

Parent Carer Questionnaire December 2014/ January 2015: Feedback

Thank you to all the parents and carers who responded to our Questionnaire in December 2014- January 2015. 25 children were represented from across school: 3 from EYFS-Y1, 2 from KS2, 1 from KS3, 5 from KS4, 6 from KS5, 4 unknown and 4 from Newman Additional Resource (NAR).

The replies help us to see what you value about Newman School, and what we could improve. They also gave us important information about your views on how we share information, as well as informing our on-going development of a Parent/ Carer Group. The main points are shown below, together with our plans to use your responses to develop further the high quality education and care the community of Newman School provides for all our young people.

- **100% agree (7) or strongly agree (18)** with the statement, 'At school my son/ daughter is making good progress'.
 - **Comments:** "He's doing so much better.", "She has learnt more in the last 3 years at Newman School than I could ever wish for."

- **100% agree (8) or strongly agree (17)** with the statement, 'My son/ daughter is happy in school'.
 - **Comments:** "He has lots of friends at school and loves doing different things.", "He loves going to school and really misses it when it is not there.", "He has complex high anxiety issues, and I feel that is dealt with extremely well by staff.", "He can't wait to come to school" (NAR)

- **100% (3) agree or strongly agree (22)** with the statement, 'My son/ daughter is well cared for'.
 - **Comments:** "All of his teachers [all staff] look after him and he is very safe with all.", "CSAs are very supportive, but need to be aware what's said within earshot of pupils."(NAR).

- **86% agree (4) or strongly agree (17)** with the statement, 'All pupils are treated equally'. The other 16% (4) did not know.

- **100% agree (4) or strongly agree (21)** with the statement, 'Behaviour is well managed and good behaviour is promoted'.
 - **Comments:** "The teachers [all staff] do a good job with managing behaviour."

- **91% agree (6) or strongly agree (18)** with the statement, 'Any concerns or complaints have always been taken seriously'. The other 4% (1) did not know.
 - **Comments:** "I have been supported as a parent.", "No concerns or issues. Any concerns we have had have been dealt with extremely effectively/ efficiently- excellent communication between staff and ourselves."

- **100% agree (4) or strongly agree (21)** with the statement, 'I am kept informed by my child's class teacher or tutor on a regular basis'.
 - **Comments:** "Without asking they let me know and they put it in his book or ring me.", "I love reading her home-school book as she doesn't always tell me what she's been up to."

- **96% are happy with the way we share information** via letters, texts, and website. The other suggested more use of letters in children's bags.
 - **Comments:** "Extremely good at sharing of information.", "Extremely happy with all of the above. Cannot suggest any areas to improve on.", "Prefer face to face or phone call, but texting is very convenient for most people.", "YES!- I feel I am kept informed very well.", "Communication is excellent.", "Very happy with communication from school.", "I'm very happy with the communication I receive from staff. It makes me feel supported and that I understand."

Questions

- **'Please tell us what is good about Newman School'**.

Newman Main School

- "The children are well looked after and the teaching is excellent!", "Best thing to happen to our daughter", "My son is happy most of the time. If not, Newman sort the problems as quickly as possible.", "It caters for my daughter's needs in every way.", "Calm, supportive environment. Happy, welcoming staff.", "Professionalism of staff.", "Varied timetable.", "Safe environment...happy environment. Students are well-behaved", "My child is learning more than ever before and is happy to share this at home....we are delighted. Thank you!", "She is encouraged to develop new and existing skills. She feels safe and respected at school.", "We are really pleased with the communication and attention of the staff.", "It is a very well run school and a friendly school.", "Every child is treated as an individual and taught accordingly.", "The staff, support and kindness in school.", "Everything. I'm happy with everything at Newman School.", "The way the school act like one big family."

Newman Additional Resource

- "Atmosphere is very relaxed and friendly and I'm always made to feel very welcome. All staff very approachable, and lessons are very much based around each individual child's interests and abilities....no problem is too big or too small... [my child] absolutely loves it!", "Small class sizes...quiet, calm environment...you cater for pupils as individuals...been waiting for something like this forever.", "From the start you have done your best to make sure [my son] has felt safe and comfortable while helping him to learn."

- **'What could we do better?'**

Newman Main School

- "Being able to use the pool more as often the temperature isn't right. More after school activities.", "Can't think of anything. Excellent!", "More trips.", "My child feels valued at school.", " Just keep doing what you've previously been doing to keep Newman as the best school.", "More activities with the local community.", "Give more notice of activities in school.", "The school is fab just the way it is."

Newman Additional Resource

- "I would like [him] to have as many different opportunities and experiences to learn and broaden his horizons as possible.", "Small room for parents with tea/ coffee, maybe internet to look for information etc."

- **Parent/ Carer Meetings**

Nine said they had been to a Parent/ Carer Group Meeting and nine families said they would like to be part of a fundraising group. Four asked for details of planned meetings and one suggested a speaker about travel/ Blue Badge issues. One parent of a new child said they would love to visit.

- **'Please note any particular concerns or issues':**

Newman Main School

"[Recently] joined...been really happy, and we have no concerns.", "Any issues of friendship have been dealt with promptly.", "Satisfied completely.", "Everyone has been very helpful and have worked hard to settle her into school. I am very grateful to you all for this. Thank you.", "A big thank you to all for your commitment and dedication!", "Fantastic school!"

Ideas for Development

• Sharing Information. We will:

- Continue to use texts for e.g., extra reminders, weather updates affecting school, as they are popular with many parents/ carers. Look at new ways to use text service.
- Give as much notice as possible of school activities - on or off-site.

• Enrichment

- Continue to do our best to keep the pool operational (NMS), and inform families when/ why it is not available.
- Ensure that opportunities for after school activities are offered equally across school. Look at additional funding sources to expand on those offered.
- Review role of off-site activities in the curriculum as a motivator for learning, including those involving the local community.

• Staff Development

- Remind all staff to ensure privacy in conversations about pupils

• Meetings/Hospitality for families

- There is now a Parent/ Carer room in NAR
- Plan a meeting for families interested in Fundraising
- Plan a meeting to welcome 'new' families
- Plan a meeting about supported travel/ Blue Badge scheme

In conclusion, once again we are delighted with the outstanding feedback received, and grateful for the time taken to reply. We now look forward to working on the points raised for development. We continue to welcome all contributions from parents/ carers, whether in person, in home-school diaries, or on the phone. Please do not hesitate to get in touch about any issues you may want to raise, and indeed to celebrate the achievements of our amazing children.