

Woore Primary and Nursery School

Parent/Carer Questionnaire June 2023- Accompanying Comments

We recently gave parents and carers of school aged children the opportunity to give their views on the provision that we provide here at Woore Primary and Nursery School. We are very grateful for those parents who took the time to respond to the survey and provide their feedback. We received a total number of 20 responses.

We were very pleased with the feedback which was provided, and as you will see from the attached questionnaire results (see Questionnaire results on additional PDF), there are many aspects of the school that are very positive. There are also areas, which have been brought to our attention for further improvement. In addition to the data collected, we have provided an overall response and a response to the additional comments made in the sections on Curriculum strengths, School strengths and Areas for improvement. We hope these responses clarify our school position on the matters identified and improvements that we intend to make in the future.

Overall Response:

We are really pleased to see such positive results from our feedback in this questionnaire.

The results show that parents/carers feel that their children are happy and safe in school. Within our small school we take the utmost care to ensure children are happy by providing a wide, interesting, and varied curriculum but also by ensuring that the personal development and safety of pupils is paramount.

The majority of parents/carers feel that the school ensures that pupils are well-behaved and that any bullying that may have taken place is tackled quickly and effectively. In school we do much work to promote positive behaviour but also have systems in place should inappropriate behaviour occur. We follow the information presented in the Behaviour policy which is available on the school website. It is important that parents/carers communicate any concerns about bullying or behaviour to us directly in order that we can act on this.

We are pleased to see that most parents/carers responding to the survey are aware of what their children learn throughout the year. We provide termly updates on our curriculum newsletter along with regular information on our MS Sway fortnightly newsletters and information coming directly from teachers via Class Dojo. Our website also holds a wealth of information on what is happening in our classes and also curriculum information for all of the National Curriculum subjects. At different points through the year we also provide additional information through parent meetings, e.g. reading, phonics, SATs etc.

If parents/carers have raised a concern, the majority feel their concern has been dealt with properly or have not raised a concern. For those parents/carers who do not feel this way, we would be more than happy to discuss any issues further so that we can help to alleviate the concerns.

Of the parents who have identified their child/ren with having SEND, 2 of those strongly agreed that the school provides them with the necessary support that they need to succeed. There were responses from 2 other parents who were unsure if the school is supporting their children effectively. We would urge those parents to get in touch with their child's class teacher or Mrs Battrick our SENCO.

We are really pleased that most parents/carers feel that we have high expectations for their children and that their children do well at the school. As professionals, we are continually striving to improve our teaching and learning experiences and always encourage children to do their very best and enable them to extend their knowledge and skills wherever possible. Where this isn't the case, we would like those parents to get in touch with us about which aspects of the curriculum require further challenge. Parents/Carers also agree that we communicate how their children are getting on.

We are pleased to see that the majority of parents feel that their child/ren does well at this school with the largest proportion of parents strongly agreeing with this statement.

The majority of parents strongly agree or agree that our school offers a good range of subjects to their child.

Parents/Carers mostly agree that their child/ren can take part in clubs and activities in school and that we support their child's wider personal development. We have and continue to offer a wide range of extra-curricular clubs, including gardening, cooking, arts and crafts, dance and sport. When opportunities arise, we offer additional wider development opportunities for children such as taking part in dance shows and working towards an arts award.

We pride ourselves in the wider personal development opportunities which we offer to pupils and this was praised by Ofsted in our last visit. We are pleased to hear that the majority of parents also feel this way.

We are very happy to hear that most Parents/Carers would recommend our school to another parent. We are constantly working to improve our provision and ensure that your children are happy and safe and grow and learn to the best that they can.

Response to Curriculum Strengths:

The majority of Parents/Carers agree that we provide a good range of subjects for their children. Common curriculum strengths identified by parents/carers are:

- Creative, hands-on learning
- Learning through play
- Phonics
- History
- French
- Geography
- Science
- Art
- Forest School
- P.E/Sports
- Music
- Reading and books
- Visits and Trips
- Good at all
- Whole curriculum is a strength
- Subjects seem to be delivered to a level of inventiveness and originality

Response to School Strengths:

We feel proud to read the many positive comments about the school. The common positive themes are around the following areas:

- Communication through Class Dojo and other media outlets
- Caring teachers-supportive and nurturing approach
- Passionate teaching staff
- Learning outside of the classroom-forest school
- Caring environment, pupils looking out for each other
- School visits
- Nurturing, approachable staff, family focused
- Strong staff team
- Everything
- New teaching team real benefit to school
- Streamlined digital platforms
- Termly overview, fortnightly newsletter
- Good pupil progress

- SEND provision
- Friendly atmosphere

Here are a few of the lovely comments we received:

'Miss Ashley and her communication via Dojo is excellent. The newsletter is brilliant and easy to access when wanting to revisit.'

'The teachers are very caring. Big fan of Mr Davies supportive, nurturing approach towards the children.'

'A lovely caring environment and great to see all school pupils looking out for each other. Amazing opportunities for outside learning and school trip experiences.'

'Outdoor learning focus is a real benefit, the new teaching staff all seem to have benefited the school.'

'I appreciate the term overview and weekly newsletter. I like how approachable and accessible staff are at the start and end of the day. I think the range of trips are good and my child thoroughly enjoyed Arthog.'

'Strong team of staff, they are very kind and caring and always make the children feel safe and happy. I love how my child hugs the teachers it shows me what a great relationship they have with them. The forest school is also a big strength, this is so beneficial for the children. Ladies on reception (Marni & Rachel) are always so welcoming and friendly too, this is important as some schools can have very stern receptionists! Nothing is ever too much trouble for them.'

'My child can name every teacher and most TA's / helpers. They also know her name.'

'This is a wonderful school where my children feel happy and safe. They are making good progress and the teachers are kind and caring. There is an amazing range of activities for such a small school. My child has SEND and the provision for him has been great, all the staff know him very well and provide his additional support excellently.'

'Mr Davies and Mrs Battrick are fantastic. The teachers and other staff are welcoming and friendly. Sue is wonderful.'

Response to Areas for Improvement:

Thank you for your responses on areas you think the school could improve upon, we will use these to help us to improve our provision wherever we can. The main themes identified were as follows:

- Parent Communications
 - Too many communications and not aligned across year groups
 - This has appeared in the survey as a strength and an area for development. In order to reach as many parents as possible we communicate in the following ways:**
 - 1. Text message-short reminders/updates/last minute information**
 - 2. Newsletter-fortnightly, providing information about up-coming events/previous events and aother school related information**
 - 3. Class Dojo-messages straight from your child's class teacher**
 - 4. Email-school updates that require further detail and often include attachments**
 - 5. Website-a place to go for news, calendar, diary dates, curriculum information, policies and other important school information**
 - Contacting staff once administrators have finished for the day
 - We intend to get a mobile handset in the autumn term to allow the headteacher or teacher on duty to take to classrooms after school to answer the phone.**
- More Regular Feedback/learning Updates

Our learning updates are termly through the curriculum newsletter. We also have updates on our Facebook page, school website and through Class Dojo. We would love to hear if there is something else that you would find useful.

- **More Spaces for children with SEND to learn**
We are pleased to be having a new extension built in the autumn term which will comprise of a general purpose room. We aim to use the room for small group interventions, curriculum groups, SEN break out space, Teacher's PPA. We also have use of the outdoor 'Happy Hut' and our indoor sensory room.
- **Reduce religious bias/Too much focus on religion, specifically Christian ideology as opposed to information about religions in general.**
Our religious education lessons follow the Shropshire Agreed Syllabus which is statutory. The curriculum is largely focused on Christianity but children also have opportunities to study other religions: Judaism (KS1), Islam, Hinduism, Judaism (KS2). R.E lessons are taught for 1 hour per week which is the statutory requirement. This may be why it feels like R.E has a greater focus. Some other subjects have to be given less time as they haven't a statutory time requirement and subjects simply don't all fit into the timetable.
- **Celebrate difference-Black lives matter, Pride**
Difference is interwoven throughout our PSHE curriculum through our 1Decision programme across the year. Next year, we plan to consider many different national/global special days and events so as not to miss these in the busy calendar.
- **More supervision at playtimes**
At morning breaktimes we always have 3/4 members of staff on break duty and at lunch time 3 members of staff. Other members of staff can always be called upon to assist if required. For the autumn term there will be an additional member of staff out at lunch time on Mondays and Fridays.
- **Carpark Safety**
We recognise this is an on-going issue but some parents continue to use the school car park. Messages have been relayed to some of these parents directly. We have advised in past newsletters that pedestrians should stick to the path and not cross the car park, but this is still happening on occasions.
- **Variety of After School Clubs**
We change the after school clubs on a half-termly basis, this year we have run a variety of sports clubs, art award club, craft club, painting/clay club, sketching club, dance club, gardening club, cooking club, lego club. We often ask the children for new ideas but feedback is limited. Please let us know what clubs your child would like to attend.
- **Can we have lego club again please?**
This started off well this year but children soon lost interest so we decided not to repeat it again too soon.
- **Weekly spellings and Mathshed have not been set in class 3 since Easter**
This has been followed up and it was found that there was a technical issue on the system that the teacher was not aware about. We apologise for this.
- **Snacks to be made available in after school club, not just left over fruit**
If we were to introduce snacks in the after school club, we would need to increase prices and also ensure all staff are trained in food hygiene safety. We can put out a survey in the autumn term if this is what parents would like.
- **Afterschool club games/toys for older children**
We have spent a significant amount of funds across the year on after school club resources, more recently in the summer term. A variety of resources were chosen to cover a range of age groups. We have canvassed the children on this and had little feedback.
- **Laptops available in afterschool club for homework**

As part of our safe use of the internet, we only use laptops in special clubs such as homework club or arts award clubs. We have set up a homework club for the autumn term.

- Bigger portion sizes at lunch time
Thank you for bringing this up. We do have standard portion sizes as recommended by our Catering company Watson, Lennard and Payne. I will monitor this going forward to see if portion sizes are adequate and compliant.

- Introduction to nursery wasn't smooth and I had unanswered questions, but now the new staffing changes can be seen and felt
We are sorry this experience wasn't smooth when previous staffing was in place. Our new staffing structure has brought about some positive changes in protocols and systems which ensure a positive start into the nursery.

- Unstable staffing led to escalated pupil issues
We have had a number of new staff starting this year. Whilst this disruption is not ideal, we do feel like we have a really strong staff team going forwards. We do apologise if issues have been unresolved. Please let us know if this is still the case.

- Library books are not being changed often enough
Our Library Leaders take charge of the signing out of books and visit each class every 3 weeks. We will review this frequency in the new term.

- The books sent home from the reading scheme are too easy and uninspiring, especially when the book is sometimes kept for two weeks
As mentioned at our recent Little Wandle phonics meeting, the books children take home should be read at approximately 90% accuracy by the children independently. These books are for pupils to practice and reinforce the teaching that takes place in school and it is not intended that children are taught how to read by parents. We read these books three times in school with a different focus each time: de-coding, prosody and comprehension. We apologise if there has been an instance of your child not changing their book. We have discussed this in school and will try to ensure this doesn't happen again.

We would like to thank all those who contributed towards this survey.