



St Mary Magdalen's Catholic Primary Parent Questionnaire – March 2023



Parent Survey

Your Opinion Counts

Results were as follows...

Question	Agree or Strongly Agree
My child enjoys coming to school.	93.4%
My child feels safe at school.	98.4%
My child is encouraged to work hard and do their best.	98.4%
My child receives an appropriate amount of homework for his/her age.	88.5%
The school offers a stimulating range of extra-curricular activities.	90.2%
The school communicates with me effectively about my child's progress.	98.4%
The school caters well for my child's religious and spiritual experience.	90.2% (9.8% said not applicable)
There is a good standard of behaviour at St Mary Magdalen's.	96.7%
The school deals with any incidents of bullying effectively.	60.6% (36.1% said not applicable)
I think the school is well led and managed.	95.1%
The school's website is easy to use and has information I need to know about my child's school.	85.2%
The school supports my child's wider personal development.	95%
I would recommend this school to another family.	98.3%

Areas working well



Pastoral care - teachers genuinely care.

Caring teachers.

Local school within the community.

Good structure, work ethic and a great environment for kids to thrive.

I love that the school feels like a big family, we have received a lot of help that we really appreciate and never feel judged for. We also love that there is always communication between teachers and parents if there are any issues.

There's a real sense that everyone cares deeply about the wellbeing of all of the pupils.

Some amazing teachers. Approachable staff.

Friendly, approachable staff. The children are at the focus of the school and it is like a big school family.

Caring and inclusive ethos.

The staff at all levels are friendly and approachable. The school offers a balanced curriculum and knows each child individually.

The school has always operated with open transparency and inclusivity wherever possible.

It's a lovely school. The teachers are lovely and I can't believe how much she's come on since September.

Set a good standard of behaviour and all staff and teachers are nurturing.

St. Mary Magdalen's is a wonderful caring school. Both of my children have thrived / are thriving at this school. Mrs. Goodwin and Mrs. Ball are both doing a great job leading the school in the right direction. Children are allowed to be themselves, and leave being well rounded and kind individuals. All staff are approachable. Education is to a high standard. The school has a lovely atmosphere and all children are well behaved and well mannered. Education is to a high standard and always feel my child is pushed to fulfil her potential.

The welcoming, supportive, safe feel the staff provide at the school.

The family feel of the school and positive atmosphere where staff know the children well. The after-school club provision has greatly improved with lots of different opportunities for pupils to get involved with.

Teachers are approachable and any issues that have had to be address are resolved quickly There is a strong family feel to the school.

As a family, we value the pastoral care and ethos of the school. The fact that Christ is at the centre and children are supported, as unique individuals, to be inquisitive and grow to be the best versions of themselves. We feel that there is a strong curriculum offer in place at St Mary Magdalen's and appreciate that the school has an open-door policy should parents have any queries or concerns.

Communication between school and home has improved and the texting service has been a great addition as a form of communication. As working parents we have also used the breakfast and tea time club provision which is an additional positive to all that the school offers. Thank you to Mrs Goodwin, Mrs Ball and all of the hard working staff team at St. Mary Magdalen's.

Warm and welcoming environment, my daughter seems to know all of the teachers, not just her own, and they are all very friendly and approachable.

Very friendly school.

Family ethos. Caring and inclusive.

In a world of negativity, it's a shining example of positivity and how we should treat one another!

My son's current teacher has an excellent understanding of his strengths and weaknesses and supports him to succeed. He feels safe and comfortable in her class and is thriving both academically and in self-confidence. The school has high expectations of behaviour and attitude to learning. The Head teacher works closely with parents to ensure any issues are resolved and children's well-being is a priority. The staff all know who my son is by name and there feels like there is genuine care for him as an individual. He is very happy and well supported at school.

The ethos of the school and the standard of teaching my child has received so far.

Lovely school looks after it's pupils and cares a lot about their families too.

The children are at the heart of everything, family oriented, lovely supportive staff and really effective SEND support

It's a very family friendly community school that is extremely supportive.

Quality of learning, professionalism of the staff, curriculum.

This is a very supportive and community school with excellent relationships with parents.

The school has a lovely sense of community. St Mary's is a lovely school, the teachers are lovely and really take the time to get to know the children.

Teachers are approachable, electronic communication has improved, additional activities after school.

I feel the school do everything and more to support my child's academic and social needs.

Areas to develop



Less homework for reception year.

I'm really not sure! There's nothing I don't like.

Timely Communication for some things within class.

After or during school book club journal club. Computer club Chess club. Lots of sporting activities available be good to have other options too.

Communication - Too many platforms to keep track of. Parent Pay, Twitter, Our School App, Letters, relying on children themselves etc. Please use one platform or put the same message on all platforms as this would avoid confusion.

More varied after or during school clubs such as book club, journal club, chess club, computer club, art club. Lots of sports but alternative clubs would be good. Enjoying Spanish club.

Communication is definitely improving. More feedback on areas to improve or work on at home would always be of value. Sometimes things have moved on since we learned something, so latest methods are of value for homework etc. School lunches can be hit and miss, sometimes good selection other can be limited depending on where you are in the ordering.

More challenging homework please.

More to challenge and celebrate most able academic students e.g, maths challenges for all ages, chess/games clubs and competitions. Making sure students who quietly 'get on with it' and are well behaved are celebrated and rewarded not overlooked in preference of louder students.

Possibly some non sports extra-curricular activities.

Communication on just one place would be easier for parents to follow. Rather than apps, social media, texts, letters. It does make it harder having to check everything and would be easier in one place so parents don't miss something. Although this does seem to have improved recently.

More time spent with children who are struggling more than others.

Dislike split classes in year groups but understand why this is done.

Further work on self-esteem and resilience.

Invite parents more into school for different activities/celebrations e.g. celebration assemblies, guest readers, Someone Special Lunch etc.

More play equipment and structure on the playground during play times and lunch times to keep the children busy. Maybe look at the OPAL play ideas.

Give parents more notice of the details of events which involve parents having to come into school and arrange time off work.

I don't use twitter, yet many updates are only via twitter.

Communication, there are too many sources/methods of information, it can be challenging at times.

More activities on the yard for break times.

Consolidate communication platforms. Some important information is sent via Parent Pay, some by Evidence me, some by letters given to children.

More praise/rewards for children that try their best, and don't get into trouble.

Nothing. I do think the text service is a great way of communicating with parents. Which is a new improvement.

Communication could be more centralised and school dates could be shared sooner for working parents.

Example in the homework book for maths, to make it easy for parents to support children at home.

Maybe the rewards system. Not a certificate as such but maybe even a simple recognition for consistent behaviour, progression of work, attitudes to learning.

Our ideas and action points moving forward are as follows...

1. Communication

This was commented on in many of the responses and is certainly something we would like to review in line with this. We acknowledge that we do use different forms of communication and will send out some further information around this.

2. Extra-curricular activities

We endeavour to ensure that a more varied range of extra-curricular clubs are on offer from September 2023 in order to support children's wellbeing and personal development. The suggestions shared so far are fantastic!

3. Support and challenge for homework

Where it is appropriate, this is something staff will look to do to ensure that correct methods in mathematics or terminology are shared, to help parents when supporting at home. Homework is set to recap and revise concepts taught in school therefore it will not be challenging in terms of new learning, but will ensure children have a secure understanding of current learning in school.

4. Reward systems

This is a wonderful suggestion and something we had been discussing how to achieve in school. We have so many children who are fully immersed in school life and live out our mission statement every day. We will explore ways to ensure children who do this are celebrated and rewarded!

5. Play equipment

We have recently purchased new equipment, which the sports leaders will be sharing at break and lunchtimes. We have also invested in a speaker so that we can play music on the yard for children that would like to listen or dance. Our 'Friends of the School' group are currently looking into ways we can fundraise to buy some fixed large play equipment for all children to access. More information will be coming home this term regarding this.

6. Opportunities for parents to become more involved

It is always our pleasure to welcome families into school. We currently have Class Liturgical Prayer, Masses, Christmas celebrations, Music concerts and other class-based events. If anyone has any suggestions of other events that would be welcomed, please get in touch with us!



Thank you to everyone who has responded to our Parent Questionnaire, to which the data has been summarised below. Your feedback is imperative to helping us to shape our school effectively and move forward together.

We hope the actions and next steps are warmly received!