

Lickey Hills Primary School & Nursery

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January 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year to you all, I hope you had an enjoyable Christmas. We look forward to continuing working in partnership with you in 2017.

Analysis of Parent Questionnaire November 2016

Please find attached the outcomes of your responses to the recent Parent Questionnaire which was devised and shared by governors this year at parents evening. Thank you to those of you who responded and shared your views of the school, this is appreciated. We had responses from 71 families, our highest response yet. We have 122 families currently in attendance at school therefore 58% of families participated in the questionnaire. We would like to see an increase in future questionnaires as we value 'parent voice'.

You said:

'A positive resilient attitude encouraged'

'Great relationships with the children'

'Teachers always visible at the start and end of the school day'

'Teachers are approachable and communicate well'

'My child needs extra care and is always supported and encouraged'

'Lots of parent child interaction, always something happening'

'She talks regularly about friendships and being kind to each other'

'We have raised concerns about our child's medical needs, they have been swiftly dealt with'

'My views were taken into account'

'I know my child is having extra support in her weak area'

'It's a caring community, creativity and freedom in the curriculum'

'It was really lovely to receive a text to say my son had received the Headteacher's award'

'My child is below age expectations but the development in her is down to the fantastic effort of the school'

'Both of my children are SEN and the school has gone out of its way to support them, I can't thank them enough.'

'Happy children!'

'My children are thriving'

'Feedback from my child has been very positive'

'Enthusiastic teachers and assistants know my son very well and are interested in him'

'Nurture and support have been key to the development of both our children and this has been given'

'Emotional support excellent'

'Kind and caring staff, well behaved pupils'

We are very pleased that our highest percentages are in the quality of teachers and teaching (94%) developing appropriate attitudes and values (92%) and developing strong partnerships with parents (90%). We also received positive responses in: good pupil progress (86%) and responding to concerns (82%). These are areas we have focussed on relentlessly to ensure pupils at LHPSN have the best holistic education we can offer.

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Headteacher Miss Amanda Salisbury, B.Ed(Hons), NPQH





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Your responses also tell us that the areas we need to work further on improving. The governors and senior leaders will focus on these areas over the coming months and will be contacting you for further information regarding ways we can improve.

Actions so far:

Communication (79%)

We have an increasing number of parents requesting email communication rather than letters, this enables us to ensure correspondence reaches you. Please let Miss Thornton know if you'd like to move from paper to email correspondence. We will always issue letters to those who request paper copies to ensure fair access. We are currently researching different types of mobile phone apps to improve consistency as this was an area parents highlighted as a main issue. New, on the front page of the school website, is a dedicated area where all letters and newsletters are available to refer back to/download from January 2017. As an eco-friendly school we do aim to work towards paperless communication where possible. We will be in touch shortly to ask for your views and opinions on further improvements in our service to you.

Extra Curricular Clubs (68%)

All teachers in school lead an extra-curricular club which they run on a voluntary basis. I am grateful that teachers give their non-directed time willingly and as a result we are able to offer a good number of after school activities which offer a taster into something new. This year we are offering clubs in: Spanish, musical theatre, engineering, tri-golf, cricket, football, computing, netball, minecraft, singing, cookery, glockenspiel and recorder. We also buy in expertise from sports academies and offer these at a low cost but these often come with limited pupil spaces or for specific age groups. This year we changed to a new place allocation system, which received many positive responses. We were able to offer every child that applied at least one of their clubs of choice and we had 228 children apply!

However, we do face some barriers: both school halls and the large (flat) playground are used by our excellent before and after school club, Magic Moments, until 6pm each evening. This means our offer of outdoor sporting activity is limited to the summer term when we can make use of our field. Staff training and meetings after school take place regularly and at least once a week so we do not have the capacity to offer clubs every evening or across all year groups. We do try to ensure each year group has a club and that we provide clubs which are not readily accessible in the community as there are many football, dance and gymnastics clubs in the local area that our pupils already attend. Please do not hesitate to contact school if you or someone you know can offer an after school club on a regular voluntary basis, we would ensure all safeguarding checks were completed prior to approval. We are continuing to explore ways to increase our use of the outdoor areas so any individual support or expertise you can offer to increase our extra-curricular provision is always welcomed.

Home learning (66%)

The new Home Learning approach started in 2016 and was implemented to increase pupil's motivation, enthusiasm and enjoyment of homework. The main concerns around this was that it

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was too time consuming and required too much parental support or adult involvement. National Child Development Study data shows that initiatives involving parents and children reading together and participating in interactive activities have a noteworthy relationship with good academic outcomes. Our Home Learning Policy can be found on the school website (Parents and Carers > Policies > Home Learning).It explains the rationale behind our approach and the role of home and school. Mrs Williams, Deputy Head, will be in touch with you shortly to further explore your ideas for improving the home learning experience and to set up a parent voice home learning forum.

Once again on behalf of myself and the governors, I would like to thank the families who returned our survey. We are always interested in your views and how we can improve so please do participate in any future questionnaires. Email office@lickeyhills.worcs.sch.uk if you would like to be included in the parent voice forum for home learning, offer yourself as a volunteer for extracurricular clubs or be a 'guinea pig' for trials with new communication applications, we look forward to hearing from you.

Yours in learning,

Miss A. L. Salisbury

Mr M. Claydon

Headteacher

Chair of Governors

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