



## Ravensmead Parental Questionnaire Spring Term 2016

### Analysis of Responses

We were very grateful for 246 responses and the percentages calculated have been rounded up or down. Within the next term we also intend to consult all our children in an age appropriate way about their experiences and perception of Ravensmead Primary School.

		Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
1	My child is happy at this school	67%	33%			
2	My child feels safe at this school	72%	28%			
3	My child makes good progress at this school	67%	30%	<1%		2%
4	My child is well looked after at this school	73%	26%	<1%		<1%
5	My child is taught well at this school	73%	26%			<1%
6	My child receives appropriate homework for their age	55%	43%	<1%	<1%	1%
7	This school makes sure its pupils are well behaved	63%	34%	<1%		2%
8	This school deals effectively with bullying	40%	31%	2%		26%
9	This school is well led and managed	64%	34%	<1%		<1%
10	This school responds well to any concerns I raise	56%	35%	1%		8%
11	I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress	53%	43%	3%	<1%	<1%
12	Would you recommend this school to another parent?	70%	29%	<1%		<1%

### **Feedback From Parental Questionnaire – Spring 2016**

Thank you for your completing the Ravensmead Parental Questionnaire. The school has received over 240 responses which is an excellent proportion of our parents who have taken the trouble to provide invaluable feedback.

#### Headlines

- **“100% of our pupils feel happy and safe at school”**. We are delighted with this figure because they remain our priorities even during a period of constant change in education.
- For all questions (where parents have not recorded a number of ‘don’t knows’) **96%+** ‘strongly agree’ and ‘agree’.
- Over **99% would recommend Ravensmead** to another parent with **70%** saying that they would **“strongly recommend”** the school.

- Over **98% felt that homework was appropriate**. This is a surprisingly high figure.
- Where parents said that they 'did not know' how well the school dealt with bullying (26%) most qualified this by saying that they did not have experience of this issue and therefore could not reflect upon the school's actions. A similar response was given for the 'responding to any concerns' question (8%).

### Autumn 2013 Questionnaire

Those parents who were with us Autumn 2013 may recall similar very positive responses. Parents did, however, at that time make a number of suggestions.

1. In common with the children, parents agreed that putting the newsletter onto the school website was a positive development and **this we have done**, (supported by the pupils themselves)
2. The text messaging service was proving to be very popular and helpful for busy parents and we have been able to secure funding **to enable this important service to continue**.
3. In 2013 the parents said that they would like to have more information about the work of the Governing Board and the individual roles and responsibilities played by governors. These comments have been repeated by a small number of parents in this most recent questionnaire and, therefore, this is an issue **which we must continue to address**.
4. Some parents said that they were unable to attend curriculum presentations due to work commitments and asked whether they could be arranged at other times. At Ravensmead we would hope to work in partnership with all our families and, therefore, most of our presentations have taken place **immediately after school and frequently also at 6pm**. In addition the presentation materials are also **placed on the website**.

### Feedback From Optional Questions on this Spring 2016 Survey

#### Question 15

The vast majority of parents were very happy with current arrangements for Parents Evenings and reporting, however, a small number felt that the Homework/Reading Diary could be used more frequently as a form of communication between school and home and vice versa. You will see from the Questionnaire breakdown that 96% of parents were happy with the information the school provided about their child's progress.

#### Question 16

This question was also linked to question 15 with most parents very happy with all forms of communication. A small number suggested email communication but at this time the school feels that this is not manageable. Parents are reminded that the school operates a weekly surgery on a Wednesday at 3.30pm where parents can talk to their child's class teacher and in addition we have an open door policy where teachers make themselves available whenever possible.

#### Question 17

A number of parents have stated that they would welcome more information about the Governing Board (the new term for Governing Body) and the individual responsibilities governors have. There is now much more information about the governors on the school website but parents have

said that they welcomed the recent input from one of our governors at the end of a performance and may indeed welcome the attendance of some at Parents' Evening.

#### Question 18

Feedback about the school's website is almost entirely very positive with parents very much appreciating the range of information available and the fact that every effort is made to update it regularly. I am grateful to the work of our teachers, Miss Horne and Mrs Barlow and also to our young Roving Reporters. If you have not visited the website recently I would recommend it.

#### Question 19

Parents' comments were very favourable in support of the range of information evenings and workshops now available for parents. Where suggestions were made they were largely concerned with alternating days and times to enable the majority of families to access these sessions.

#### Question 20

Comments here were very favourable about the school. A small number of parents expressed an interest in a possible forum and also parents would appreciate the maximum possible notice for events such as class assemblies, to enable them to attend.

#### Question 21

Parents were almost universally very supportive of the school's enrichment programme with only one parent feeling that parents were paying twice if they had supported the fund raising activity and then were asked to pay for an educational visit. Parents were very supportive of our after school clubs programme, with a small number wishing for greater choice in the Foundation Stage and Year One. I continue to be very grateful to the staff who regularly give their time to enrich the experiences of our children. Most parents however felt that fundraising was a creative way to keep the cost of visits down and parents were very positive about the learning benefits of an enriched curriculum. A number of parents were very supportive of the many opportunities now planned into the curriculum to give the children first hand/real experiences.

#### Question 22

Most parents were aware of the prestigious "quality marks" but would appreciate some more information and further explanations, possibly on the website.

#### Questions 23 & 24

Not all parents fully understood the term "Pupil Premium funding" and indeed how this was allocated and spent at Ravensmead. I would direct parents to the Pupil Premium section of the school website where there is a comprehensive report recording expenditure for the previous academic year and also planned expenditure throughout the current academic year. **In terms of the progress made by pupils in receipt of Pupil Premium funding or indeed those pupils who have qualified for "Free School Meals" in the past, most educational observers would say that for the last 3 years at end of Key Stage 2 the progress of this group has been outstanding. Parents may also wish to view the PE and Sports Premium on the website.**

## General Comments/Observations

There were a number of parents who appreciate that safety and security remains the school's number one priority and a small number of parents responded by saying that although parking etc had improved, there were still times when some parents were irresponsible with their parking and placed others at risk. Unfortunately it may be impossible to employ "parking attendants" as suggested by one family.

One family in their response questioned whether the tradition amongst some families to send in sweets for their child's birthday was something that could be discouraged. Some teachers "suspect" that some children tell their parents that there is almost an expectation that they bring in sweets. Recently one family brought in rubbers for the children to have, this may be a more positive development but certainly at the very least it should be stressed that children do not have to bring in sweets on their birthday and if they do we would, of course, remind them that they should not start to eat them until they are off the school premises. There is, of course, a wider and serious debate at the moment about children's health, including weight issues and the amount of exercise children take. The school's "healthy" quality mark no longer exists but it may be possible for the school to pursue a similar mark in the future.

Can we once again thank you for the time taken to complete these questionnaires. As promised, we will look at them carefully and respond where possible. You may note that we have only two "strongly disagree" responses, one for question 6 and one for question 11. We will be able to respond directly to one of these but the other was anonymous. We have been very interested in your responses to the optional questions and have already started the process of responding directly to parents. This can be to agree or disagree but not to challenge and if we are going to continue to improve we must take heed of all responses and learn from them and the messages they give to us.

Yours sincerely

Mr D Bell  
Headteacher

Mr S Swatton  
Chair of Governors