



Parental Survey Results 2020

Response to the feedback

Continual Improvement is one of our school values and Highwood wants to be the best school it can be for all our children and families. The survey is extremely positive and I would like to thank all parents for their feedback. In order to show parents the value in completing the survey, I will take this opportunity to address some of the areas that both the survey and comments raised.

Reading books

During the last two academic years, we have improved and added to our reading materials with approximately £6000 worth of investment on new books. These have included fully decodable books for our younger children; books for our Whole Class Reading Sessions and books for our main libraries. All children read or are read to everyday in school with books relating to the Key Questions.

Sadly, some of this allocation had to be spent on replacing the reading books we provided every child with during the first lockdown period that unfortunately were not returned to school.

Schools communication using a variety of media

We had a small number of parents disagree that we communicate effectively using a variety of media. As a school we are trying to reduce costs of mass photocopying when it is not necessary and use 'free' forms of communication, where possible. We realise that text messages are an easier way to contact parents, but it is worth noting for parents that each whole school text message costs us £21.38, hence us using them sparingly.

The variety of communication we currently use is:

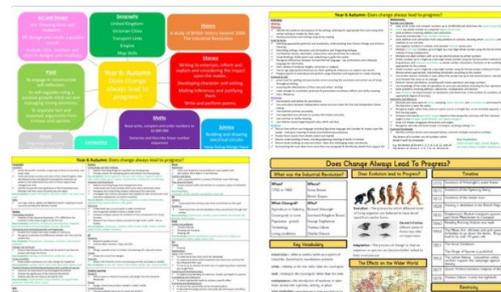
- Letters (when reply slips are required); Phone calls; Text messages; Emails; School App; Twitter; School Website; YouTube - (Parent Workshops; Meet the Teacher); Weekly bulletin emailed to all parents; Weekly Covid-19 updates; Half termly newsletter.

For me, communication is key. I would be really interested in having some feedback about how we can be more effective with our current methods and if there is a form of communication that we are missing.

Providing parents with Curriculum Information

We had some parents who disagreed that they get enough information about the curriculum their child is following.

Currently, we email all parents with curriculum overviews, prior to the term they are taught, which outline in great detail the curriculum content under each of our Key Questions. Hopefully you will have seen the front cover of Newsletter 41, which shared our curriculum page of the school website which stores all of our Schemes of Work for each subject, in each year group, for each term.



At the start of term we shared with you our 'Meet the Teacher' videos that were recorded onto YouTube, which again will have talked you through the curriculum content of the term.

On reflection, one thing we do not do as a school is routinely provide this for parents who join us mid way through a term, which will now be added to our New Starter procedures. We also recognise that children in our Early Years classes would have had much more detail had we been able to do our 'Welcome Event' in the way we normally would. If there are other ideas that parents have about how you could be better informed, then please let us know.

Considerations from Comments

Things that we are currently discussing at leadership level based on the comments section:

- Whether we need additional opportunities for parent meetings during the year;
- How to better share some of the website subscriptions children can use at home (Purple Mash, TTRS, Mathletics etc.) ;
- When the appropriate time is to reintroduce our Modern Foreign Languages lessons.

Thank you.
Matt Hickey