

Balfron High School

Parents and Carers Survey Responses



Dear parents/carers,

We are genuinely committed to listening and understanding your views in order that we can improve. Sometimes we need to clarify the rationale for decisions that we make. Thanks for taking the time to give us your feedback.

The overall responses to the survey are summarised for your information below. The leadership team have reviewed the summaries and comments. Along with views from other stakeholders, this has fed into our improvement plan for next session. Please know that where it has been appropriate, I have personally made contact with individuals to address particular issues raised.

I am keen to highlight that parents/carers can contact us by phone or email at any time or attend the monthly drop-in where we can talk issues through and come to a solution.

In the meantime, I hope that you will find the summary and our responses/plans for action, helpful.

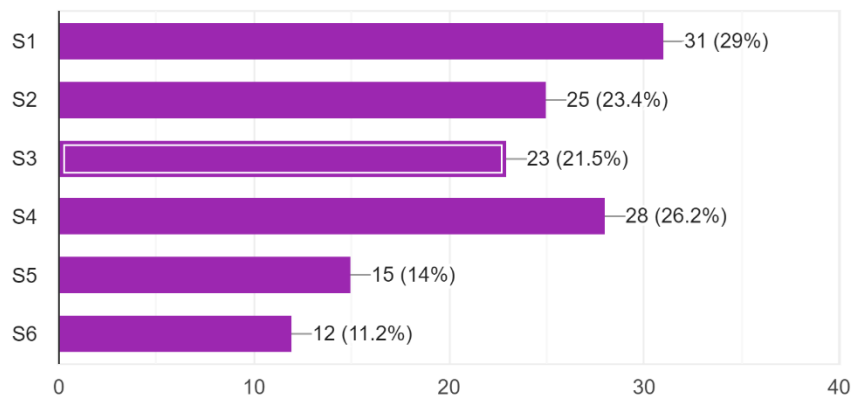
Best regards

Elaine Bannatyne

Overview of responses

Which yeargroup/s are your children in?

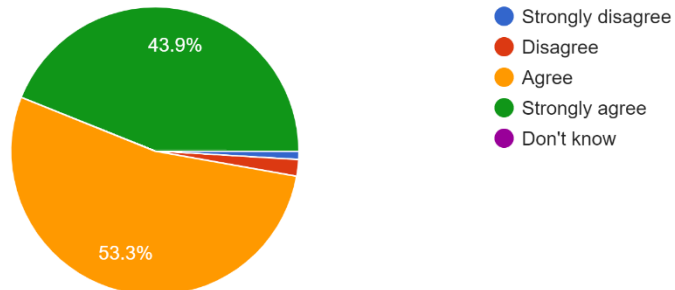
107 responses



Question 1

My child likes being at this school

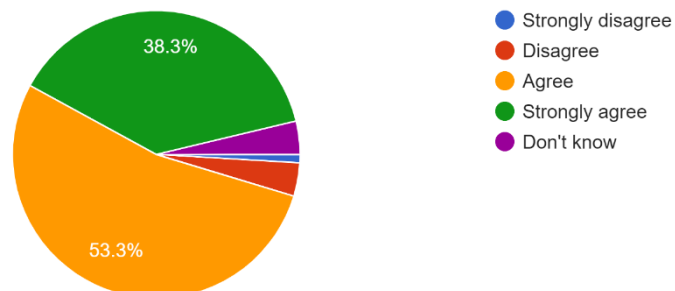
107 responses



Question 2

Staff treat my child fairly and with respect

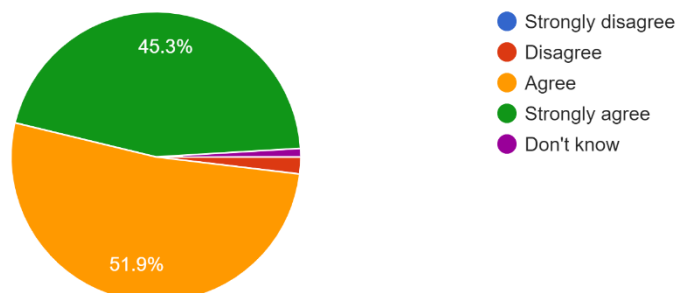
107 responses



Question 3

I feel that my child is safe at the school

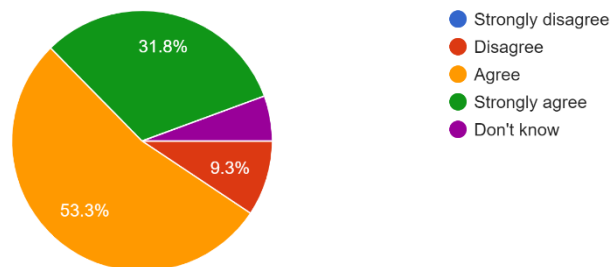
106 responses



Question 4

The school helps my child to feel confident

107 responses

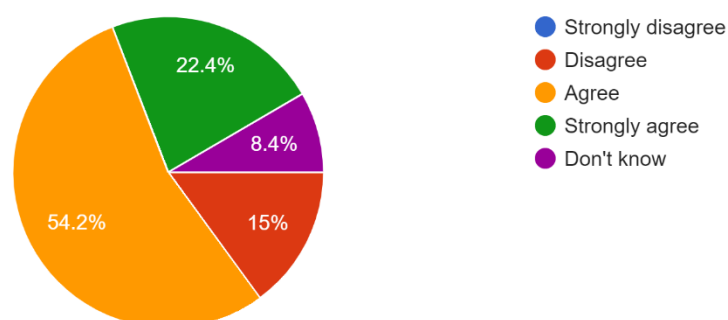


- Integrated pupil support structure with Form Class Leader (or PT PS) proactive in knowing and supporting young people as people and learners
- Whole school focus on growth mind-set
- Encouragement for all young people to take part in co-curricular activities at lunchtime and after school
- Encouragement to feel belonging – inter-house
- Whole school focus on skills development
- All S3 pupils take part in the leadership programme.

Question 5

I feel staff really know my child as an individual

107 responses

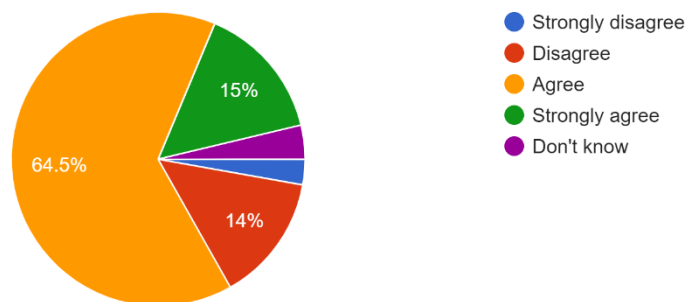


- Integrated pupil support structure with Form Class Leader (or PT PS) proactive in knowing and supporting young people as people and learners
- Home area and house structure to promote belonging
- Form class leader interviews (S1-4) in addition to parents' evenings and tracking reports
- Formal meetings for young people on staged intervention

Question 6

My child finds their learning activities hard enough

107 responses

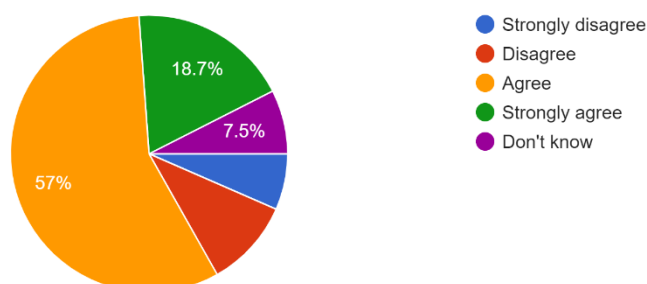


- Strong correlation with exception of some S1
- Information shared with PTs to review curriculum challenge.

Question 7

My child receives the help they need to do well

107 responses

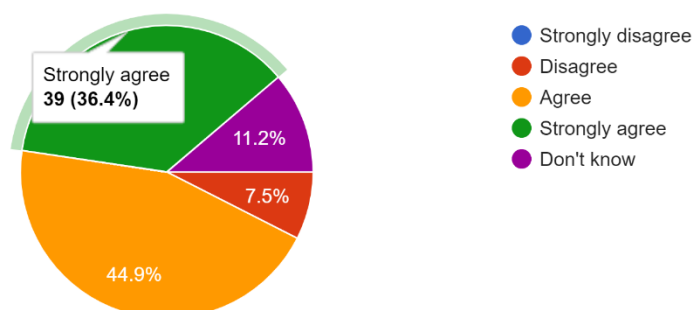


- Pupil support team given information regarding pupils who may need additional help

Question 8

My child is encouraged to be healthy and take regular exercise

107 responses

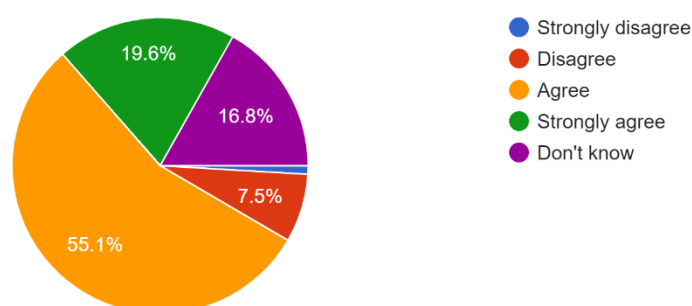


- All pupils have the opportunity to do regular exercise as part of core PE (S1-6)
- S1-2 pupils all do HE
- S3-6 pupils have the opportunity to specialise in HE
- Many and varied extra-curricular activities and inter-house offered within the sports/physical activity context
- Gym open to all pupils following induction
- PSE and HWB highlight the wellbeing benefits of being health and taking regular exercise

Question 8

The school supports my child's emotional wellbeing

107 responses

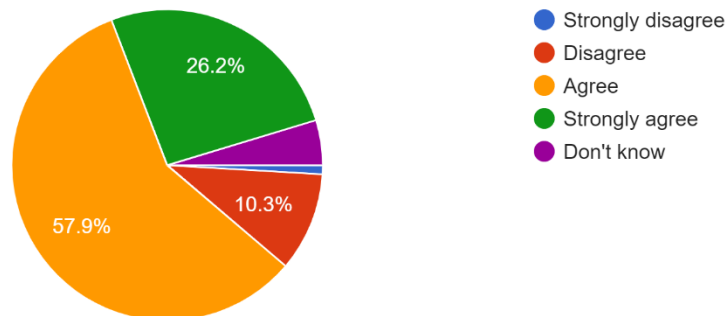


- PSE/HWB provision – increased input relative to wellbeing
- Integrated pupil support structure – pupils are known well by at least one teacher
- Whole school approach to growth mindset
- 'Be Yourself' values – support for protected groups
- Links with agencies to support mental health including school counsellor
- Mentors for Violence Prevention (MVP) launch 2019-20
- Launch of 'Art for Wellbeing' intervention 2019-20

Question 9

My child is making good progress at school

107 responses

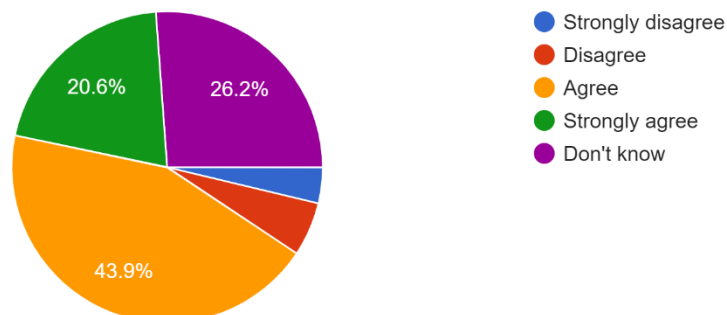


- Information shared with Pupil Support team.

Question 10

My child was well supported when they made choices for their future

107 responses

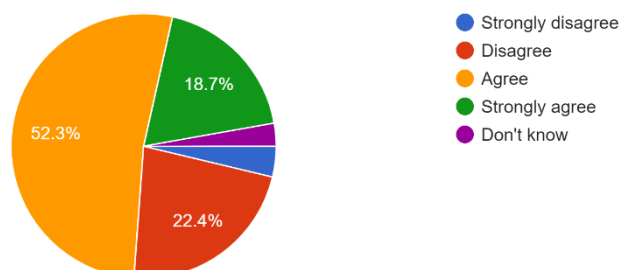


- Increased number of events to support all career areas
- Increased partnerships with employers in curricular areas
- Interviews at S2-5 for course choice following increased number of events
- Strong links with FVC, universities, apprenticeship providers
- All young people shown how to log onto My World of Work
- All young people have access to SDS (careers officer – 4 days per week)
- Use of twitter to share opportunities and events in and out of school

Question 11

I receive helpful information about how my child is doing e.g. informal feedback, reports

107 responses



Improvements agreed for 2019-20 as follows:

S1 – Form class leader interview, one parents night, one progress tracking report, one full report, monthly merit/demerit

S2 – Form class leader interview, one parents night, three progress tracking reports, monthly merit/demerit

S3 – Form class leader interview, one parents night, three progress tracking reports, monthly merit/demerit

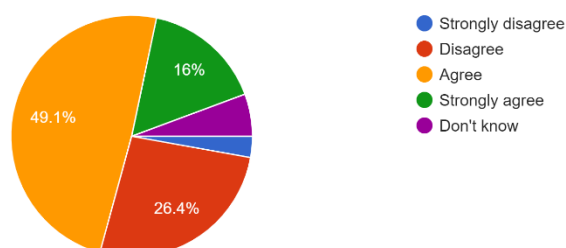
S4 – Form class Leader interview, two parents nights, three progress tracking reports, monthly merits/demerits

S5/6- S5 Form Class Leader interview, two parents nights, three progress tracking reports

Question 12

The information I receive about how my child is doing reaches me at the right time

106 responses

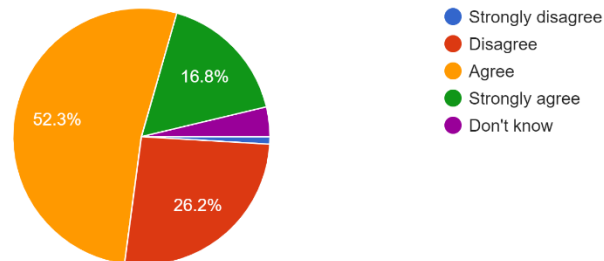


- Increased progress tracking from S2 (termly) linked to likely pathway should improve timing (review May 2020)

Question 13

I understand how my child is assessed

107 responses

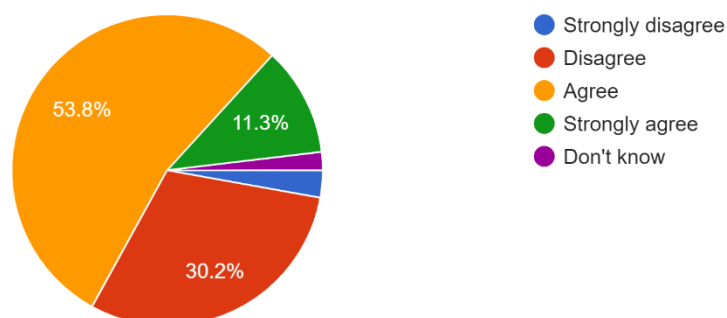


- Overview of assessments and timings by year group to be created and shared
- Tracking to highlight assessment relative to grade

Question 14

The school gives me advice on how to support my child's learning at home

106 responses

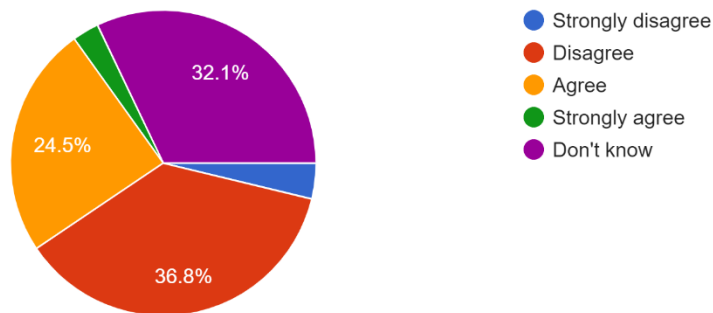


- Overview of all courses on school website
- Use of Show My Homework with pins for parents/carers
- S1 Numeracy information evening
- Use of Glow for materials for use at home
- Area for improvement discussion and planning 2019-20

Question 15

The school organises activities where my child and I can learn together

106 responses

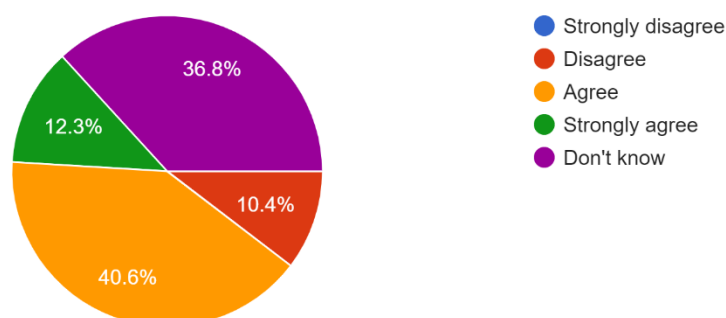


- Parent Council and HT have reviewed new Education Scotland resource <https://education.gov.scot/improvement/learning-resources/Engaging%20parents%20and%20families:%20A%20toolkit%20for%20practitioners>
- **School Improvement Priority for 2019-20** – Curricular areas to create 'Questions I could ask my child to support and check their learning'
- In partnership with parent council, 'topics' agreed and shared at meetings Eg, curriculum, vaping, anti-bullying, on-line safety have all run 2018-19

Question 16

The school takes my views into account when making changes

106 responses

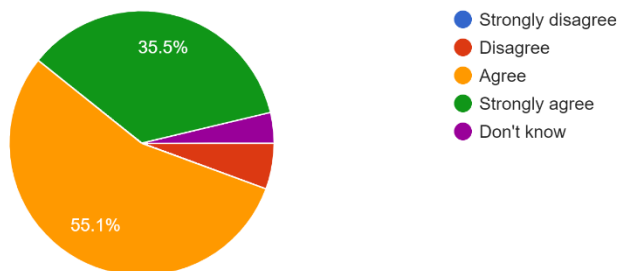


- Share responses to surveys with action
- Explain rationale for decision making when agreement not found
- **School Improvement Priority 2019-20** – Headteacher blog on website with updates and information on decision making

Question 17

I feel comfortable approaching the school with questions, suggestions and/or a problem

107 responses

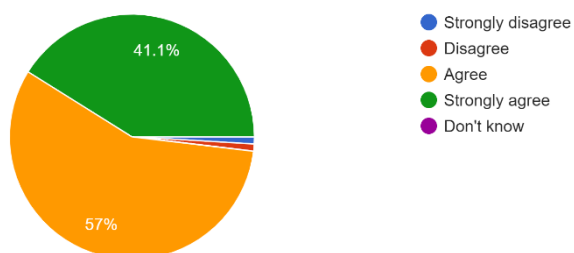


- Continue to encourage open communication through form class leaders, principal teachers and the senior team.
- Continue to ask for and give opportunities for feedback and suggestions
- Communication policy to be launched in August 2019HT drop-in

Question 18

I am kept informed about the work of the Parent Council

107 responses

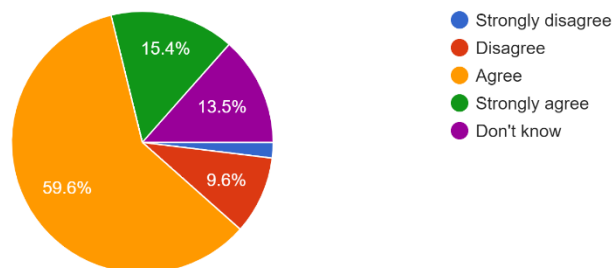


- Continue protocols for sharing information (email, website, social media)
- Suggested topics shared with parent council

Question 19

I feel encouraged to be involved in the work of the Parent Council/and or parent association

104 responses

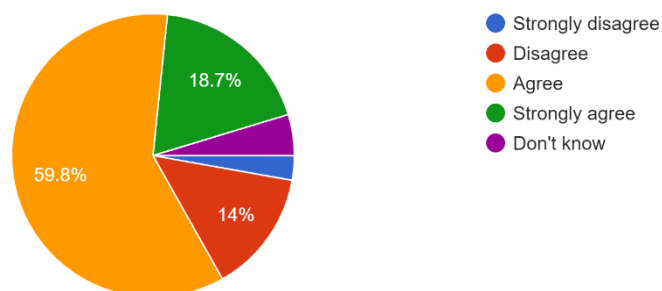


- Continue to ensure whole parent/carers body are invited and given opportunities to be included in the work/activities

Question 20

I am satisfied with the quality of teaching in the school

107 responses

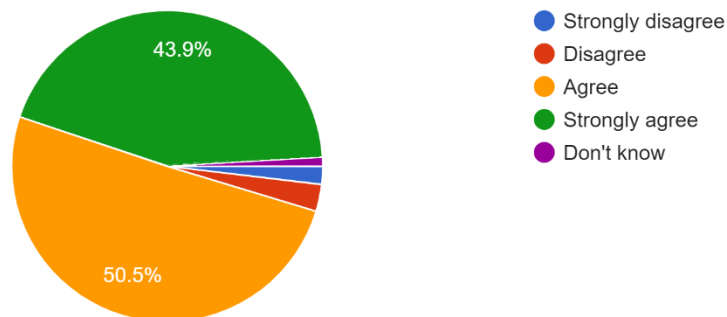


- Peer visits among teaching staff (tri-learning) to share interesting practice
- Prioritise learning and teaching in CLPL opportunities for staff
- Continue to ensure robust quality assurance processes, within curricular areas and whole school
- HT open doors in every curricular area

Question 21

The school is well-led and managed

107 responses

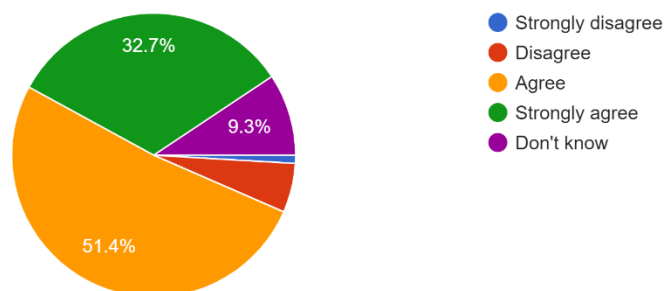


- Continue to link vision and values to the running and decision making of the school
- Leadership team to maintain high profile with high levels of commitment
- Use robust self-evaluation to identify strengths and areas for improvement
- Continue thorough use of data analysis to support improvement
- Continue to look outwards to identify best practice

Question 22

The school encourages children to treat others with respect

107 responses

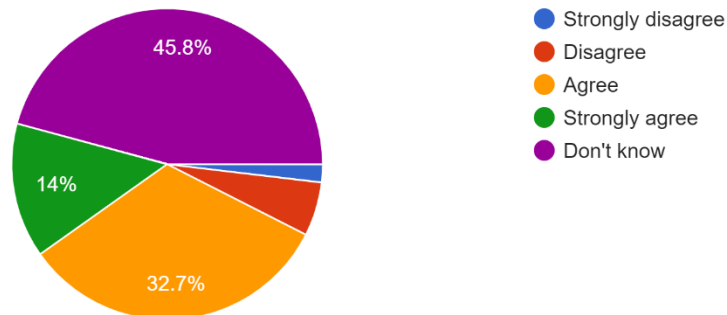


- Through all policies and behaviours, reinforce school values (**respect**, responsibility, honesty, trust, fairness)
- Ensure all protected groups are supported and included

Question 23

My child's school deals well with bullying

107 responses

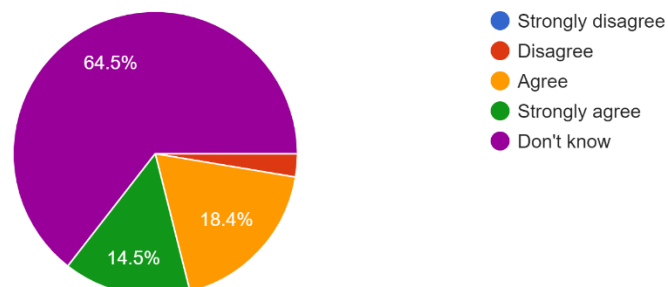


- **School improvement priority 2019-20:** Increase awareness of policy and procedure among all stakeholders
- Update and share policy
- Implement Mentors for Violence Prevention
- Improve the frequency of support from buddies (6-2-1) in home areas

Question 24

My child was well supported if they moved to a new school within the last year

76 responses

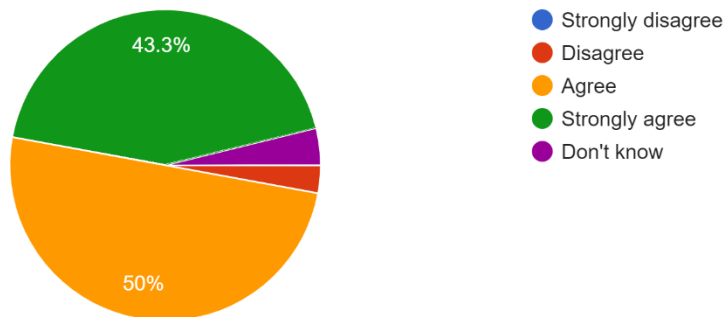


- Result correlates to numbers who did not move school in the last year
- Transition arrangement reviewed with all stakeholders annually

Question 25 & 26

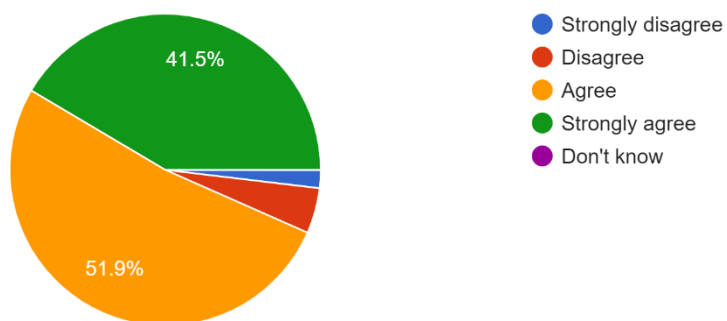
I would recommend the school to other parents

104 responses



Overall, I am satisfied with the school

106 responses



- Where possible, HT has made contact to discuss and address issues that influenced dissatisfied response to both questions
- The leadership team and staff will continue to work hard to promote the great work of the school and are committed to continued improvement