



## Parents Survey 2014

Here are the results of the parent survey completed last week. 24 families (from 57) which is 42% of the school population returned their forms, but of those, more parents agreed with positive statements about the school (1 = **strongly agree** - 5 = **strongly disagree**). There are also comments that people have included.

Focus Areas		1 to 5 Agree Disagree
<b>Personal Development &amp; Wellbeing</b>		
	<i>My child is happy and likes coming to school</i>	90% agree
	<i>The information I received when my child started was very good</i>	90% agree
	<i>Children are taught to appreciate people who have different backgrounds to their own</i>	86% agree
	<i>Bullying is not tolerated</i>	90% agree
	<i>Any issues my child has had have been dealt with</i>	94% agree
	<i>I feel involved in the education of my child</i>	100% agree
	<i>My child has a good knowledge of how to keep healthy</i>	100% agree
Comments: <b>One child worries about lunchtime noise. Perhaps a need for reports for working parents (EYFS). One person remarked upon bullying in and outside school.</b>		
<b>Achievement, Standards, Teaching &amp; Learning</b>		1 to 5 Agree Disagree
	<i>I think teaching in the school is good</i>	100% agree
	<i>Staff have high expectations of children</i>	86% agree
	<i>The school expects my child to work hard and achieve his or her best</i>	100% agree
	<i>My child is making good progress</i>	90% agree
	<i>I am kept well-informed about my child's progress</i>	94% agree
	<i>I have opportunities to talk to my child's class teacher</i>	94% agree
	<i>The curriculum is exciting, interesting and meaningful to my child</i>	90% agree
Comments: <b>The work I hear about all seems very interesting. Helpful for explanation of topics to discuss at home. A genuine interest in my child – leads to a productive relationship. Harder to talk to EYFS staff if both parents work.</b>		
<b>Leadership &amp; Management</b>		1 to 5 Agree Disagree
	<i>I am always made to feel welcome at Choppington Primary School</i>	100% agree
	<i>I am kept up-to-date and informed about what is going on at school</i>	94% of those parents agree
	<i>The school has a clear vision for improvement</i>	94% agree
	<i>The school is led and managed well by staff and governors</i>	100% agree
	<i>I would feel comfortable about approaching the school with questions or a problem</i>	90% agree
	<i>Issues are dealt with quickly</i>	94% agree

	<i>There have been improvements to the building and school environment</i>	100% agree
Comments: <b>Need for more information to help child at home.</b>		
<b>Care, Guidance &amp; Support</b> *please answer if your child has special educational needs		1 to 5 Agree Disagree
	<i>The school makes it easy for children with a Special / Additional Educational Need to come to the school*</i>	100% agreed
	<i>My child's additional needs are catered for and he/she is well integrated into the school community*</i>	100% agreed.
	<i>There is good provision for children identified as more able</i>	86% agree
	<i>The children at Choppington Primary School behave well</i>	82% agree
	<i>Staff at Choppington encourage all children to do their best</i>	86% agree
	<i>Behaviour in the school is generally good</i>	74% agree
Comments: <b>A shame that the Nurture Class was disbanded – smaller group. Worries about vandalism and theft. Too much focus on the lower level. A need to improve challenge for more able children.</b>		

<b>What do you feel to be the particular strengths of the school?</b>
<p>Helping pupils that need support.</p> <p>The standard of teaching is very high.</p> <p>The SENCo and a very approachable staff - always happy to help.</p> <p>Communication between teachers and parents - very welcoming, supportive and friendly.</p> <p>Children learn new things every day.</p> <p>A small community school which is nice for children and parents.</p> <p>Children are listened to and given an input.</p> <p>Since my child started this school she can read and write beautifully.</p> <p>Teachers have a lot of time for the children.</p> <p>I feel my child is safe and looked after, and taught to a high standard.</p> <p>A friendly and welcoming school - all children are encouraged to achieve as much as they can without pushing or competition.</p> <p>I couldn't be happier with the communication I get from all staff.</p> <p>Really happy with my girls attending this school.</p> <p>The best school around and small class sizes</p>
<b>Please add any comments about the school which you think might help to make it a better place for your child(ren)</b>
Comments: <p>'Playfighting' should not be tolerated.</p> <p>No improvements other than communication with working Nursery parents.</p> <p>More special group time. - and sensory opportunities.</p> <p>Parents should be encouraged not to smoke or have dogs near the gates in the mornings.</p> <p>They should also be discouraged from wearing night clothes as this doesn't give a positive message to the children.</p> <p>You couldn't make it any better than it already is. Fantastic!</p>

Dear Parents and Carers –

Many thanks to you for your objective comments in this questionnaire. I actually looked at the results of the questionnaire from 2013, and was delighted to see an improvement in your thoughts about the school (which were really good then!).

I am always aware that we need to improve our school in different ways, and listen to constructive criticism from everyone. To that end, I would like to make some comments on your written thoughts:

- I will discuss the need for improved communication about the progress of Nursery children when parents work. I do know that Miss Mattison produces a very informative newsletter every fortnight, on line learning journals for parents too (from December) and is willing to see any parent at a mutually agreeable time. She also encourages communication with the Home/School book.
- Only one parent mentioned bullying. We discourage any bullying behaviour from any child at this school. We have a robust Anti-Bullying Policy, and will not tolerate it in school. When poor behaviour happens outside school, it is often brought into school and creates tensions. I would urge ALL parents to be aware. Children can often fall out with their friends, but our Anti-Bullying Policy gives our exact meaning of Bullying. Copy available in school and on the website.
- We had to disband the Nurture Class last year due to budget changes. We have however decided to further the Nurture Group work in the following ways – EYFS and some children in KSI will have weekly Nurture Group sessions. Yrs 3&4 will be participating in a new 'Roots of Empathy' programme, where they learn all about feelings and personal development. We are very excited about this. Yr5 will benefit from Nurture too within class time, and Year 3/4 will have Nurture provision also on a weekly basis.
- Worries about vandalism and theft were mentioned by a parent – we too are concerned, but cannot be in the school grounds for 24 hours. We therefore urge parents to be vigilant about knowing where their children are when at play, as we often hear reports of children on our roof and storage sheds.
- A parent commented upon the work and support we give to those who need it, which indeed we do. We did however decide this year to adopt a system where all children from Reception to Yr5 are taught both English and Maths within the level they are, and not their age. This is really proving to be beneficial, as it means a much more personalised plan for each group, based on what they need to know. It also allows for challenge within each group, where they can feel success and gain confidence. I have witnessed this throughout my Headteacher observations in Maths this half term.
- Only 4 parents mentioned behaviour as a concern, but even 4 parents are a worry to the school. We will focus on this with a Governor's visit this term at different parts of the day, in order to establish a true reflective picture, and report back to parents.

Looking at your thought as to how to make our school better :

- Observations have been made about smoking and dogs near school premises. Within our No-Smoking Policy, we do not allow smoking at all within the school grounds. We would ask that people refrain from smoking when children and non-smoking adults pass. Dogs are NOT allowed in the school grounds for any reason (even if they are held). If your dog is on a lead, please wait outside the school gates.
- 'Playfighting' is not tolerated, but children unfortunately seem to watch lots of games, programmes and films that glorify fighting. We are reviewing our lunchtime routines, and more details will follow.

If any parent would like to talk to me about the comments above, please do not hesitate to contact the office and arrange a meeting.

I am delighted with so many positive comments from so many parents. Many thanks for your support.