



## Parent Questionnaire Feedback and Analysis

January 2023

In January 2023, parents were invited to share their views and opinions of the school via an online survey. This contained a mixture of questions where parents could choose on a scale of Strongly Agree through to Strongly Disagree and also where parents could provide a written response.

In total we received responses from parents of 80 children across the school. This represents a 34% response rate.

The breakdown of responses by Year group is as follows:

Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
5	16	10	7	14	8	13	7

### Section 1: Catholic Life of the school

#### Responses to questions:

1) The school's mission statement is clearly shared and celebrated in the ethos of our school

99% of responses either agreed or strongly agreed with this statement

68% strongly agreed

2) School staff are positive role models of faith for my child

99% of responses either agreed or strongly agreed with this statement

68% strongly agreed

3) All Souls is a supportive and joyful community to be a part of

100% of responses either agreed or strongly agreed with this statement

75% strongly agreed

4) My child's spiritual and moral development is well supported

100% of responses either agreed or strongly agreed with this statement

71% strongly agreed

5) The school fosters and encourages a deep sense of vocation within children

99%\* of responses either agreed or strongly agreed with this statement

67%\* strongly agreed

6) There are strong parish links with All Souls Church and the community

100%\* of responses either agreed or strongly agreed with this statement

68% strongly agreed

7) I feel able to support my child effectively through the Sacramental programme provided by the parish and school

99%\* of responses either agreed or strongly agreed with this statement

55%\* strongly agreed

8) My child is provided with opportunities to take an active part in the life of the school and parish

99% of responses either agreed or strongly agreed with this statement

61% strongly agreed

**Parent Comments** (it's not possible to include all comments, therefore we have included a balance of both positive comments and those which highlight areas where parents feel the school can improve):

*'Brilliant school, wonderful staff who are supportive of the whole family and always available and keen to help. So delighted our children attend this school.'*

*'We would like More events linking the community and the parish/school- family days/Christmas/Easter activities'*

*'Fabulous school'*

*'I can honestly say this school is excellent, the staff are amazing , and have really supported my son. They are such a lovely team of teachers. I'm so happy my son goes to this school'*

*'On Holy Day of Obligation I would like to see all children who have had their first confession be at the school mass'*

*'As a family, we feel grateful and blessed to be part of the All Souls school community. The staff make our children and us feel like part of a big family.'*

*'We couldn't be happier with All Souls they create a real love of learning and nurture every child with love and care. They have high aspirations for our children and they give each child the confidence to reach their full potential.'*

*'Not all teachers / staff attend mass regularly yet have the expectation for our children to.'*

### **School Response:**

We are overwhelmed by the strong support of parents and humbled that they believe the Mission Statement and Catholic Life of the school to be central to all that we do. We hope that we don't take this for granted and are incredibly proud of our strong community and partnership between the school, our children and families and the parish.

With regards to the desire for more events linking the parish and school, this is something that we are continually working together with Fr Paul and the parish. We feel that, over the last twelve months, we have been able to re-establish and build parish links following the pandemic and hope to continue to do so moving forwards. As always, we welcome any specific suggestions that members of our community have around this.

It is always our intention for all children to attend Mass regularly, and particularly so on feast days and Holy days of Obligation. We recognise that, shortly before Christmas, not all classes were able to attend one of these occasions. This is, however, not the norm and on that occasion was due to a number of other specific circumstances.

We understand that staff at All Souls should be key models of faith to our children and feel that, within school, they do an excellent job of this. Not all members of staff are Catholic and therefore wouldn't necessarily be regular worshippers at Sunday Mass. Equally, a number of our staff live within the boundaries of other parishes, where they attend Sunday Mass regularly. This feedback will, of course, be shared with staff as we appreciate that, from a child's perspective, it is important that staff are seen to be part of a wider community.

## **Section 2: Enjoyment and Achievement of Pupils**

### **Responses to questions:**

#### **1) My child is happy at All Souls**

**100%\* of responses either agreed or strongly agreed with this statement**  
**71%\* strongly agreed**

#### **2) My child finds the curriculum interesting and enjoyable**

**96% of responses either agreed or strongly agreed with this statement**  
**55% strongly agreed**

#### **3) My child makes good progress**

**97%\* of responses either agreed or strongly agreed with this statement**  
**54% strongly agreed**

4) My child receives enough homework for his/her age

91%\* of responses either agreed or strongly agreed with this statement

49%\* strongly agreed

5) My child's emotional wellbeing is well supported

98% of responses either agreed or strongly agreed with this statement

53% strongly agreed

6) My child's wider personal development is well supported

96%\* of responses either agreed or strongly agreed with this statement

48%\* strongly agreed

7) My child knows how well they are doing and what they need to do to improve

90%\* of responses either agreed or strongly agreed with this statement

39%\* strongly agreed

8) There is a good range of activities including trips or visits for my child to take part in

99%\* of responses either agreed or strongly agreed with this statement

62%\* strongly agreed

**Parent Comments** (it's not possible to include all comments, therefore we have included a balance of both positive comments and those which highlight areas where parents feel the school can improve):

*'I would like to see more homework issues for Year ### around Maths and comprehension. Year ## homework has become more frequent which is good to see...'*

*'All Souls is a wonderful school. My daughter has already had so many amazing experiences at school. It feels that staff go above and beyond and genuinely care.'*

*'For my year ## son, I would like a little bit more homework ideally.'*

*'## has found it hard to settle into school life but is being supported by staff in school and during her time at the out of school club'*

*'Would be nice to see a more structured home work and expectation.'*

*‘My child feels very happy and secure at school’*

*‘There could maybe be more activities for younger children.’*

*‘The teachers are kind and supportive, they do lots for the children and my son is very happy there.’*

*‘I would appreciate more updates on achievements and areas to work in for my child so that I can support the school.’*

*‘School staff are amazing, always looking for better ways to provide the best learning experience for our children. We are very pleased with the way the school is managing the education of our children.’*

*‘The only thing I’m not sure on is homework. She has reading which we do all week, but would be good to see a different range. Though I note from this week she will start having spelling to learn too which is good.’*

*‘Our children have always been so happy at All Souls and always come out at the end of the day full of enthusiasm and enjoyment.’*

### **School Response:**

Again, overall, we are delighted with the feedback and comments from parents who, overwhelmingly, agreed with the statements and that their child is happy and well cared for at All Souls. The fact that 100% of responses indicate that children are happy at school is significant and is again something that we never wish to take for granted.

We will listen closely and think more carefully around the areas where the percentages at ‘strongly agree’ are not as high as clearly confidence in these is not as strong from a parent perspective.

Homework was the most frequently commented upon area of this part of the survey and some parents feel that there is an inconsistency around frequency and quantity of homework across the school. This is something that, following this survey, we will now consider as a school and we therefore plan to issue an additional parent survey specifically to establish what homework parents would like to see and feel is appropriate. Ironically, however, from a school perspective one of the most regular concerns that teaching staff raise is the number of children who do not read or complete their homework regularly and

the challenges that they face when trying to address this.

In relation to activities, trips and extra-curricular opportunities, we are very proud of our overall offer to children and parents and typically have a very high uptake on places at clubs. We recognise that our youngest children don't have access to the range of extra-curricular opportunities as those higher up the school. In part, this is down to there being a greater engagement from our older children, particularly after school, where historically we have seen low attendance from younger children which many parents put down to their child being too tired after a long school day. We will consider, going forwards, what additional activities we are able to provide for our younger children.

One comment related to wishing for more updates of children's progress and advice on how parents can support their child specifically at home. In addition to the two open evening opportunities and two written reports issued each year, we would encourage parents to remain in continuous dialogue with their child's class teacher, as is our open door policy.

### Section 3: Communication

Responses to questions:

1) The school is welcoming

100% of responses either agreed or strongly agreed with this statement  
80% strongly agreed

2) The school supports me in my role as the first educator of my child.

95% of responses either agreed or strongly agreed with this statement  
51% strongly agreed

3) The school provides plenty of opportunities to inform me about my child's progress

87% of responses either agreed or strongly agreed with this statement  
49% strongly agreed

4) The school website/newsletters provide me with clear information regarding what has happened in school

96% of responses either agreed or strongly agreed with this statement  
53% strongly agreed

5) The school website/newsletters provide me with information about future events

99% of responses either agreed or strongly agreed with this statement  
53% strongly agreed

6) The school actively seeks children's views and takes them into consideration



96%\* of responses either agreed or strongly agreed with this statement  
46%\* strongly agreed

**Parent Comments** (it's not possible to include all comments, therefore we have included a balance of both positive comments and those which highlight areas where parents feel the school can improve):

*'## is a fully happy child and feels a strong part of the class and school.'*

*'Communication is good when it is good but can be sporadic. Sometimes the newsletter is late in being sent and sometimes we don't receive one at all. They are useful to receive at the end of the week so we know important information for the following week and can sometimes see what our child has been up to in school. This is the same for the school blog on the website and twitter. Some year groups receive lots of updates whilst others receive very little. It is a shame because we love to see what our child gets up to whilst in school.'*

*'Tapestry is also incredibly helpful for updates in nursery and reception.'*

*'Parental feedback is via 2 Parents meetings and one end of year report. It would be informative to get termly feedback - not a full report but an indication of progress across subjects so targets can be set and shared with parents so they can help their child achieve these before the end of year.'*

*'Excellent communication with me'*

*'We have a newsletter which is fantastic , communication through emails as well, letters home. Before and after school clubs , the teachers really do give their time freely.'*

*'Individual feedback on child is zero outside parents evening. What is happening in class on a week to week basis is zero. Would suggest a weekly email ahead of time to describe what is being taught and planned in the class for following week'*

*'We find communication from the school overall is excellent. The newsletters are very informative. The website is much better and easier to navigate now it's been updated. However, I find that it's difficult as a parent to communicate back*

*with the school about small things. The school is very welcoming but it's difficult to have a quick conversation with teachers unless it's via email or over the phone which automatically makes it feel more formal and serious. If parents could walk pupils to the door and have quick chats in the morning, I think that would help, or a system like classdojo where parents can send quick short messages would help.'*

*'The school's communication with parents is fantastic'*

*'Also, would like to mention how impressed I am to see the progress of one of my boys in ##, how quick the teachers had manage to start learning to read words and sentences. Well done all for all the team,'*

*'The newsletter doesn't always arrive on a Friday afternoon/ evening so we are not aware of upcoming events for the following week.'*

#### **School Response:**

We are so glad that 100% of parents feel that the school is welcoming and 80% strongly agree with this. We are also delighted to hear that the vast majority of parents are in agreement that the school communicates effectively.

We know that effective and timely communication with parents builds trust and inspires confidence in the school. It is always our intention to deliver key information to parents with as much notice and detail as possible. Where this hasn't happened we apologise and assure you that we are constantly striving to become better – particularly in terms of ensuring the regularity of our newsletters and accuracy of information on these and the school calendar. We ask teachers to use their class blog as a means of celebrating and sharing the ongoing events and achievements of their class. Again – we recognise that there is sometimes an inconsistency in that some classes are disproportionately represented and we are working with school staff to improve this.

Some parents feel that a more informal means of communicating with staff would be beneficial, which we will explore further in the coming weeks. We would like to remind parents that whilst at the start of the day we ask our staff to give 100% of their attention to the children, parents are always able to email, leave a message at the office or pass on a message via the school adult on the gate.

With regards to reporting children ongoing attainment, progress and targets we share these with you formally at four points during the academic year: our open evenings in October



and March and reports in February and July. We believe that dialogue between parents and school/class teachers should be an ongoing process and therefore encourage parents to continually engage with teaching staff where necessary.

## Section 4: Staying Safe at School

Responses to questions:

1) My child feels safe at All Souls

100% of responses either agreed or strongly agreed with this statement  
79% strongly agreed

2) There is a good standard of behaviour at All Souls

100%\* of responses either agreed or strongly agreed with this statement  
80%\* strongly agreed

3) The school deals effectively with unacceptable behaviour

100%\* of responses either agreed or strongly agreed with this statement  
68%% strongly agreed

4) When I have raised concerns with the school they have been dealt with properly

97% of responses either agreed or strongly agreed with this statement  
45% strongly agreed

5) Staff encourage my child to be ready, respectful, and safe

100% of responses either agreed or strongly agreed with this statement  
75% strongly agreed

6) The school helps my child to have a healthy lifestyle

96%\* of responses either agreed or strongly agreed with this statement  
63%\* strongly agreed

**Parent Comments** (it's not possible to include all comments, therefore we have included a balance of both positive comments and those which highlight areas where parents feel the school can improve):

*'It is pleasing that all souls and its staff provide (for me) the best early educational experience and ## and his class are energetic and respectful. A testament to the work of all staff both at All Souls and All Sorts.'*

*'The school dinners are poor and not healthy for children'*

*‘My son goes to free fitness clubs, after school clubs, and in general with behaviour of children , if there is anything it gets felt with promptly . Fantastic school.’*

*‘I feel that the last year the system to book food has been making things more difficult. I appreciate it is difficult to keep everybody happy, but have wish the children would be given more salad or vegetables.’*

*‘Excellent support/communication from Head Teacher’*

*‘We couldn’t be happier with all the staff and leadership at All Souls Primary, it’s such a special school and we feel extremely lucky to be part of the school community.’*

*‘Overall we think that the ethos of the school is lovely and focuses mainly on the positive. We do worry however, that the system of consequences escalates very quickly. We feel that pupils should only be sent to SLT as a last resort or if something very serious or repetitive has happened. For children in ## to be sent to the HT seems very severe.’*

*‘We are very proud that our child attends All Souls and they love coming to school every day. Overall we are happy parents. There are just a few little things that we feel would make it better from our perspective.’*

#### **School Response:**

It is very reassuring to hear that parents believe their children to be safe and that high standards of behavior are maintained at school. It is equally pleasing to see that the school rules that we introduced in September are recognised, understood and valued by all – which is certainly what we have experience in school.

We believe that we have very well behaved children on the whole and that classroom environments are calm, safe and highly conducive to learning. We know, though, that children are children and therefore do make mistakes (as we do too) and that childhood is about learning from these. This is why our approach to behaviour is about first understanding where mistakes have been made, the impact of these on others and how we can put these mistakes right, ensuring that we try to not make the same mistake again.

**With regards to children discussing their behavior with members of the senior leadership team, whilst we understand that, from a parent point of view this may seem significant, from our perspective it is very much part of our normal day-to-day interactions with children. As a leadership team we are in and out of classrooms daily, know each and every one of our children and want to be part of both celebrating their work and achievements as well as supporting their personal development. We want to be considered by children (and parents) as someone who is deeply invested in their learning and well-being and work hard to not create a culture of fear.**

**We are disappointed to read that some parents feel that the provision of school dinners is not to the standard that you would like. The school works closely with our catering company, AiP, and will both feed these views back and investigate further opinions regarding hot dinners, including the effectiveness of the ordering process, so that we can address the concerns raised.**

#### **Final Comments:**

**Thank you to all parents who took the time to complete the online survey. It really is lovely to read some of the very kind comments that were left and to see that, as was also recognised in our recent Catholic School's Inspection, we have an overwhelming level of support from parents. This is very important to us and is something that we want to continue to work at and build upon. We know that, as a school, we are not perfect and that there are many things that we could do better. This is why we also value the more critical comments that have been left and we will give each of these our careful thought and consideration so that we can continually improve and strengthen the relationship that we share with our families and community.**