



19<sup>th</sup> April 2016

Dear Parents

The recent questionnaire (March 2016) for parents was part of our regular parent/carer consultation process. Our thanks to all parents and carers, who took the time to reply; your responses are extremely helpful in supporting us to make the school a better place for our pupils.

Below are the results of the survey:

**Questionnaires received – 68 out of 84 (81%)**

**Statement 1** My child is happy at school

Agree/strongly agree	67	(98.5%)
Disagree/strongly disagree	1	(1.5%)

**Statement 2** My child feels safe at school

Agree/strongly agree	68	(100%)
Disagree/strongly disagree	0	(0%)

**Statement 3** My child makes good progress at school

Agree/strongly agree	68	(100%)
Disagree/strongly disagree	0	(0%)

**Statement 4** My child is well looked after at school

Agree/strongly agree	68	(100%)
Disagree/strongly disagree	0	(0%)



**Statement 5** My child is well taught at school

Agree/strongly agree	68	(100%)
Disagree/strongly disagree	0	(0%)

**Statement 6** My child receives appropriate homework for their age

Agree/strongly agree	66	(97%)
Disagree/strongly disagree	2	(3%)

**Statement 7** The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved

Agree/strongly agree	68	(100%)
Disagree/strongly disagree	0	(0%)

**Statement 8** The school deals effectively with bullying

Agree/strongly agree	67	(98.5%)
Disagree/strongly disagree	1	(1.5%)

**Statement 9** The school is well led and managed

Agree/strongly agree	67	(98.5%)
Disagree/strongly disagree	1	(1.5%)

**Statement 10** The school responds well to any concerns I raise

Agree/strongly agree	67	(97%)
Disagree/strongly disagree	2	(3%)

**Statement 11** I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress

Agree/strongly agree	68	(100%)
Disagree/strongly disagree	0	(0%)

**Statement 12** I would recommend this school to another parent

Agree/strongly agree	68	(100%)
Disagree/strongly disagree	0	(0%)

**Of the 68 responses, 33 (49%) parents gave additional comments. Selections of these are listed below. The year group of the parent's/carer's child is indicated in brackets:**

**What we do well:**

- Very happy with all the work and help given to my child. I have a very happy child that loves school and staff members (YR).
- Fabulous school. Keep up the good work! (Y1).
- My child has progressed fantastically. He didn't respond to the card system so the staff tried a different approach and it really paid off. Thank you (Y2).
- My son is enjoying Year 2 and has grown in confidence a lot in the last couple of terms (Y2).
- I am really happy with how my child is doing at school and have no issues or concerns (Y3).
- Huge praise to all the teaching staff for their hard work. My child is very happy in this school. Many thanks (Y3).
- My child loves Miss Bowden. We are incredibly impressed with her teaching, the wonderful learning environment and supportive atmosphere she creates in her class; and with the progress our child is making (Y4).
- My daughter is very happy at Lewannick and I am very pleased with how well she is doing. Thank you to everyone involved in her education and well-being (Y4).
- Sometimes communication could be improved but overall we are very happy with the school and feel it is led well with enthusiastic and engaging staff – my child enjoys his days here (Y4).
- I am very happy with how well my child has moved on and how she gets extra help, when needed, to help her progress. One very happy mum (Y4).
- Best primary school in the nation! (Y5)
- The school deals with any problems I have well and are pushing my child to his fullest to ensure he's not getting bored and stays engaged. I am really pleased with the progress my child has made from reception through to Year 5, not just academically but with his behaviour (Y5).
- The school provides an extremely supportive and encouraging environment, where the learning opportunities are inspirational. My child enjoys school and is enthusiastic about all aspects of school life. I really appreciate the care given to my child by all staff (Y5).
- I have always been really happy with the school and continue to be. Keep up the good work (Y6).
- Very happy with my child's progress this year and she seems happy and keen to learn (Y6).
- I am very happy with how my child has progressed throughout his time at Lewannick. Thank you to everyone who has been involved in his journey through the school (Y6).

### **What we could do better:**

- Would like to feel my children have a choice to stay indoors during breaks on really cold/wet days and not feel pressured by staff to go outdoors (YR/3).
- My child is well taught but I have concerns over class size and too much work and pressure on teaching staff due to class size (Y3).
- Children need to be monitored more at playtime (Y3).
- Playtime/lunchtime sport related incidents are currently causing my child upset/concern (Y4).

### **Therefore, we will be working on:**

#### **1. A review of current outside provision at lunch and breaktimes.**

Alongside key staff members and our *'Foodies'* pupil group, Mrs Cook is currently leading a number of key changes with regard to food and the dining hall experience. As part of this, we are looking at the evolution of the 'outdoors' experience for our pupils. This will involve the use of the school grounds, as well as adult-led and child-initiated activities. We have also re-instated our 'Breaktime Buddies' programme, in which older pupils take on responsibility for peer-support in the playground. This was in response to requests from pupils, who value the opportunity to provide or seek help from others in the playground. Though we are mindful of the need for pupils to have regular, daily exercise, we will also explore ways in which pupils might have opportunities to make choices about indoor and outdoor play.

### **Areas for improvement from last year's questionnaire (February 2015) are detailed below:**

- 1. A review of our current policy towards behaviour management.** Though we understand that the school's response to poor behaviour should be fair and transparent, as stated in our policy (reviewed November 2015 – see website), it is not possible for the same sanction to be given to all children. A pupil's additional needs will sometimes determine our strategy with these children. However, at all times, we will try to ensure other pupils are informed and aware of behavioural strategies with these children and that any poor behaviour is seen to be dealt with fairly and appropriately. We value working with our parents and continue to welcome contributions with regard to this area of our practice. It is positive that in this year's questionnaire, 100% of parents surveyed felt that the school made sure its pupils behaved well.

- 2. Providing advice about government recommendations for homework.** There are no formal recommendations from the government with regard to homework, though there is an unwritten expectation that homework will be provided by the school. Information about each class's homework is displayed on the class pages on the website. Though we continue to promote the enormous importance of regular reading, the learning of phonic and spelling patterns and the learning of tables (Pupils are now expected to know all tables facts up to 12x12 by the end of Year 4), we also hope that topic based homework will allow enjoyable, interactive and creative opportunities to learn about a subject in more detail. Links to other useful websites to support pupils' learning at home are also available on the school website.
- 3. Development of the school building.** As we have increased in our number of pupils on roll, so pressure on our existing facilities has grown. As an academy, we had intended to apply for a Conditions Improvement Fund (CIF) grant to improve the school hall, library, cloakroom and toilet facilities, as well as further meeting/learning room and office space. However, due to pressure on our own budget, to cuts in funding and changes to the application criteria, this was not possible. Despite this, we have had a feasibility study carried out, which forms an initial part of a future plan to develop different parts of the school building. We will update parents on an ongoing basis with regard to any developments in this area.
- 4. Ways in which parents/carers can be informed about the progress of their child/children.** We constantly seek new and improved ways of allowing parents/carers to be informed about their child's progress. We have added key curricular and assessment information to the school website (see curriculum and assessment page). We have also held *Curriculum Events* for parents in phonics, reading, writing, maths and assessment. Though these were not particularly well attended, feedback from parents was positive and helped them better understand the new curriculum and how this would impact on their child. It was also a good opportunity for information to be shared about the new testing process at KS1 and 2 and how pupils were now being assessed at school and how their progress will be measured. Copies of the presentations for these meeting are available on the website, under the curriculum and assessment page.

Please inform your child's teacher or myself if you have any other concerns and we will try to address them.

Thank you for your continued support, encouragement and enthusiasm.

Yours sincerely

Ben Towe  
Headteacher

