

St Mary's C of E Primary School

Parent Questionnaire Spring 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for all your helpful comments. Your views and those of your children are very important to us. They help us move the school forward and are an effective way of checking that we are getting things right. School leaders take them into account when we are planning for the future of our school.

We were very heartened once again by the huge number of positive comments about St Mary's. Positive comments really help staff to keep motivated and to keep doing their best for your children.

We were glad to hear many parents say that their child enjoys coming to school and feels safe. Parents were pleased that the school has very clear expectations and promotes good behaviour through using the 'Golden Rules' and 'Christian Values'. Parents said that the school teaches children good habits and good manners and that children are friendly and helpful towards each other.

Many parents told us that they find the school and its staff friendly and approachable. Parents felt that they are welcome to discuss any questions or concerns with the school and that they are treated fairly and with respect. Many parents commented on the positive relationships that staff have with children and said that staff understand the needs of their child.

Many parents commented on how well organised the school is and how clear communication is with parents. Parents told us that they appreciate the ways that school provides excellent communication with parents and regular information through the weekly newsletter, text messages, Academic Review Days, after school meetings with the class teacher and Parent Information coffee mornings. Parents said they appreciate when staff meet with them to discuss their child's progress and any concerns. A few parents commented on wanting more updates on their child's progress. We welcome parents to book a meeting with the teacher whenever you need to. Teachers are pleased to meet parents to answer questions, to talk through the child's work and offer advice for things to work on at home. Parents do not need to wait for Academic Review Days to do this. Do phone the school office to ask questions or ask to arrange an appointment to see the class teacher.

Many parents said that the school does a good job teaching their child and helping them to make good progress through working hard, regular praise and supporting children where needed. Many parents commented on how teachers motivate children and want all children to do well. We do expect all children to work hard and learn lots when at St Mary's.

In terms of what we might do to make the school even better; a few parents commented that they would like to see more after school enrichment clubs, or a wider variety. We have looked at this for the summer term and have introduced a couple of different clubs. We have to balance the number of different clubs with the support staff also having time after school to meet with teachers and plan learning for pupils.

Some parents suggested that each class could perform a class assembly to help children develop their confidence. We agree that it is important for children to develop their oracy skills and self-confidence. We're pleased to let you know that all children in Reception-Year 5 will be taking part in Curriculum Presentations to Parents (like a class assembly) this term to share their learning. The dates of these presentations can be found in the 'Important dates for your diary' section of the newsletter. Year 6 will be performing their musical production at the end of the Summer term. We hope that lots of you will be able to join us for these performances. Children have many opportunities throughout the year to develop their confidence in performing, such as poetry recitals in front of the whole school and termly music concerts.

A few parents asked for more educational visits. Each visit out or visitor in school is planned carefully to enrich children's curriculum learning. We must make careful choices that these are of high quality to balance the time out from the regular timetable for visits and visitors. We are pleased that this year so far every class has experienced visits out of school and had visitors in school. We also have lots more visits and visitors planned for this term. To see the visits and visitors your child will be taking part in for the summer term, please see the whole school curriculum map page on our school website, under the 'Our Curriculum' tab.

Many parents said that they could not think of anything to improve and that the school should keep doing what it does well. One parent said that their child would like a Year 7 class because they love St Mary's so much! This is reassuring to hear, but we don't pretend to be perfect so if there are things that you think we could do to improve, do pop in to meet me and let me know.

We try our hardest to be a really good school.

Best wishes,
Ms Mitchell

Questionnaire responses

We received 144 parent responses representing 185 children. This is nearly all parents – thank you for your help with this.

N.B. Returns of less than 1% are not included

1. My child enjoys coming to school

Strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	don't know
62%	37%	1%		
Overall 99% positive				

2. My child feels safe at school

Strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	don't know
71%	29%			
Overall 100% positive				

3. My child is making good progress

Strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	don't know
61%	37%	1%		1%
Overall 98% positive				

4. Most children behave well at St Mary's

Strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	don't know
44%	52%	2%		2%
Overall 96% positive				

5. I am kept informed about how my child is getting on

Strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	don't know
57%	39%	3%		1%
Overall 96% positive				

6. I feel comfortable about approaching the school with a question or a problem

Strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	don't know
68%	30%	1%		1%
Overall 98% positive				

7. Staff expect my child to work hard and do his/her best

Strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	don't know
72%	28%			
Overall 100% positive				

8. Staff treat my child fairly

Strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	don't know
62%	37%			1%
Overall 99% positive				

9. The school is led and managed well

Strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	don't know
70%	29%			1%
Overall 99% positive				

10. The school provides appropriate homework

Strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	don't know
55%	40%	1%	1%	3%
Overall 95% positive				

11. The school lives out its Christian vision: 'Go shine in the world, and live as Jesus lived'

Strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	don't know
55%	39%			6%
Overall 94% positive				

12. The school provides opportunities for spiritual growth and development

Strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	don't know
55%	37%			8%
Overall 92% positive				