



Parents/Carers Survey

Autumn 2019



Your Views Count!

This document presents the results of the survey of Parent/Carer views.

The Survey was carried out in October 2019.

This Survey – and the other smaller surveys we may carry out from time to time – will help to shape the ongoing development of the school.

Thank-you to all Parents/Carers who completed our survey.

1. Overall Results of the Survey

35 Parents/Carers responded. At the time of the survey there were 48 families in the school.

		Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A	Total % in Agreement	Total % who disagree
1	My Child is happy at School	80%	20%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%
2	My child feels safe at this School	83%	17%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%
3	My child makes good progress at School	80%	20%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%
4	My child is well looked after at this School	80%	20%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%
5	My child is well taught at this School	86%	14%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%
6	My child receives appropriate homework for their age	43%	51%	6%	0%	0%	94%	6%
7	This School makes sure the pupils are well behaved	63%	37%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%
8	This School deals effectively with bullying	20%	17%	0%	0%	63%	37% but rising to 100% if we take N/A94%	0%
9	This School is a welcoming and pleasant place to visit	83%	17%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%
10	This School responds well to any concerns I raise	68%	26%	0%	0%	6%	94% but rising to 100% if we take N/A	0%
11	I receive valuable information from the School about my child's progress	69%	31%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%
12	Communication between the School and Parents/Carers is good	66%	34%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%

Next, we will take each question in turn, and add our response

2. Our Response to the survey results, question by question

1. My child is happy in School.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A	Total % in Agreement
	80%	20%	0%	0%	0%	100%

Our Response: It is fabulous that so many people can see that ALL of the pupils at Thurlton are happy to be in school. The staff and pupils have worked hard together to create a positive atmosphere inside the school that promotes learning and self-confidence. The fact that the pupils feel safe and they enjoy their learning and activities provided help us to ensure that the pupils are productive learners. We are strong advocates that happy pupils make the best learners. We work hard as a team to ensure that this is consistent through the year groups so that a child's time at school is a happy one.

2. My child feels safe at this school	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A	Total % in Agreement
	83%	17%	0%	0%	0%	100%

Our Response: It is wonderful to see that 100% of pupils feel safe when they come to school. As a staff and a community we work hard to promote safeguarding at Thurlton Primary. The fact that 100% of our pupils feel safe is testament to how hard staff and pupils work using measures such as Safeguarding week, school site security, policies and teaching the pupils key skills about staying safe in the wider world (including online). We work hard to help our pupils see that it is very important to treat each other with respect and to look after one another in a kind and caring manner.

3. My child makes good progress at School	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A	Total % in Agreement
	80%	20%	0%	0%	0%	100%

Our Response: We always ensure we hold conversations (informal and formal) with Parents/Carers to keep them fully informed between formal communications.

To support this open communication we also aim to keep Parents/Carers informed through the use of consultation evenings spread throughout the year and Target sheets. The Target sheets are designed to be sent home during the half terms when there is not an official Parent/Carer consultation evening to ensure Parents/Carers are kept informed about progress and targets for their child/ren. We also actively encourage Parents/Carers to come into school for our Come, Look and Share Open Afternoons as this allows the pupils to show their work and talk about their own progress. We have recently updated our curriculum to ensure that pupils receive a breadth of learning. In turn this means that they are able to make progress. We have highly qualified staff who are adept at noticing when pupils need support or extension, enabling progress to be made.

If you can think of any other ways we can help keep you informed, please put them in our Suggestions Box.

4. My child is well looked after at this School	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A	Total % in Agreement
	80%	20%	0%	0%	0%	100%

Our Response: Our school is a caring community and it is wonderful to have this recognised. Our pupils look after each other and have responded well to the models set by staff and the community alike. All of the adults within the school have a kind and considerate nature and aim to provide a nurturing environment that supports learning and progress emotionally and within curriculum based targets. It is wonderful to know that Parents/Carers have acknowledged that all the pupils feel safe and cared for when they are at school.

5. My child is well taught at this School	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A	Total % in Agreement
	86%	14%	0%	0%	0%	100%

Our Response: At Thurlton Primary we have actively sought to add to and strengthen our team by employing people who share our ethos and are qualified to support the pupils in the best ways possible. Each Teacher and Teaching Assistant brings a highly qualified skill set and they are all well equipped to carry out their roles. Thank you to everyone for recognising the hard work that has gone into this area and the recognition of our successes so far. Our promise to you is that we intend to maintain this in the coming years.

6. My child receives appropriate homework for their age	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A	Total % in Agreement
	43%	51%	6%	0%	0%	94%
<p>Our Response: Each class receives homework that is linked to their age and levels of ability. The expectation of daily reading is widely recognised as beneficial and spellings, sentence writing and maths are all linked to our topics to ensure consolidation of what is taught in class. This also promotes greater links between Parents/Carers and school to ensure that they are fully aware of their child's progress.</p> <p>We would like hear from the Parents/Carers that disagree with the Homework Policy so that we can ensure that all of you have input and a say in what we do and to help us ensure homework is tailored appropriately to all age groups.</p>						
7. This School makes sure the pupils are well behaved	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A	Total % in Agreement
	63%	37%	0%	0%	0%	100%
<p>Our Response: Thurlton Primary has very high expectations for good behaviour and this has been identified and praised by the community, visitors and places we have visited on many occasions. Many of these comments have now been recorded upon School Evaluation sheets so they can be shared with Parents/Carers and other professionals who may visit our school.</p> <p>Comments have included how calm and well-mannered the pupils are, how well they care about each other and how respectful they are to the adults they encounter.</p> <p>The clear systems in the school promote this type of behaviour; The use of the School Code, which is developed with staff and pupils, models the expectations for good behaviour. We have robust systems in place to deal with inappropriate behaviour that are consistent and effective.</p> <p>All staff employed by the school (including MSA's) are trained in and encouraged to use Positive Behaviour Management. This has aided our aim to illustrate to pupils that good behaviour helps and supports them as well as others giving them a strong sense of personal responsibility.</p> <p>We have a variety of consequences and rewards which help pupils to make good choices and encourage them to work hard to behave well at all times.</p> <p>Each class uses the 5R's to help pupils understand, develop, access and use good Behaviours for Learning. This has been introduced and is now firmly entrenched in our curriculum and every day learning. The pupils in school are adept at recognising and highlighting the good learning behaviours of others.</p>						
8. This School deals effectively with bullying	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A	Total % in Agreement
	20%	17%	0%	0%	63%	37%
<p>Our Response: It is good to see that 37% of you agree that the school deals effectively with bullying. We are hoping that the 63% of Parents/Carers who responded to the questionnaire by using N/A feel that there is not a significant issue with bullying at the school and that it simply does not occur.</p> <p>As a school we do need to highlight that Thurlton Primary has a stringent policy in regards to Anti-Bullying and that our approaches are effective. The school participates in Anti-bullying week each year, linking this to a Safeguarding Week to ensure that all our pupils know who to tell if they experience or witness bullying.</p> <p>There is a zero-tolerance approach to bullying at Thurlton Primary School and any incidents of suspected bullying are addressed immediately and rigorously by staff that are trained to do so.</p>						
9. This School is a welcoming and pleasant place to visit	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A	Total % in Agreement
	83%	17%	0%	0%	0%	100%
<p>Our Response: We are very pleased with this outcome of our survey. We have worked very hard (staff and pupils alike) to make our school a happy and welcoming place. It is lovely to know that visitors find our school a pleasant place to be and that they are welcomed with smiles and a positive attitude whether they be staff, Parents/Carers, pupils, visitors, professionals or those who deliver goods and carry out work for us.</p> <p>Evaluation sheets are completed by visitors to our school. The responses to these have been outstanding and clearly reflect the excellent ethos and manner in which our staff and pupils welcome visitors and the behaviours they demonstrate at all times.</p>						

10. This School responds well to any concerns I raise	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A	Total % in Agreement
	68%	26%	0%	0%	6%	94%

Our Response: We believe that we build a strong rapport with Parent/Carers and we are happy that this is reflected in the responses. Our aim at Thurlton Primary School is to promptly answer and deal with any questions or queries. We aim to deal with any concerns or queries in a caring, open and considerate manner. Staff are always available on the playground at the beginning and the end of the day (including the Headteacher). Informal discussion can take place at this time or an appointment can be made if the issue is more formal. We are hoping that the 6% of Parents/Carers who responded with **N/A** signifies they have not had cause to raise any concerns.

11. I receive valuable information from the School about my child's progress	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A	Total % in Agreement
	69%	31%	0%	0%	0%	100%

Our Response: Through consultation with Parents/Carers the school offers Parent/Carer evenings regularly. Short Target Reports are also sent home. We hold Come, Look and Share events where pupils can discuss their learning. We also hold class assemblies where pupils are able to showcase their learning from the half term. We are happy to arrange additional meetings if required.

12. Communication between the School and Parents/ Carers is good	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A	Total % in Agreement
	66%	34%	0%	0%	0%	100%

Our Response: We have recently consulted with Parent/Carers regarding requirements for receiving newsletters. These are now sent electronically although paper copies are available, requested through the Office. The newsletters are also displayed on class noticeboards so that everyone can refer to them if needed. As always we continue to send text messages reminding Parent/Carers of any upcoming events. As a staff we are committed to improvements, if you feel that there are any ways communication can be improved please put any suggestions in the Suggestions Box in the foyer.



Parent/Carers responses to the questions:

13. In your opinion, what are the best things about Thurlton Primary School?

- Safe Environment and great staff.
- Small class sizes which means better attention to the pupils.
- Teachers.
- Teachers all brilliant at all aspects and make my pupils happy and included.
- All the pupils are supportive of other pupils.
- It's size, small classes.
- Close friendship groups.
- Family feel.
- Collaboration between staff and parents.
- Dedication of staff.
- The size, it's a very close knit school.
- Friendly, happy school.
- Local and all the pupils know each other and play well together.
- Encourages good manners.
- Staff and locality.
- The way pupils are involved in all aspects of their learning.
- How friendly the staff are, the communication is really great, the pupils are happy and feel safe which is really important.
- It's a small rural school with good connections to Hobart High.
- Behaviour standards.
- High expectation of achievement from all.
- Happy pupils and fun environment.
- Communication between parents and school has massively improved.
- My child loves going to this school. Child is very happy.
- Community feel.
- Pupils building relationships across ages/classes and looking out for each other.
- Staff seem to work well together as a team.
- Welcoming and well organised.
- My child generally loves coming to school, it's a lovely primary school all round.
- Mrs Hambley as Headteacher
- The size makes it a nice environment for learning.
- Friendly environment for my child to learn.
- How pupils in all classes play together.
- Community links.
- Everyone is approachable.
- Pupils appear to respect each other.
- Miss Davison and Ms Waring
- Celebration Assemblies.
- It's a really close school and all pupils seem to look after each other.
- How happy school makes my child



14. Is there anything in particular that you'd change about the school?

Please note that we are responding to individual comments made. As some of the comments are repeated across the surveys we felt that we should respond.

<i>Comment from Parent/Carer</i>	<i>Our Comments</i>
Good After School clubs and trips More After School activities More After School clubs with variety school trips Additional extra curriculum activities	We are looking to extend our After School provision in the coming months by asking staff and other providers to add in clubs such as Barefoot Coding to supplement the sport already offered.
Longer Days	We currently run a day that meets the DfE required length but with additional clubs could offer a slightly longer day for some days across the school week. Thurlton Pre-School will be offering a Breakfast Club from January 2020 which could be used by Parents/Carers to extend the school day.
Rewards – not confident it is as effective as it could be, while it may control behaviour, would prefer behaviours were intrinsic and self-motivating	We continue to use the 5R's to promote positive behaviour changes that are self-motivating and intrinsic by developing higher order understanding of what good learning and behaviour looks like.
Communication in advance of events	Dates are included on newsletters. A list of preliminary dates is always sent out at the beginning of the year (these may be subject to change due to the nature of working with outside agencies and schools). Twitter, Facebook and text messages are used to prompt and remind Parents/Carers of upcoming events.
That 3 years are taught in 1 class – what a challenge	We are very pleased that you recognise that this can be a challenge. However it also has its positives, including support and extension for all pupils.
Nothing, No thanks, Not really, N/A or left blank (21 parents)	We are very happy to see that Parent/Carers continue to show confidence in our amazing school. We like it too! <i>We are continually striving to improve all areas so if you have any suggestions please come and see Mrs Hambley.</i>
Would like to see more pupils at the school	The school is actively trying to promote itself in the community with adverts for our Open Mornings displayed on buses, school brochures dropped into new houses etc.
Office manned in afternoon, very frustrating	We understand how frustrating this is and our staff are trying their best to ensure this runs as smoothly as possible in the absence of office staff. Teaching staff try to ensure they are available to answer the phone and take messages to ensure the smooth running of the school.
Possibly less homework in their first year	We feel that the homework we set is done so to support the pupils and encourage Parents/Carers to collaborate with their pupils and take an active role in supporting their learning and modelling good learning behaviours.
Homework	We set homework that is appropriate to the age of the pupils and have previously discussed the needs of Parents/Carers and pupils in class meetings to try to tailor it to ensure it has a positive impact upon pupils' learning. <i>If you have any further suggestions, please do come and chat to Mrs Hambley and/or the class teachers.</i>
Communication between Reception and Teachers	This has been addressed and is currently improving as staff become more aware of the impact of not having Office staff in the afternoon affects the school.

15. In what ways would you like to see the school develop over the next three to five years?

Each of the points below were made by individuals but they appeared on more than one survey form. As they appeared more than once the school felt it pertinent to respond to them.

<i>Comment from Parent/Carer</i>	<i>Our Response</i>
More pupils and more classes More pupils Grow in numbers More pupils	As commented on above, the school is trying it's hardest to increase the number of pupils on roll. Once these numbers have increased sufficiently we hope that we would be able to have an additional class.
School recognised for its outstanding commitment to pupils	This was a welcome comment and helps the staff to see they make a difference to the pupils and the school. We hope when Ofsted visit, that they will share this view!
Improve Website	The website was recently re-done by the Clarion Academy Trust. <i>If the Parents/Carers who wrote this comment could get back to us with further details we can pass this back and try to improve our website further.</i>
Open on Weekends	At the current time this is not something the school is considering due to the staffing issues it would raise.
Go back to 4 class	Once the school has sufficiently grown in numbers we foresee that we would be able to move back to four classes.
More outdoor activities – ie Bird hide	All staff have recently received Outdoor School training and this is being cemented into our curriculum over the year 2019-2020.
More Funding To continue to receive adequate funding so they are able to deliver the continuing standards	Unfortunately funding for the school is set by the DfE and the Clarion Academy Trust and therefore cannot be changed at the current time.
Some more After School clubs After School club would be useful.	Staff are currently in consultation about extending the After School provision. Watch this space!
Keep improving	The staff are working together to continually improve the school from curriculum, to behaviour to giving pupils experiences. We will continue to do so!
Cooking meals in house	This is something we would like to do but currently is not feasible due to the size of the school.
Continue the way it's going it is improving really well	It is nice to be recognised for the work that the staff has put into the school and we will continue to put in that level of commitment and hard work to ensure it continues to improve.
Encourage personal growth through self-motivated behaviour and responses	We believe our pupils are self-motivated and demonstrate very good behaviours which are intrinsic and not simply patterns. <i>If you have any further suggestions on areas we could improve, please come and see Mrs Hambley to discuss them.</i>
A little better organisation	Due to staff changes, particularly in the Office, it has taken a short while to sort out how things work but we believe we are continually improving the service we give.
PFA linking up with school	The PFA already support the school with fundraising and supporting us to buy new equipment. They are seeking to extend but as ever need Parents/Carers willing to give up their time and expertise to support them.

Better stability	The staff structure has now been stable for a while and the school has provided a stable level of education over that time. This will not change in the foreseeable future.
Swimming pool working	Currently this is not a feasible option due to the ongoing expenses of running it. Year 3 upwards do have regular swimming sessions at Hobart.
Playground finished Outside area	This has been achieved. Funding has been secured to improve the area beside the carpark and we are hoping to re-develop the Quiet Area (top of the field) this year too.



16. Any other comments:

- Noticed in my child's books the learning objective is not always completed by staff
- I think the school should be recognised for how outstanding it is to encourage more of the local pupils.
- Fab work by all at the school, improvement has been amazing
- My child is very happy in the school, really pleased with the continuous progress its making
- It is a lovely school, both my pupils are really happy. I love the school with how close the Teachers are to the parents
- We are really happy with the school
- From what we have seen so far the teachers do a great job and we are very happy

Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete our survey and for your honesty as to what is going well and areas which we need to improve. The contents of this survey has given us as a staff a huge boost of confidence and demonstrate that Parents/Carers are happy with the school and with what the school is offering.

Next steps – acting upon the comments in the survey:

We have responded to the points raised in the survey and those responses detail many of the actions we will be taking to develop Thurlton Primary School.

To summarise those actions:

- We will continue with the development of the outdoor areas and hope to see these finished and in use by the end of this academic year
- We will continue to provide an After School Sports club and lunch time clubs and investigate options for additional clubs.
- We will look towards updating our website when we get further comments as to the approach parents wish Clarion Trust to take with this.
- We will continue to market the school to continue to increase the number of pupils we have in the school.
- We will continue to do our best with Office organisation to ensure the school runs as smoothly as possible at all times with the limited staff we have

We can promise all Parents/Carers that we will continue to work very hard every day to maintain the high standards we have achieved thus far.

We want our pupils to be confident in English and Maths and to develop their self-confidence and social skills as well as ensuring that good and responsible behaviour is an intrinsic part of the ethos of the school. We want all our pupils to develop to their full potential, developing personal talents and skills in whatever area inside or outside of the curriculum those talents lie.

We will continue to work closely with Parents/Carers and the local community to ensure the best possible experiences are available to our pupils.



