



Parental Engagement: Questionnaire Key Findings November 2017

Session 2017-2018

Our Digital Leaders Pupil Group compiled a Microsoft Forms based questionnaire for our Parents' Evenings November 2017, a key area of self-evaluation for this session in line with our Self-Evaluation Implementation Plan. The questionnaire was overseen by our House/ Vice-Captains and Digital Leaders.

Key Information and themes of/ common responses:

- 181 responses were received and evaluated – a significantly larger response compared to recent, previous surveys
- **Question 1:**
 - In referring to the Parental Engagement Calendar for session 2016-17, do you feel that the school offers an effective range of ways for parents to be engaged in their children's learning?
 - 4.49 out of 5 average rating said yes
- **Question 2:**
 - Do you feel that communication about learning with families has improved, for example through our electronic Newsletter and Twitter feeds?
 - 179 out of 181 said yes
- **Question 3:**
 - During this session, we are planning a number of new ways to engage families learning activities, for example through: extending the types of workshops and twilight sessions we offer for parents/carers, e.g. our upcoming Digital Learning Parental Information event; offering parent/carer and child learning experiences, like our 'cook-alongs'; extending the ways in which we use our Family Room; improving the range of ways we communicate information, e.g. our Parent-friendly Standards and Quality Report and our more extended class blog posts to share learning themes. Are these ways important to you and do you think they will be effective ways to further engage you?
 - Vast majority of very positive comments regarding what is currently offered
 - More after-school/ twilights/ evening opportunities to engage with learning and to share information were wanted
 - Opportunities to share learning with children during school time were also desirable
 - Workshop formats to understand how our children learn, including working with the children, are very popular
 - Family Room use and other ways to be part of school learning/ life

- **Question 4:**
 - **What ways of being engaged in your child's learning are especially important to you?**
 - Understanding what are children are learning about and how they learn is a big priority
 - Homework: understanding how to best support during homework, including guidance on methods for learning so that home and school can teach 'in the same way'
 - Sharing in feedback from teachers about how our children are progressing is important
 - Opportunities to partake in class learning activities and/ or to share in learning projects and experiences. This includes opportunities for families to share learning together
- **Question 5:**
 - **Do you have any other suggestions about how we can further improve your engagement in your child's learning?**
 - Vast majority of responses indicated "no" and that they were very happy with how the school has been aiming to engage parents over the last 12 months
 - Opportunities to share in learning experiences and projects was again highlighted, including times to visit class/ school, especially alongside children
 - Additional parental guidance to support homework activities would be a positive development

For our Nursery Class/ Early Years parents/ carers, we gathered evaluations about:

- **Our new Learning Journals/ Profiles**
 - Parents/ carers commented that it was a good way to get the children talking about their learning at nursery
 - It was less formal and encouraged the children to take part in recording their learning. They liked the "Look what I can do" booklet as it shows progression and shares the skills being worked on at nursery
- **Family Room and how to develop it**
 - Ways to bring parents/ carers together would be desirable, e.g. a book group and that this might encourage regular meetings and an opportunity to read adult books
 - A suggestion of having a rota of days when the Family Room would be open, regularly changing days. This would help them plan their week
 - The offering of inputs led by staff/ other partners to improve understanding of learning and other school issues would be desirable
- **Primary 1 parent/ carer helpers**
 - Very positive response with a range of parents signing up to support class learning
- **Nursery Entrance project**
 - Very positive feedback and several volunteers to help the Pupil Council and staff to develop the entrance area during the second half of this session