



## Parent Survey (Summer 2021) Feedback

Dear All Parents and Carers,

Firstly, thank you to everyone who participated in the summer parent survey. Your responses really do help to guide our school's direction and priorities. In September, a team from St Stephen's governing body analysed the results and helped the senior leaders to identify some clear points to take forward this academic year.

Firstly, thank you for the warm, encouraging comments on the many aspects of school life which you appreciate. Here are a few points on **'what is going well'**:

- 'Children continued with trips, residentials and the school production (20-21)'
- 'Great leadership, care for the children's development, great teachers, feeling of belonging among children'
- 'Strong leadership, FOSS are great, varied curriculum, online learning during lockdowns was done extremely well.'
- 'A remarkable school with committed, caring and wonderful staff.'

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- 98% parents/carers feel their child is happy at St Stephen's. (2% neutral)
  - 98% parents/carers feel their child is safe at St Stephen's. (2% neutral)
  - 100% parents feel teaching is good at St Stephen's
  - 94% parents feel behaviour is good at St Stephen's (6% neutral)
  - 96% parents feel staff are approachable at St Stephen's (4% neutral)
  - 98% parents feel communication is good at St Stephen's
  - 94% parents feel St Stephen's is successful in creating a culture which celebrates diversity (6% neutral)
  - 68% parents feel St Stephen's deals effectively with bullying. 30% parents were neutral because they haven't had any experience of bullying.
  - 96% parents feel that St Stephen's deals effectively with any instance of hate language (4 % parents thought our stance was harsh at times - please see below for next step)

## **What we will work on as a result of this survey:**

### **1. Communication**

Some parents reported that they do not always get a timely response when they send an email to year group inboxes. We have asked our staff to respond to emails within 48 hours (working days). If your matter is urgent and requires a quicker response please call our office or email [info@st-stephens.richmond.sch.uk](mailto:info@st-stephens.richmond.sch.uk).

We are looking at a longer term plan for our email communications, website and social media presence and will keep you informed of any changes.

### **2. Home-School Connections**

At the point of the survey, some parents were feeling distant from school life. We are delighted that we are now able to open up the school gates at drop-off and pick-up so that you can speak to class teachers directly. Furthermore, we now can invite parent volunteers on trips - thank you to those who have helped this half term. Next half-term, we have a team of library volunteers starting so that we can open up our library once again. Class Assemblies will begin next half term so all parents will have an opportunity to see their child in an assembly this academic year. In November, we will open up our doors to prospective parents for the first time in two years.

### **3. Parent-Teacher Consultations**

Responses to whether parent teacher consultations would remain online this year or not were mixed. We, therefore, have decided to conduct our October consultations online and our February consultations will be face to face. (Covid restrictions permitting)

### **4. Text Choices**

We received some responses around how we choose the texts, which we use in class. Each year, we pick these carefully as rich learning tools with links across the curriculum. We review these on an annual basis - you can see these on our website for your child's year group here: <https://www.st-stephens.richmond.sch.uk/curriculumyeargroup>

If you have any questions on these, please don't hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.

### **5. Behaviour Policy**

We have listened to your comments on our behaviour policy. Any child who misses playtimes as a result of bullying or hate language is now given even more support to reflect on their actions. Rather than just talk to children about their actions, we have sourced some really clear books on racism and bullying to support this. We do, of course, have these issues taught throughout our curriculum across the whole school too.

## 6. School Values

The results from the questionnaire provided us with evidence that children cannot always talk to their parents about our school values. In the last two years, without face to face assemblies, we have had fewer opportunities to speak in depth about our school values. This half term, we have started by talking to our children about our Mission Statement and particularly 'Building Each Other up in Love and Learning'. The children have really engaged with this and have been able to talk about how they keep this in their hearts at all times. Furthermore, we have re-visited some of our school values within class and in assemblies - linking this back to our actions and how we treat others. . More work will continue over the year. As the year progresses, we hope that your children will be able to talk to you about the school values and how they live them on a day to day basis.

### Wellbeing Survey

Thank you also to the parents who completed the specific survey on wellbeing in July. This helps us to plan for the best provision possible for our children. The results show that you really value our services

- 'I have found the dialogue with the school really helpful in managing our child's anxiety around specific situations'
- 'I appreciate that resources are always stretched and limited so it's amazing that the school as a whole places such emphasis on emotional well being.'

#### **What we will work on as a result of this survey:**

A few parents reported that they were not aware of the range of services we offer.

- All our services are promoted through the school newsletter on a half termly basis.
- For those parents who didn't realise that we offer a range of wellbeing services, please don't hesitate to contact us.
- We will soon be updating the wellbeing page on our school website
- We held a Wellbeing coffee morning for parents on Monday 18th October, which was booked to capacity.
- We will hold parental workshops on managing children's anxiety and behaviour later this academic year.

## **Newsletter**

We wanted to take this opportunity to remind you of our wonderful, informative newsletter which comes out each week. It is sent out each Friday and uploaded to the front page of our school website. Previous newsletters can be found here:

<https://www.st-stephens.richmond.sch.uk/weeklynewsletters>

This will keep you in touch with the highlights of what your child has been up to on a weekly basis and also inform you of upcoming events. It really is a fantastic read!

**\*\*ends\*\***