

Parents' & Carers' Survey - 2018



Your Views Count!

- *This document presents the results of our latest Annual Survey of Parent/Carer Views. The Survey was carried out in July 2018.*
- *This Survey – and the other smaller surveys we carry out from time to time – will help to shape the ongoing development of the school.*
- *Thankyou to all parents/carers who completed our Survey.*

“Quality of teaching – every teacher and TA do their very best and give the children lots of chances to learn. Varied curriculum (French, music, drama, football) – the kids have opportunities that aren’t available in all schools. Fantastic SEN provision and excellent trips which are fun but clearly linked to learning. Not one teacher/TA/office staff seems to have an off day, they are always friendly, welcoming and helpful. Excellent breakfast club and Home from Home provision – such good value and stimulating for children.”

Comment from a parent in this year’s Parents & Carer Survey. Many more inside!



CONTENTS

Section	Contents	Page(s)
1	Overall survey results.	3 - 4
2	Parent & Carer responses to the question: <i>In your opinion, what are the best things about Grangetown Primary School?</i>	5 - 7
3	Parent & Carer responses to the question: <i>Is there anything in particular that you'd change about the school?</i> Plus responses from the School.	8 - 10
4	Parent & Carer responses to the question: <i>In what ways would you like to see the school develop over the next three to five years?</i> Plus responses from the School.	11 - 12
5	Parent & Carer responses to the question: <i>Any other comments?</i>	13
Inside back page	A thank you, and a reminder that we're here to help: <i>"If you're happy, and your child is happy, then we're happy!"</i>	14
Back Page	A reminder to parents & carers that you can now apply for places in Nursery and Reception.	15



1. Overall Results of the Survey

75 families completed the Survey. At the time of the survey there were 190 families from Nursery to Year 6.

1. My child is happy at school.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know	Total % in Agreement
	89%	11%	0%	0%	0%	100%

2. My child feels safe at this school.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know	Total % in Agreement
	83%	17%	0%	0%	0%	100%

3. My child makes good progress at this school.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know	Total % in Agreement
	88%	12%	0%	0%	0%	100%

4. My child is well looked after at this school.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know	Total % in Agreement
	81%	19%	0%	0%	0%	100%

5. My child is well taught at this school.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know	Total % in Agreement
	91%	9%	0%	0%	0%	100%

6. My child receives appropriate homework for their age.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know	Total % in Agreement
	86%	14%	0%	0%	0%	100%

7. This school makes sure the pupils are well behaved.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know	Total % in Agreement
	76%	24%	0%	0%	0%	100%

8. This school deals effectively with bullying.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know	Total % in Agreement
	47%	20%	1%	0%	32%	67%

It is worth noting that only 1% of all parents disagree with this, which means that – potentially – 99% agree! The reason the 'Agree' figure is 67% is because our newer families simply don't know enough about the measures we take to promote an Ant-Bullying message, and the tangible and effective activities and strategies in place to ensure that the children understand how important it is to be kind and caring, and what to do if there is any sign of bullying. To remedy this, we will be embarking on a series of activities during 2018-19 to ensure that parents of our younger children know how well we address Anti-Bullying and PSHE (Personal, Social, Health Education).

9. This school is well led and managed.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know	Total % in Agreement
	74%	26%	0%	0%	0%	100%

10. This school is a welcoming and pleasant place to visit.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know	Total % in Agreement
	85%	15%	0%	0%	0%	100%

11. The school responds well to any concerns I raise.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know	Total % in Agreement
	74%	26%	0%	0%	0%	100%

12. I receive valuable information from the sch about my child's progress.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know	Total % in Agreement
	76%	24%	0%	0%	0%	100%

13. There are a good range of extra-curricular activities (Clubs) for my child to enjoy.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know	Total % in Agreement
	80%	18%	2%	0%	0%	98%

14. The school has a good reputation in the local community.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know	Total % in Agreement
	79%	13%	0%	0%	8%	92%

15.	Would you recommend Grangetown Primary School to another parent?	Yes: 100%	No: 0%
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2. Parent & Carers responses to the question: 'In your opinion, what are the best things about Grangetown Primary School'?

Nursery

- Good teachers.
- My son enjoys attending this school and always speaks highly of his teachers. He walks in every morning with a smile on his face. Happy child happy Mammy.
- My child enjoys being at school and the teachers are very friendly.

Reception

- Staff are friendly and Reception are welcoming.
- Warm and friendly atmosphere.
- Teachers are friendly and easy to talk to.
- Good understanding of the children. Teachers are good listeners and helpful.
- Kind teachers.
- The teachers and also after school clubs as well as the school trips.
- Good choice of clubs and being able to message Miss Tose (Tapestry?).
- The range of after school clubs are excellent and the teachers are all approachable.
- The children go on lots of trips and are always enthusiastic about what they have done/learned.
- Appropriate work for child's stage of development and great teachers.
- The whole provision is built for purpose. Children are able to still learn through play and through trips out.

Year 1

- Friendly atmosphere.
- My son loves this school and has a fantastic bond with his teachers and his one on one. I love how he's always taken into consideration with everything in school.
- All the staff are lovely, they always make you feel welcome, from the teachers to Belinda and Mrs Kilty. My child loves to go to Breakfast Club and Home from Home which is greatly appreciated as a working parent. I couldn't manage without this facility.
- Friendly and well-experienced staff.
- Very friendly and welcoming staff. The teachers seem to be very caring and thoughtful and very interactive with the children. Updates on Twitter and Facebook are great! We love looking at the updates.

Year 2

- Friendly staff and good range of after school clubs.
- The staff are friendly and always willing to help.
- The teachers and staff – they all do an amazing job.
- The teaching staff. The atmosphere and approachability of staff. All my children have always been happy to attend this school with no issues.
- It is a warm and friendly school.
- The friendly atmosphere. School is well organised to encourage learning.
- Help and support.
- Support from IMPACT. The staff are very helpful especially on desk at Reception.
- After school and in school activities. My child participates in violin, tech and stay and play club. Also the modern languages that are taught.

Year 3

- Kind teachers.
- Great teachers who really care about the pupils.
- Fantastic teachers. Gymnastics club has inspired my child to improve a lot – she loves this club.
- Lots of choice for clubs and always extra support for the children if needed.
- The clubs.
- It is warm and friendly.

Year 4

- Parent/teacher communication and after school clubs.
- The staff.
- Quality of teaching – every teacher and TA do their very best and give the children lots of chances to learn. Varied curriculum (French, music, drama, football) – the kids have opportunities that aren't available in all schools. Fantastic SEN provision and excellent trips which are fun but clearly linked to learning. Not one teacher/TA/office staff seems to have an off day, they are always friendly, welcoming and helpful. Excellent breakfast club and Home from Home provision – such good value and stimulating for children.
- Caring staff.
- The pupils, dedicated, polite and friendly office staff and teachers.
- The range of after school clubs is excellent. The teachers are all approachable.
- Everything.
- After school clubs. My children are happy at the school – teachers are good listeners and understanding of problems which could occur.
- Great teachers who really care about the pupils.

Year 5

- Good clubs, good staff, caring school on the whole, lots of activities and learning is fun.
- Teaching staff and opportunities. Both my children have been engaged, challenged, supported and nurtured. They both love school, love to learn and are sad when the school breaks up! That speaks volumes. The opportunities like Fab Lab have been amazing – I have been so impressed! I now have a child very interested in STEM and engaged in Science. Thank you!
- The kids enjoy their term topics and are happy to come to school. They also love the after school clubs.
- Teachers and Office staff are fantastic.
- The location and teaching is great. It is nurturing, there are lots of outings and I like the 2 year old provision idea.
- Kind teachers.
- The staff are friendly and always there for any concerns I may have.
- The children go on lots of trips and are always enthusiastic about what they have done/learned. My eldest has been especially enthusiastic about going to Fab Lab.
- Varied activities and we are always informed.
- All the staff, you are all amazing. I am always greeted with a warm welcome and my children feel safe and happy at Grangetown and that speaks volumes.

Year 6

- Absolutely everything.
- Warm, friendly atmosphere.
- The teaching staff and the facilities.
- The teachers are all fantastic and the variety of clubs and class trips are brilliant.
- Dedication to helping the children during SATs to reach their highest potential. Helping parents find a solution to other siblings during this time (i.e. free Breakfast Club).
- It is a very close knit and happy school. I love the way all children, parents, carers and teachers are all involved in so much. Even clubs for the little ones to join in like Messy Play.
- Learning is always fun for my children, from classroom to field trips, research topics. Teachers are so helpful, nothing is ever a problem if we have concerns or just information. We are kept up to date with everything that goes on at GPS. School looks great too!



3. Parents/carers responses to the question: *Is there anything in particular that you'd change about the school?*

Please note that these are all individual points, from individual parents/carers/families. However, as you can see, certain themes and points crop-up several times – ‘parking’ for example.

Comment from Parent/Carer	Our Response
Nursery	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parking 	<p>We have parking spaces at the bottom of Spelterworks Rd. Families of any child with a mobility issue are given a carpark permit.</p>
Reception	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shelter for parents and carers 	<p>We agree this would be great. We will look at fundraising towards this.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shelter in yard for bad weather when waiting for doors to open in the morning 	<p>See above.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parking – there is someone there on a morning so people with permits are allowed in school but not there for after school activities 	<p>Our caretaker very kindly supervises the main gate every morning, but this is not possible after school. Ultimately, families have to take personal responsibility for parking sensibly.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More notice on events with parental involvement as those who work can't always get the time off at short notice 	<p>We work very hard on getting communication right, and we feel it is a strength. Apologies if we have ever fallen short. We will continue to do our very best to get letters out promptly. We've also got Facebook now, so that will help.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School parent communication for parents that aren't able to do school run/working parents. Letters are sometimes given out quite late leaving little time to arrange/buy things (e.g. sports day/themed days etc) 	<p>See comment above.</p>
Year 1	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The only thing I would like is if you could pay for lunch, and Breakfast Club etc through Sunderland Council's Parent Pay site. This would be a great help to me as I work. By the time I arrive at the Office it is closed. I send the money in with my child but online would be easier. 	<p>We are considering implementing this in Spring Term 2019.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All good. We are very happy with the service 	<p>Thankyou!</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue your good work. Please stop the parents from smoking around the main entrance! And stop parking on Spelterworks Road! 	<p>We will look into this – a sign in that area may help.</p>

Year 2	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To progress to an outstanding school through even better teaching and expectations of students. It would be good as a parent to see or know more about children's targets and to know what the termly outcomes are. 	<p>Our half-termly Curriculum Pamphlets provide a lot of information about planned learning. We have issued termly yeargroup learning expectations in the past, and we will be continuing this during the new academic year. We will certainly review the type of information we pass on to parents, with a view to developing this aspect of our practice even further.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More activities in the playground. 	<p>We have invested in some new equipment, in response to a School Council survey of all of our children</p>
Year 3	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More sun shade during the hot weather 	<p>We agree this would be nice. We will look at fundraising towards this.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I would like to thank Miss Fraser for all her help and support with my child 	<p>Thankyou!</p>
Year 4	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have a crossing patrol 	<p>This is a Council decision. Due to budget cuts, the Council has removed crossing patrols from many schools across the City.</p>
Year 5	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parking issues – no one checks if parents have the relevant permits. This doesn't affect (child's name) directly other than witnessing some unpleasant exchanges in the parking area among other parents 	<p>Our caretaker supervises the main gate every morning. However, families have to take personal responsibility for parking sensibly and in a way that shows consideration for others.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> So many trips! I really value and appreciate the necessity for out of school learning but when you have more than one child, the cost can escalate. I understand however that the cost is heavily subsidised. 	<p>Thankyou for the feedback. We will keep this under review. We do heavily subsidise all trips, but we understand your concerns.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More shelter in the yard 	<p>We agree this would be nice. We will look at fundraising towards this.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parking facilities are totally inadequate 	<p>Ours are better than many schools – we have parking areas available at the bottom of Spelterworks Rd. We also provide permits to parents of children with mobility issues – we are one of the few schools that do that.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep stretching and challenging children who are capable of it 	<p>We will!</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More notice on events with parental involvement as those of us that work can't always get time off at short notice 	<p>We will continue to do our very best to get letters out promptly. We've also got Facebook now, so that will help.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We require more notice for parent/child activities due to working – we are unable to get time off to attend at short notice. 	<p>We will continue to do our very best to get letters out promptly. We've also got Facebook now, so that will help.</p>

Year 6

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A broader variety of reading materials. I feel that a lot of the literature available is all quite similar. Although I think this is the case at most schools	<p>We have a wide range of books, and we often add to our book stocks in classrooms and in the library. We are also setting up a 'suggest a book' initiative for children and parents – you are very welcome to add your ideas for books.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not so much the school as previously said – parking is still an issue unfortunately. There are still some who park on the bank, no child crossing can see over the top of the cars parked on the bank. It just frustrates me that it is still going on despite the numerous letters etc sent out.	<p>Yes, you're absolutely right. All car users need to take responsibility for driving and parking in a sensible and considerate way.</p>



4. Parents/carers responses to the question: *In what ways would you like to see the school develop over the next three to five years?*

Please note that these are all individual points, from individual parents/carers/families.

Comment from Parent/Carer	Our Response
Reception	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to offer places for 2 year olds 	We will – this new initiative is proving a great success.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep doing what you're doing and keep up the great work 	Thankyou!
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My daughter really likes her school and her teachers 	Thankyou!
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great school my daughter loves it 	Thankyou!
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I like the way the school joins in with lots of fun days such as World Book Day, Children in Need, Halloween, Pirate Day and French Day 	We're glad you like this!
Year 1	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extended breakfast club hours. Whilst weather is good adopt more of an outdoor learning scheme which promotes social skills, physical activity and can have a positive impact on self-esteem which all promotes learning. 	Breakfast Club starts at 7.45, which is quite an early start. We do have a high quality outdoor curriculum – feel free to pop in and we will explain more.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep what you are doing but maybe add more sports like basketball 	This year, we have joined with several other schools, to offer even more opportunities to participate in a range of sports.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have loved the Class Dojo and Tapestry Journal as I get to see what my child has been doing and I can share her home achievements. I hope she continues to use these throughout the school 	Thankyou!
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Just to say thank you for looking after my boys. Knowing they are happy and loves coming to Grangetown. It speaks volumes for the staff and all you do. 	Thankyou – you're welcome!
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More practical work for kids 	Our Curriculum has a very carefully thought out balance and interplay between practical, hands-on activities, and activities that might be called 'academic'. The two link together well, and support each other.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please could you answer questions and put things in the school diary quicker as most days we are unable to phone the Office or ask at class door at drop offs and pick-ups. Please could we be given more notice with invites into school for workshops and concerts etc so we can get time off work? 	We work very hard on getting communication right, and we feel it is a strength. Apologies if we have ever fallen short. We will continue to do our very best to get letters out promptly. We've also got Facebook now, so that will help.

Year 2	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More parental involvement. Breakfast Club extended. Many parents start work or need to be commuting before 7.45am. 	There are extensive opportunities for parental involvement, including Family Learning and regular Class Workshops. However, we'll keep this under review – please feel free to pop in and share your ideas via our parent suggestion boxes.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school seems a very happy and supportive environment. I am pleased my children go to Grangetown Primary School 	Thankyou!
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The kids having an opportunity to voice their views via a school blog or newsletter 	Good idea – we'll look into this.
Year 3	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The leavers hoodies to be given in winter as the past few weeks when it's hot the children are still wearing them as they have just got them 	Agreed! We are implementing this for the new school year.
Year 4	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swimming lessons for each year group once a week/fortnight 	Swimming takes place in years 4-6, and operates in particular half terms across the school – this works well, and enables us to meet our statutory obligations as a school.
Year 5	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep it up! Lots of activities and learning opportunities 	Thanks!
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep up the amazing links with the University etc and provide opportunities like Fab Lab. I love the idea of the 'morning mile' to encourage fitness. 	Thanks!
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I would love to see the kids being taught Makaton just like their French lessons. It will mean they will be able to communicate with everyone and all kids will feel involved and more accepted. 	We'll look into this. Thanks for your feedback.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued educational improvements 	Agreed!
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look at news in the world and do activities around this – English etc 	We do! Our topics, and lessons such as PSHE, regularly reflect events going on in the local community and in the wider world.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep doing what you're doing. Keep up the great work. 	Thankyou!
Year 6	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I think the children should be made aware that the secondary school will be very different at an earlier stage of their final year at GPS 	We have a range of transition activities in place – it's a comprehensive programme.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I still feel the school has already come a long way from my eldest first starting Nursery. I believe the school is going from strength to strength. SATs results were amazing. 	Thankyou!

5. Any other comments?

- | |
|---|
| • I like the way the school joins in with lots of fun days, it makes school more interesting for pupils |
| • There is good communication with teachers |
| • My child loves school and will be sad to leave |
| • My child has had a wonderful time at Grangetown Primary and has been helped a great deal by the staff |
| • My daughter has only been in the school for two years but has loved every second and I would like to thank you all for helping her settle in |
| • A big well done to the parents group who put so much effort in to the school – they do an amazing job |
| • Yes! Year 6 teachers. THANK YOU for preparing my daughter so well to sit her SATs. You are truly amazing – the time and effort you put in – my child actually enjoyed SATs week. Also Year 6 and Year 2 teachers have been fantastic with their support to our children with matters outside of school and I thank you! |
| • Just keep doing what you're doing. It's a lovely school. |
| • The school seems a happy and supportive environment. I'm pleased my children go to Grangetown Primary School. |
| • Thank you for looking after my children – they are happy to come to school and that speaks volumes. |
| • I love Tapestry and Class Dojo. |



Thankyou for responding to our Survey!



If you have any queries or concerns, or any questions, please do not hesitate to call into school, speak to your child's teacher, or to the Head or Deputy Head, or to our Office staff.

We are all here to help!

If you're happy, and your child is happy, then we're happy!

Now turn to the back page for an important message....

It's time to Apply for your child's Reception or Nursery Place!



- If your child was born between 1st September 2014 and 31 August 2015, you can apply for a place in our Reception for September 2019.
- To apply, either go online at www.sunderland.gov.uk/admissionsonline (there is a link on our Facebook page) or you can call into school for an Application Form. Application forms are also available from the Council, on 0191 514 0101.
- We also have a Nursery, with places for children aged 3-4. There are 3 entry points annually: September, January, April. Call at our Office for an application form & details.
- We now cater for 2 year olds! We offer 15 hours free every week, to eligible families. Paid-for sessions are also possible. Please enquire at the school office.
- Do you have any family, friends or neighbours seeking a place in Nursery or Reception – please spread the word!