

Parent View Questionnaire February 2017

Thank you so much for completing the questionnaire. Your views and opinions of the school are very important to us and we want to take them into consideration as we move forwards. Altogether, 70% of parents from Classes A, B and C completed the questionnaire; Class D will be given a separate one. Your comments were thoughtful and perceptive. This is what you told us about the school:

		Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Doesn't apply
1	My child is happy at school	77%	20%	3%		

School's Response:

We are delighted that 97% of children are happy at school. Just a quick walk round the school shows how happy they are. Naturally, children go through phases of feeling unhappy or vulnerable from time to time. They have certain subjects that they prefer, too. Overall, the responses reflect the ethos of the school and how caring it is. The child who was unhappy is now much happier and I hope this continues to be the case. Happy children are happy and productive learners!

2	My child feels safe at school	82%	18%			
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School's Response:

It's really good to know that all the children feel safe in school. Again this reflects the school ethos. We have a range of systems in place to ensure we are kept safe in school, for example: Safeguarding measures, site security, anti-bullying policies, etc. The school council are meeting each fortnight and they discuss how to make playtimes safer and happier. They've suggested a quiet area and a friendship bench. The Woodlands Group provides a nurturing environment to promote positive support for the child's learning. Also, the school strongly promotes mutual respect and encourages children to be caring towards one another.

3	My child makes good progress at this school	74%	26%			
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School's Response:

The children are making good progress at school, we have worked hard as a staff to make sure the children make the best possible progress and we are always looking for effective ways to help children reach their full potential. We will be working on independent learning strategies to encourage children to have more ownership over their learning. We're currently learning about Precision Teaching and how that will help us to identify gaps in children's learning and how to address them. We keep parents informed during parents' evening (97% attendance) and we are exploring further ways to keep you informed about your child's progress.

4	My child is well looked after at school	87%	13%			
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School's Response:

It's great that you feel that your children are well looked after. The staff know your children really well, they know how to address concerns and meet your children's needs. This school has a reputation for being nurturing and caring, and we all make every effort to make sure this continues.

5	My child is well taught at school	87%	13%			
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School's Response:

100% of parents agree that the children are taught well; that's fantastic! The staff work extremely hard and know your children really well. There have been many changes to the national curriculum and testing, and staff have attended regular training to keep up to date with new initiatives to make sure they are highly skilled, effective practitioners.

6	My child receives appropriate homework for their age	56%	41%	3%		
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School's Response:

We aim to provide homework that is meaningful because it links to what the children have been doing in school. Homework generally covers the basics: reading, spelling and learning number facts and opportunities are provided for research and project work. Question 20 looks deeper at homework.

7	This school makes sure the pupils are well behaved	59%	38%	3%		
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School's Response:

We have high expectations of good behaviour. All children are clear about the school rules and have created sets of rules to adhere to at play and lunch times. We place strong emphasis on mutual respect, tolerance and celebrating our uniqueness. We have clear systems in place to reward good behaviour and we deal effectively and consistently with any inappropriate behaviour. We hold team meetings to make sure staff are following the same guidelines so we are consistent and fair. We aim for children to take responsibility for their own actions and to recognise there will be 'rewards' when they behave well and 'consequences' when they don't.

8	This school deals effectively with bullying	38%	46%	8%		8%
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School's Response:

This school has a zero-tolerance of bullying. Many incidents happen in school, and the majority are just that, incidents. However, when those incidents are purposeful, repetitive, unwanted and aggressive and involve a real or perceived power imbalance, action is taken. It is vital that school is made aware when a child feels vulnerable, upset or hurt by another child. We always address incidents if we know about them.

9	This school is well led and managed	59%	38%			3%
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School's Response:

We are delighted that such a high percentage of parents perceive the school to have effective leadership and management. This a small school and everybody works hard to make sure every child achieves well in a safe and secure environment. All our leaders and staff are 100% committed to making the school successful – we are aspirational and determined to make Furness Vale the best it can possibly be, for every child. Our Governing Board actively holds our leaders to account, contributes to the strategic development of the school, and supports the school with energy and enthusiasm.

10	This school is a welcoming and pleasant place to visit	79%	21%			
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School's Response:

We are always being told what a friendly and welcoming school we are, it's clear that you think so too. Thanks should go to Mrs Daniels who runs our school office with efficiency and a smile. Visitors regularly comment on how positive, warm and friendly the school feels.

11	The school responds well to any concerns I raise	69%	31%			
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School's Response:

We aim to respond swiftly, and in a caring, considerate and fair way, to any concerns or queries. In the morning, the Headteacher is on the school playground from 8.45 onwards. Children and parents make their way inside and can have a quick informal chat with teachers or teaching assistants at this time. School begins at 8.55. At the end of the day staff escort the children outside and wait for them to be collected. Staff can be approached for a quick chat during these times or an appointment for a longer meeting can be made. You can also call the school office to arrange an appointment. We aim to see parents as soon as we can so that queries and concerns can be dealt with swiftly and informally.

12	I receive and understand the information the school gives me about my child's progress	74%	26%			
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School's Response:

We hold two parents' evenings each year and issue a detailed End of Year Report. Recent government changes have removed levels and brought in child related expectations instead. Therefore, we are currently exploring additional methods for keeping parents informed about their child's progress and attainment. One parent suggested that we have open mornings or afternoons where parents can join their children and learn alongside them. We'll explore practical ways to make this happen, it's a great idea!

13	There are a good range of clubs for my child to enjoy	46%	31%	20%		3%
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Schools Response:

As you can see, this has the biggest proportion of parents who disagree. Therefore, this needs looking at! A meeting has been set up with the sports provider to see what can be offered. Also, School Council will consult with their classes to find out which clubs children would like to take part in. We then need to look at the list to see which clubs will be practical to run. As you know, we have Breakfast and After School clubs. If you would like your children to attend, please contact the school.

14	The school has a good reputation in the local community	64%	33%	3%		
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School's Response:

Furness Vale Primary School has been at the heart of the community for many years. Community members often call in and tell us their many connections to the school: generations of their family may have come here or they know people who've worked here or been on the governing board. They talk fondly about the school and their memories of it. It is central to the community and we're determined to keep it that way. Earlier this year, children made cards to sell in the Post Office. The school has a PTFA (Parents, Teachers, Friends Association) who raise funds for the school and get involved in community events. We are

always looking for volunteers, if you would be willing to help contact Mrs Daniels in the office and she'll pass your name to Sarah who will contact you to let you know when the next meeting is. If you have any suggestions for how to strengthen community links even further, please let us know.

15	School visits and other outings are well planned and compliment the curriculum	69%	31%			
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School's Response:

We strive to provide children with a 'Hook for Learning', something to grab their attention and help them focus on the topic/subject that is being taught. This usually takes place in the form of a visit or a visitor, somewhere or someone to inspire the children and grab their interest. School visits are very expensive, but buying specialists in can also be costly. Therefore, at the start of each topic, teachers research the 'Hook for Learning' that will motivate the children and make them want to learn whilst considering cost effectiveness. We are delighted that you agree that we provide good quality visits and visitors that complement the curriculum.