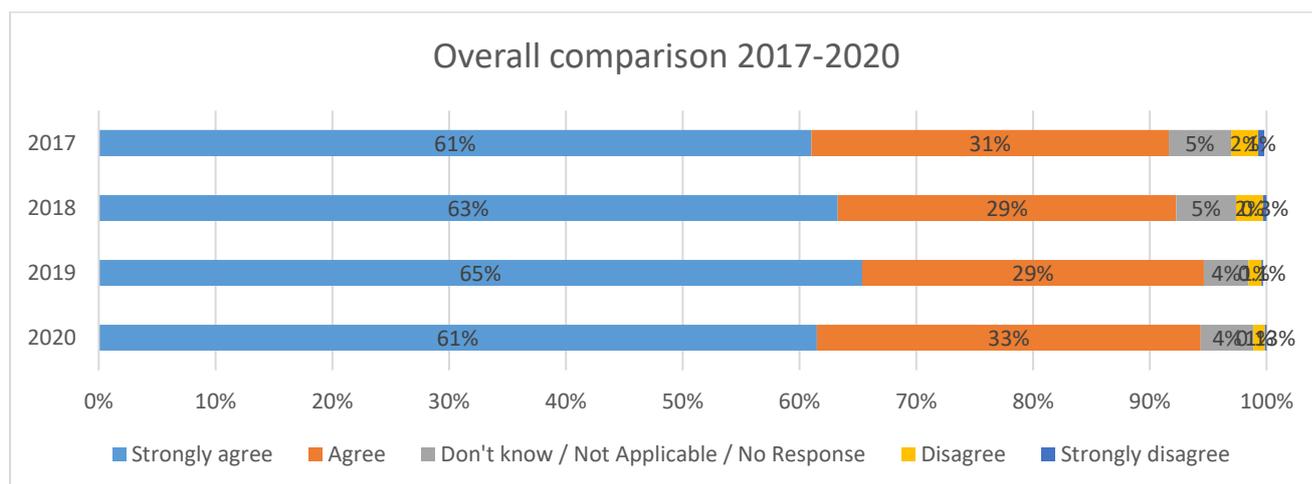
Three questions are worth highlighting in terms of disagreement:

- **Appropriate homework** – c.4% disagreed that their child received appropriate homework, down from 6% last year. Comments in the written responses (see below) again varied from there being either too much homework or too little homework or it not being challenging enough.
- **Behaviour** – c.3% disagreed that the school made sure the pupils are well behaved. This is up from 1% last year, but there were few written comments made relating to this.
- **Bullying** – as in previous years, these figures were heavily affected by the number of people that responded “don’t know” to whether the school deals effectively with bullying (usually because their child has not been affected by bullying). 1% responses disagreed with this statement, similar to last year’s figure.

Comparisons to previous years

Figure 2 shows a comparison between 2017 and 2020 for all questions. Satisfaction levels have remained fairly consistent throughout this period, with a slight decrease since last year in strongly agree compared with agree but very low levels of disagreement and strong disagreement.

Figure 2



Written responses

We asked two questions that allowed parents to provide fuller, written answers. The first question was on strengths of the school and the second question on possible improvements to the school.

Key strengths

Of the 116 written comments (32% of respondents) on the strengths of the school:

- Over half commented on the **quality of teaching**, the teachers or named teachers.
- Over a quarter commented on **pupil development and the supportive environment** in the school.
- **Communication** seems to have improved since last year’s survey and was praised by over 25% with a lot of comments referring to the excellent office staff.
- Other positive comments were about leadership, range and types of activities offers, safety and welfare of children, the community ethos and the facilities offered.

How can we improve?

Only 58 people (16% of respondents) gave suggestions for improvements. The responses focused mainly on:

- **Improving communications** – for example, passing information to new teachers (particularly in relation to SEN), starting school in Reception, and what pupils are learning in Year 1.

- **Specific points on the curriculum** (e.g. grammar, spelling) and **teaching approaches** (e.g. reading schemes, times tables).
- **Requests for more activities**, particularly Forest School for the older year groups.
- **Homework** – a mix of requests for more and less homework and some requests for more challenging homework suited to ability.
- Other suggestions included points around gate opening times and parking issues.

Next steps

- **Communications:** We have already looked at the transition that took place last year from each year group to the next year group. We have identified some strong practice and some aspects that could be improved next academic year. We have put together a plan to ensure communication regarding individual children is thorough and we will continue to discuss this before the summer term.
- **Curriculum:** As you will be aware, we are reviewing our whole curriculum and the resources and schemes we use. This is a huge undertaking and we are approaching this in a systematic way. We will update parents accordingly through newsletters and parent forums.
- **Activities:** We have already enjoyed a fabulous Outdoor Learning Day for Years 5 and 6 this term. We are looking into how we can provide similar opportunities, including Forest School, in the future, within the financial constraints we face.
- **Homework:** Homework will be looked at again in the future, once the core curriculum is embedded.

Thank you again for all of your comments – your feedback is extremely valuable both for the Senior Leadership Team and the Governing Body. Thank you also to our new parent governor, Lark Snow, who spent many hours collating the data.

Finally, please do not hesitate to get in touch with either of us or any one of the governors if you have any comments on the survey results, would like to discuss any of the points raised, or would like to offer more general feedback.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Graeme Reynolds
Chair of Governors
chair@woodlands.kent.sch.uk

Mrs Vicki Lonie
Headteacher
headteacher@woodlands.kent.sch.uk



Headteacher: Mrs Vicki Lonie BA QTS (Hons) NPQH
Hunt Road, Tonbridge Kent TN10 4BB
Tel: 01732 355577
Email: office@woodlands.kent.sch.uk
www.woodlands.kent.sch.uk