



12th December 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Many thanks to those of you who completed this year's Home-School Questionnaire. As I explained in the letter that accompanied the questionnaire home, for us, this acts as a "health check". It helps us to see what we do well and look for ways to improve. A copy of the results is shown below. As a school community, the staff and governors were pleased with the positive responses and the lovely comments written.

Boxgrove C.E.P School Home-School Questionnaire November 2018

There were 21 replies. Each reply worth 4.8%

	(Please tick)	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
1	My child is happy at this school	86%	14%		
2	My child feels safe at this school	76%	24%		
3	My child makes good progress at this school	81%	19%		
4	My child is well looked after at this school	86%	14%		
5	My child is taught well at this school	86%	14%		
6	My child receives appropriate homework for their age	71%	29%		
7	This school makes sure its pupils are well behaved	81%	19%		
8	This school deals effectively with bullying	76%	24%		
9	This school is well led and managed	86%	14%		
10	This school responds well to any concerns I raise	76%	24%		
11	I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress	71%	29%		
12	<i>Parents and carers with children who have learning difficulties and/or disabilities</i> The school informs me about the types of support available for my child's particular needs 5 replies	40%	60%		
13	<i>Parents and carers with children who have children in YR</i> The arrangements for my son or daughter to settle when he or she started at the school were good. 4 out of 10 replies	75%	25%		
14	The school has a strong Christian ethos	76%	24%		
15	Would you recommend this school to another parent?	86%	14%		

In a sentence how would you describe our school?

A lovely school

A large, extended family. The child's welfare is at the heart of everything.

Boxgrove C of E Primary School is a nurturing, caring, stretching and fun place for children to grow and learn.

It is a well sized school – not too big for new comers

Boxgrove is a welcoming and friendly school with dedicated happy teachers.

A creative and caring school in which each child's needs are met and every child is encouraged to do their best as an individual.

Happy, friendly school.

A caring, understanding school which meets the children's needs and allows them to flourish. Any problems that arise are dealt with extremely quickly and are taken seriously which allows me to feel confident about approaching the school about any issues.

Genuinely a really well run, lovely little school.

Happy, friendly, supportive, organised and more like a big family.

Warm, friendly, fun, happy family.

Fantastic!

Outstanding in all aspects. I feel like I've won the "primary school lotter" in regards to my son attending Boxgrove C of E.

A happy village school, dedicated to its community, with caring, nurturing and ever resourceful staff.

A wonderful school, fantastic teachers and lovely pupils. Excellent school where my children thrive and want to be there and do well.

It's a lovely little school with pupil centred care.

The questionnaire results I am delighted to see are very positive. However we are always striving to improve, so from the survey my eyes were drawn to a few results in particular i.e numbers 6, 11 and 14:

No 6. My child receives appropriate homework for their age

No.11 I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress.

No. 14 The School has a strong Christian ethos

The Homework Policy is reviewed annually. The updated policy (which is on our website) was written in consultation with you. We supported your opinion that home learning should support what happens in school but allow time for out of school interests and hobbies also. Children in KS1 are encouraged to learn weekly spellings, read at least 3 times a week and complete a topic based activity once a half term. The Y2 children can learn their tables through the Times Tables Rock Stars online programme. Children in KS2 are expected to learn weekly spellings, read at least a few times a week, learn their times tables and challenge themselves when choosing two topic based learning activities from a given list. In addition they have access to Sumdog, Times Tables Rock Stars, My maths and BBC Bitesize. The children in Y6 are given other activities during the spring and summer term. Having discussed this issue with the staff and governors it is felt that we give the right amount of homework that engages the children and helps them to become independent learners. We recognise that different parents have different opinions on homework. Some would like more, others less. We believe we have reached a good conclusion between them both.

With regards to question 11, we currently feel that you have a variety of avenues that you are able to use, which enable you to be informed about your child's progress e.g

- The half termly "class drop ins". These allow you to look at your children's learning. You can read the feedback given by the teacher and see the positive difference that conversation made in the quality of learning that follows
- There are the formal parent/carers consultations which for Y1-Y6 children last 15 minutes twice a year and for YR 20-30mins 3 times a year. (This is longer than is allocated in other primary schools)
- Listening to your child talk about their learning. Why the teacher was pleased with something specific hence rewards from team points, stickers to achievers certificates.
- Conversations with your child's teacher(s). We do genuinely operate an "open door policy" and should you ever wish to make a time to discuss your child's progress this is a reminder that you can!

With regards to question 14, we feel that as a Church of England school our Christian stance does permeate our everyday school life. This is seen openly through different parts of the day e.g worship (which the children sometimes lead), saying grace before lunch, and prayers at home time. Our Christian values are very prominent on a wall outside on the playground and also displayed in the Community Room and referred to when appropriate. Every classroom has a Prayer corner and the children are encouraged to write prayers which are used in worship or during our annual Prayer Space Day and every class has a reflective area. We also have a reflective space outdoors. To reassure you, Mrs Jan Gough our Diocesan Improvement Partner from Church House visited a couple of weeks ago and left impressed with what she saw and heard. She felt that the Christian ethos clearly unpinned all that we did. What the staff and governors

recognise from this questionnaire response is that maybe we need to (possibly via the weekly newsletter) make those connections more explicit to you.

In the section "Is there anything you feel we could do to further improve our provision for the children in school?" The following 2 questions/points were raised:

Point 1: The school offers lots of after school clubs but it would be nice to see something more arts & crafts.

Any member of staff may run any after school club they wish and most staff do organise at least one after school club during the year e.g I ran a Beano Club earlier this term. As to what focus their club has, is up to them based on their skills and interests e.g in the past there has been a poetry writing club, science club, lego club etc. I agree that "art and crafty" clubs are less frequent. I think this is for a few reasons including resourcing materials and costs.

Point 2: It isn't clear (from the reading records) if my child ever reads with an adult in school. Since he started there's only been one occasion when it was recorded that he read. I'm sure it happens in other ways and I can see he's making progress so I'm not that worried but it's the only improvement I can think of that you could make. I love the school and think the teaching is excellent!

All children do read to their class teacher weekly in a, what is called "a group reading session". This is where a group of children read and discuss a book with the class teacher. The teacher keeps records of what is read and said but as the text is not the child's reading book that s/he takes home, this is not recorded in that reading record book. If a teacher listened to every child in their class read for 10 minutes a week, that would equate to one whole day a week - as valuable as that would be there are too many demands on a teacher to devote a day a week just to this. For the children that need extra help in this area they have the benefit of participating in our reading buddy system or are part of the "Reading2Dogs" programme in addition to other reading activities that are planned in class.

Thank you for your continued support, we do really value the home - school partnership. Together we can help your children to flourish, have success and enjoy a range of opportunities.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Kim Thornton

