



Talbot Primary School - Parents' Survey Results May 2016

Thank very much to those parents and carers who completed the questionnaire this year. We received 116 responses from across the school, from Nursery to Year 6. The responses were overwhelmingly positive, however please rest assured that all comments are fundamentally valuable in supporting our continuing journey as a school. We aim to be the best we can be, are guided by our commitment to 'Courage, truth and loyalty,' and are very appreciative of your support. Many of your comments and responses will be integrated into our school improvement planning for 2016-17.

To support your understanding a thorough feedback of parent and carer responses has been provided. This is combined with school based actions and your additional comments. We have also added opinions from the children to further support your understanding.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me, via the school office or on the playground if you have any questions or queries.

Kind regards,

Mrs Parm Gill (Headteacher)

My child/children enjoy school and is/are happy to attend

98% Positive Responses

What are we doing to support this statement?

- Children are regularly involved in reviewing and developing our progress in school, e.g. how to make Growth Mindsets relevant to them, anti-bullying policy review and developing our approach to homework.
- Children are developing their awareness as learners and the tools they need to develop further.

What are we doing well ?

- *'I am so glad I chose Talbot. My son loves school, he is always looking forward to going and is making very good progress. Keep up the good work.'*
- *'I think the range of after and during school activities is varied and very impressive. It gives the children the opportunity to try new things.'*

How can we do even better?

- *'Year One has been a shock to the system as it is very different to Reception—I would have liked more play based learning to ease transition.'*
- *'Sometimes playground issues are not picked up quickly enough.....'Can shrubbery be planted in the playground to develop this as a play area?'*

What will we do now?

- Transition evenings are scheduled for all year groups, **Monday 11th July from 6.00pm.**
- Continue to involve the children in shaping and reviewing how we approach teaching and learning and allocate school funds to re-vamp the playground area once the 'bulge cohort' expansion has concluded.
- Continue to implement PHSCE sessions that enable staff and children to focus on dealing with any playground issues.

My child/children feel safe at this school

99% Positive Responses

What are we doing to support this statement?

- Children know at least five people they can talk to in school if they feel worried or upset.
- A programme of assemblies, curriculum provision and day to day pastoral care support children cover all aspects of safety, i.e. online to face to face.

What are we doing well ?

- *'I have been very impressed by the level of pastoral care offered by the school and issues are dealt with quickly and effectively.'*
- *'I can definitely raise concerns if I had any.'*

How can we do even better?

- *'Continue to focus on organising good behaviour and focus on teaching the underlying issues such as social skills, solving problems fairly and acknowledging that differences are OK.'*
- *'Always room for further improvement.'*

What will we do now?

- Continue with a commitment to academic and pastoral programmes of support through leadership and learning mentor support.
- Children to continue to feel they can approach and discuss any concerns they may have with staff.
- Regular reinforcement of key safety messages, from online safety to personal safety via assemblies and the curriculum.

'The teachers make the lessons fun, but make us work hard and help us when we need it.' Y4 child

'I'm really happy to come to this school. I like the lessons, the teachers and different subjects we get to do.' Y2 child

'Everyone is a part of this community and it is a happy, friendly place to be.' Y6 child

My child/children make good progress at this school

98% Positive Responses

What are we doing to support this statement?

- Working collaboratively as a teaching team to ensure that every child makes progress from their starting point.
- Supporting the children to access the right level of challenge within lessons, thereby leading to progress.
- Empowering children to develop their awareness as learners, celebrate success and work on developments.

What are we doing well ?

- *'The evidence is clear in his work, his books and at parents' evenings.'*
- *'My child's progress academically and socially has been steady and constant....progress and curriculum information is very good.'*

How can we do even better?

- *'I would like to hear a bit more about the other subjects areas and how they are valued and developed.'*
- *'Only information on progress is at twice yearly parents evening which I do not feel is enough.'*

What will we do now?

- Review the school's curriculum long term plans with staff and children to ensure we reflect on how to continue to maintain rigour in the curriculum alongside ongoing creativity.
- Continue with formal reports at the end of the academic year alongside opportunities for parents/carers to come into school to share books with their children.

My child/children is/are well looked after at this school

100% Positive Responses

What are we doing to support this statement?

- Ensuring parents and children are able to approach support staff, teachers, phase leaders and senior leaders if they have any concerns.
- Proactively following up any issues to ensure support is effectively provided and our positive behaviour policy utilised.

What are we doing well ?

- *'I think all the staff have the children at the heart of what they do.'*
- *'I have been very impressed by the level of pastoral care offered by the school and any issues are dealt with quickly and effectively.'*

How can we do even better?

- *'Whilst the form teacher has been very responsive and intervened for an issue I wonder if more can be done in general to address passive aggression.'*
- *'Some behaviours are not dealt with appropriately.'*

What will we do now?

- PHSCE lessons and pastoral team support will continue to develop children's confidence to speak out or challenge behaviours they find uncomfortable.
- Continue to work with parents on an ongoing basis to ensure any response to behaviour issues are shown to be linked directly to our working behaviour policy.

'I've definitely made good progress this year...I can see it in my book from the beginning to the end.' Y6 child

'The teachers and adults in school help us to feel safe. If you are unhappy you can see an adult.' Y2 child

'Everyone can share their opinions if they feel something is not right.' Y3

My child/children is/are taught well at this school

99% Positive Responses

What are we doing to support this statement?

- Ongoing fundamental review of teaching and learning approaches to ensure all staff have the right skills to ensure children have a memorable and enjoyable learning experience.
- Ensuring our teaching methods enable all children to learn appropriately and challenge their limits.

What are we doing well ?

- *'Fantastic teachers and great focus on development areas.'*
- *'I think the school is constantly evaluating how teaching is delivered and I trust that the methods used are well researched.'*

How can we do even better?

- *'My child could potentially be stretched further and bad habits cracked down more strongly on.'*
- *'The new national gradings make it difficult to judge individual progress — 'within expectation' is very broad.'*

What will we do now?

- Continue to ensure that the curriculum we teach meets national expectations with a clear focus on core skills, e.g. Basic maths skills, fluency, reasoning, spelling, sentence construction and handwriting.
- Maintain a commitment to teach the above within an exciting, interesting and engaging lesson structure.

My child/children receives appropriate homework for their age

80% Positive Responses

What are we doing to support this statement?

- Ensuring that learning log activities are a mixture of tasks and investigations.
- Trying to balance national recommendations for homework against varying beliefs amongst parents/carers.

What are we doing well ?

- *'The learning log activities are the most enjoyable, interesting and creative pieces of work that engage the family whilst embedding key skills.'*
- *'The variety of homework on offer allows my child to choose appropriately.'*

How can we do even better?

- *'I would like more homework for my child.'*
- *'My child receives too much homework for their age.'*

What will we do now?

- Continue to provide a balance of core skills and investigations to maintain levels of involvement from the children.
- Review the homework policy in 2016-17.

'I like all the clubs because they have something for every one.' Y4 child

'Learning logs are fun, because you get to choose your activity.' Y5 child

'We know about events in school. We feel confident that we will be listened to if we want to try new things out.' Y4 child

The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved

97% Positive Responses

What are we doing to support this statement?

- Use rewards to praise good behaviour, e.g. stickers, stamps and Good Work Awards.
- Promoting and developing good learning behaviours across the school, e.g. coping with challenge and celebrating success.

What are we doing well ?

- *'Growth Mindset work this year has hugely benefitted my child and is great.'*
- *'Good behaviour and respect for others is important and poor behaviour is dealt with appropriately.'*

How can we do even better?

- *'I can see the willingness for resolutions, however sometimes I do not agree with the actions.'*
- *'Sometimes my child's friends can be too dominant.'*

What will we do now?

- Renew and develop our commitment to Growth Mindsets in 2016-17. Parents will be invited to the briefing **'Growth Mindsets ... one year on' in September 2016**, led by Vicky Bluck.
- Support children to speak out if they feel uneasy about any playground issues.

The school deals effectively with bullying

56% Positive Responses

41% Don't know

What are we doing to support this statement?

- Ongoing curriculum teaching, assemblies and theme weeks to discuss bullying, its various forms and actions.
- Regular pupil interviews to discuss understanding of bullying and procedures if they felt unsafe.

What are we doing well ?

- *'This issue hasn't arisen for our children so I don't know!' 'My child has not experienced bullying so I assume it is being dealt with effectively.'*
- *'I have never had the need to discuss any bullying issues ...but I could definitely raise concerns if I had any.'*

How can we do even better?

- *'I think this is incredibly difficult to deal with but I feel incidents have not been dealt with effectively.'*

What will we do now?

- Continue with our programme of anti-bullying awareness, pupil led interviews and discussions with children.
- Continue to work alongside parents and carers to ensure awareness of our anti-bullying policies when required.

The school is well led and managed

95% Positive Responses

What are we doing to support this statement?

- All leaders take pride in being visible and approachable to parents/carers and children.
- Senior leaders have been proactive in ensuring a comprehensive programme of key dates and briefings support awareness of the school's direction.

What are we doing well ?

- *'The professionalism, focus, direction of the senior management team is very impressive and reassuring.'*
- *'I can easily talk to management, both formally and informally.'*
- *'The school remains under a steady hand with an engaged governing body.'*

How can we do even better?

- *'The leadership team may well be doing a sterling job, but I don't know about it.'*

What will we do now?

- Continue with our commitment to briefings, newsletters and daily presence in and around school to demonstrate the difference leaders are making on the learning for all our children.
- Maintain open communication and commitment to phase leaders to ensure parents and carers are able to access leader support when required.

The school responds well to any concerns I raise

95% Positive Responses

What are we doing to support this statement?

- Leaders and teachers at all levels are receptive to any contact from parents/carers.
- The Headteacher, Deputy head and Assistant Headteacher are consistently available to discuss any concerns formally or informally.

What are we doing well ?

- *'Any concerns I have had have been dealt with very quickly and I feel I have been given the opportunity to discuss fully.'*
- *'Strong team, much improved communication and links to headteacher and phase leaders.'*

How can we do even better?

- *'My only concern is about the children playing on concrete at playtime.'*

What will we do now?

- Leaders at all levels to continue to be available to discuss concerns and delegate where appropriate to allow for swift resolutions.
- A whole-scale review of the outside area is planned for in 2016-18 in order to re-invigorate our outside area. The children will be involved in re-designing the outside environment.

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

93% Positive Responses

What are we doing to support this statement?

- Providing parents and carers with the opportunity to bring their children to consultation evenings if they think it is helpful.
- Ensuring there is a combination of both formal and informal opportunities for parents and carers to receive updates on their child's progress.

What are we doing well ?

- *'Parents' evenings have been very informative.'*
- *'I am always kept informed about my child's progress...will be a great foundation for when he goes to High School.'*

How can we do even better?

- *'The new assessment procedures are somewhat confusing.'*
- *'Is the curriculum narrowing opportunities for creative learning? We should not bow to the government, but trust the teachers.'*

What will we do now?

- Continue to support understanding on how progress is assessed and measured with parents, carers and children—how can this be simplified further?
- Ensure parents and carers can continue to choose if they would like their child to attend consultation evenings.

Would you recommend the school to another parent?

Yes: 98%
No: 2%

'The best things are that you are included in everything and they solve things quick and fairly. I also love most of the lessons and all the staff and teachers!' Y6 child

'I think that Talbot is a great school to go to if you want to feel as if you've achieved something each year. Talbot is also a place where I feel that you can be open to the teachers about any: home, friendship or other issues that may occur.' Y6 child