

16th January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Parents' Questionnaire – December 2022 – Key Findings

There were 38 responses, from families with 48 pupils, around 16% of the school.

Nationally, the average response rate for OFSTED parent questionnaires in primary schools for 2021-22 was 4%.

As you can see below, all fourteen statements received overwhelmingly positive responses from parents.

Statement	Percentage of parents who agreed or strongly agreed with this statement <u>December 2022</u> All questions had 38 responses, except question 4a (8 responses and question 7 (7 responses)	Percentage of parents who agreed or strongly agreed with this statement <u>December 2021</u>	Percentage of parents who agreed or strongly agreed with this statement, <u>national figures for primary schools, 2021-22</u>
1. My child is happy at this school.	95% 36/38 responses	92%	95%
2. My child feels safe at this school.	95% 36/38 responses	98%	95%
3. The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved.	95% 36/38 responses	96%	92%
4. My child has been bullied while at this school (yes or no).	18% Yes (8/38 responses) 82% No (30/38 responses)	17% Yes: 83% No	25%
4a. In you answer 'yes' to question 4, how far do you agree with this statement: <i>The school dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively.</i>	Agree 63% (5 out of 8 responses) Disagree 37% (3 out of 8 responses)	Agree 82% (9 out of 11 responses) Disagree 18% (2 out of 11 responses)	Agree 64% Disagree 36%
5. The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year.	95% 36/38 responses	100%	89%
6. When I have raised concerns with the school, they have been dealt with properly.	92% 35/38 responses	94%	83%
7. My child has SEND (special needs), and the school gives them the support they need to succeed.	57% (4 out of 7 responses)	82% (9 out of 11 responses)	73%
8. The school has high expectations for my child.	90% 34/38 responses	94%	87%
9. My child does well at this school.	95% 36/38 responses	94%	92%
10. The school lets me know how my child is doing.	90% 34/38 responses	96%	87%
11. There is a good range of subjects available to my child at this school.	92% 35/38 responses	98%	95%
12. My child can take part in clubs and activities at this school.	84% 32/38 responses	90%	93%
13. The school supports my child's wider personal development.	82% 31/38 responses	92%	88%
14. I would recommend this school to another parent.	Yes 84% 32/38 responses No 16% 6/38 responses	90% Yes: 10% No	88% Yes: 12% No

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Things that Garfield School does well are:

- Children seem happy and supported, staff are friendly and engaging
- Home school communication, bug club, behaviour, speaking to the teacher if issues arise
- The school helps the kids
- Communication
- Has great supportive staff
- Very nice school
- Activities, good communication, friendly staff
- Teachers liaise well with parents, and deal with queries immediately
- There is a selection of as clubs for the older children which my son absolutely loves
- In total everything
- BC and ASC are great (special thank you to ASC ladies – my child always talks about this)
- The teachers make learning fun and are approachable and my child is already saying she doesn't want to leave at the end of Y6
- She is happy the elf has arrived in class
- Good teachers, weekly assemblies, different programs for children, good communication with parents
- Keeping parents informed about key dates
- High levels of collaboration and communication and have frequent monitoring of learning and teaching
- Putting the children on time out from the first day - doesn't matter what class they are.
- Lessons
- Safety, good education etc.
- Clearly communicating and reassuring
- Pastoral care is outstanding - interventions are put in place quickly without parents having to raise issues
- Happiness is taken seriously, not just academic performance

Some parents also made some helpful suggestions about what the school could do better in the future. The school has considered what actions it will take to respond in these areas as outlined in **bold** below.

- Clubs that might be suitable for reception children.
- More variety of after school clubs for year 1.
- More clubs for the children, more events at the school. School needs to connect to the wider community and get the kids involved in sports, music, drama, and a wide range of other activities. The school doesn't seem to have high expectations for its children. It's such a huge school with just basics provided. It's like get into work get the day by and go home. As a parent I don't see that extra mile for the children.
- Lowering fees cost.
- More club lessons and parent activities.
- More extra-curricular activities.
- Extra lessons maths and English after clubs etc.
- More activities after school/in holidays for kids
- Have Turkish lessons

There is a range of over 10 after school activity clubs organised for pupils every term. In the spring term, two of these clubs have been offered to year 1 pupils. We do not normally offer after

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school clubs to reception or year one children before Xmas as this makes the day too long for these younger pupils. Unfortunately, we do now have to charge £6 per hour for most of the after school clubs to cover our costs. A holiday club was available from an outsider provider at Xmas although take up was low. Study clubs for English, maths and ICT study skills will be available for selected pupils during the spring term. Unfortunately, we don't have any staff available for Turkish lessons at present.

- Shows, assemblies where parents are invited in the afternoon - for working parents it's easier to take time out.

Different parents are able to come into school at different times. At Garfield, we have organised most shows and assemblies to be at 9:15am on a Friday. When there is a date for a show or an assembly, we let parents know as early as possible sending out a list of key dates in September every year so that can arrange to be able to attend if possible.

- Contacting parents when an issue arises, not waiting for them to complain. Informing parents of policies and procedures when a child has been bullied (i.e. what they have done to solve the problem, not just, we have disciplined the child, what discipline? How will we stop this happening again?)
- When there is an ongoing issue with the child (i.e. uniform, homework) to contact the parent instead of confronting the child - this makes them unhappy and not want to go to school again. This way the school and the parent could work on the issue without it affecting the child.
- Taking time to listen and understand parents' concerns.
- Deal with bullying seriously and effectively.

If these has been an issue with your child, especially involving bullying, we aim to contact parents / carers that day to explain what has happened and reassure the parent about what action we will take to stop this unacceptable behaviour. However, due to confidentiality, we are not able to explain the details of consequences given to a pupil to anyone apart from the child's parent. The school is always happy to hear from parents/carers about any issues or concerns and to understand fully any issues that might have arisen.

- Asking the children what they would like in the school, having a 'school council' where children can express their views through a class councillor.

The Garfield Parliament is now up and running and they had their first meeting last week.

- More schools trips.
- Arranging proper school trips for Y2! Not just to the park.

Every year group has a trip or in-school enrichment activity every half term. Our detailed strategic plan for trips/enrichment activities is available on our website at:

<https://www.garfield.enfield.sch.uk/trips/>

Year 2 are in the process of booking some trips and will be going to the Science Museum in February.

- Lunch time and playtime
- Kids need more toys as they fight over them.

The parents association, the GCA, has given £500 to the school for new playground equipment, so we will have new resources available soon.

- Try to keep staff in school.

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Many staff at Garfield have worked here for over five years and, generally, staff retention is good. However, at times staff will move on for reasons such as promotion or retirement.

- Very little. It would be nice if there was a bit more of a sense of community among the parents, though appreciate this is very hard to foster - and the latest iteration of the PTA is doing very well working on this
- Our parents association, the GCA, was rebranded in May and has organised a series of very successful events including after school bake sales, children's discos, movie nights and the summer fair. They aim to continue organising at least one event every month.**

- Explaining to parents how the school decides on rewards and punishments.
- The school is reviewing its behaviour policy at the moment. We will have a parent/carer meeting to explain our new policy in the near future.**

- Support when my child feels unhappy to attend school

The school has a number of ways to support children who are having a difficult or unhappy time at school. Our learning mentor runs a breakfast club for pupils who find it hard to come in the morning and we offer support from trained counsellors from Talktime.

- Regular sharing of curriculum / what has been covered during the week and tips of things / resources that can help support our children's learning at home.
- Give more frequent updates about child's progress during the school time, so parents can know how to help at home.
- The lack of communication between the parents and school, on the whole, needs improvement. We want to be part of our child's progress, and discipline
- Some confusion over dates e.g. letters have mentioned a couple of trips this term which don't seem to have happened.
- Any parent days would be welcomed e.g., other schools have held parent art days where they come into class but appreciate this is not easy to organise
- Making sure all lessons are taught, as the kids haven't been having French for a number of months when it is in their curriculum

The school communicates with parents regularly in many ways such as:

- **Our new Garfield Instagram profile, [@GarfieldprimaryN11](#), which now has over 100 followers**
- **The weekly Friday Flyer, including upcoming important dates.**
- **Frequent emails and texts to update parents / carers, including half-termly Curriculum Newsletters about what is being taught in each year group.**
- **Termly reports on each child's progress and a parent meeting with your child's teacher to identify their targets for improvement.**
- **A series of meetings across the school year about different curriculum areas and how to support your child at home including phonics, maths, reading and PHSE.**
- **The school website, which is regularly updated to help parents support their child's learning.**

- Making sure children's routine isn't disrupted when teacher is off.

When a teacher is off, we try to cover using school staff to ensure continuity. If a supply teacher is covering, we give them all the key information they need to know about the class and liaise closely with them to support the teaching.

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- Management needs to do better whilst SEN support and actual application of the EHCPs as well as using the funding appropriately for the child it's meant for, rather than trying to spread it
Pupils with SEN who have an EHCP receive funding to support that child for a certain number of hours – this may not cover the whole school week. At times, a member of staff working with that child can support in other areas when this is appropriate. If you have any concerns in this area contact the SENCO, Ms Gabruk.
- Listening to Parents/Governors without undermining them, by telling them they have no training
Parent Governors are an important part of our Governing body and we always appreciate their contributions.
- Academic years reception and year1 need improvement
If any parent/carer has concerns about the teaching and learning in any class or year group please get in touch with the Achievement Leader or Link Senior.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the parents / carers who returned the questionnaire. We really appreciate the time you took to fill it in and the feedback you have given us.

Throughout the rest of the year, we will continue to give opportunities to give comments, feedback and suggestions during events such as parents' evening.

In addition, the senior team are also regularly available at the beginning and end of every school day. Please feel free to approach them with any comments.

Many thanks,

David Newson (Assistant Head Teacher)

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