

National Support School

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National College for
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**Pupil Premium
Awards 2015
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Primary schools and others
with published KS2 results



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June 2017

Dear Parents,

Thank you to those of you who completed this term's parental questionnaire. We had a total of 85 responses. We really appreciate hearing your views as these are really important to us in helping to improve Parkfield.

This letter contains a summary of your views and a response to some of the key points parents raised.

Thank you for your continuing support and the many wonderful comments that were made about our school on the questionnaires.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Williams
(Acting Headteacher)



		Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
1	My child is happy at Parkfield.	84.7%	15.2%	-	-	-
2	My child feels safe at Parkfield.	81.2%	18.8%	-	-	-
3	My child makes good progress at Parkfield.	67.1%	32.9%	-	-	-
4	My child is well looked after at Parkfield.	65.9%	32.9%	-	-	1.2%
5	My child is taught well at Parkfield.	69.4%	29.4%	-	-	1.2%
6	My child receives appropriate homework for their age.	62.4%	31.8%	2.4%	1.2%	2.4%
7	Parkfield makes sure that its pupils are well behaved.	67.1%	28.2%	-	-	4.9%
8	Parkfield deals effectively with bullying.	55.7%	32.8%	-	-	11.8%
9	Parkfield is well led and managed.	68.2%	27.1%	1.2%	-	3.5%
10	Parkfield responds well to any concerns I raise.	63.5%	25.9%	2.4%	1.2%	7.1%
11	I receive valuable information from Parkfield about my child's progress.	70.6%	24.7%	4.7%	-	-
12	I find the weekly class newsletter useful.	74.1%	22.4%	2.4%	-	1.2%
13	Would you recommend Parkfield to another parent? Yes – 97.6% No – 2.4%					

Please note that percentage totals may not total exactly 100% due to rounding.

Parkfield would be even better if...

- (1) There were more arts and craft

This is something that we are already taking steps to improve further. The curriculum for next year should include more opportunities for this and we will be having the return of 'Big Arts Week' next year.

- (2) The children had more opportunities to attend after school clubs and communication was improved in notifying parents of attendance to after school intervention sessions like handwriting.

Currently we offer approximately 21 after school clubs. These clubs are run by our sports coach and some of our teachers and teaching assistants who voluntarily give up their 'free time' to run these. We would love to offer more clubs and we will always try to increase the number of these that we provide.

We are however limited by the fact that we wish to keep these clubs free of charge to parents. This prevents us from raising more money to invest in more clubs. In addition to the after-school clubs that we provide, we also run a breakfast club (which we do make a small charge for), dinnertime clubs and after-school sporting events, such as the boys and girls football at Aston Villa.

Communication is something that we are always trying to improve and I apologise that on this occasion that it hasn't met our usual high standards. Hopefully in future this will improve.

(3) The children could go on more educational trips.

Educational trips and outside visitors provide a great amount to a child's education and we have some fantastic trips at Parkfield, such as to Warwick Castle, The Warner Bros. Studio (Harry Potter), visits to different places of worship, the Black Country Museum and the School Council visiting and touring the Houses of Parliament. Trips and visitors are selected carefully to provide the most benefit to the children and the best value for money. Currently, parents pay £10 in EYFS and £15 in years 1-6 for school trips and outside visitors. Each year group though currently spends far more than this paying for trips and outside visitors. As I'm sure you are aware, school budgets have been cut across many parts of the country, and Parkfield has been a victim of this also. We hope to continue our current level of high quality experiences for our children, but this is very much dependent on the extent of further cuts.

(4) Reception parents are no longer allowed into the building to drop off their children. There is no more liaising with teachers.

This has been changed to help develop the children's levels of independence and to help prepare your children for Year 1 next year. A meeting was held to discuss this with parents. Our partnership with parents is always a key priority to us at Parkfield. We therefore have put in place a system (like KS1 and 2) in the morning, where if you wish to pass a message to a member of staff or speak directly to them, this can be arranged with the person on the door, although long conversations with teachers are always difficult at this time of the day as the teachers should be with the children. If you however wish to arrange an appointment to speak to a teacher in more detail after school though, the EYFS staff will be happy to arrange this.

(5) The school uniform was cheaper.

As a school, we try to find the uniform that is the best value for money for parents. We then sell this at the school office at cost price. As a school, we unfortunately make no profits from selling school uniform. Red jumpers (without the Parkfield logo) may be worn as school uniform at Parkfield and these may be purchased from supermarkets and other shops if this is a cheaper option for you.

(6) Parking space for parents.

Parking is an issue at Parkfield and this can be very frustrating to parents and staff. This is one of the reasons why myself and Ms Ikhlq are outside (in all weathers) most mornings to help discourage illegal parking, which causes so many issues and puts our children in danger. Unfortunately, we are limited by the road size at the front of the school and we have no spare space within the school grounds to dedicate to parental parking. Although we do what we can to encourage more children and parents to walk to school, many parents who live within walking distance still drive their children to school. If all of these parents walked to school with their children, it would be much calmer on the roads outside of school and the children's health would be enhanced through the exercise this would provide.

(7) Parents classes for half days who wish to write and read English. More parent workshops on how to support their child at home.

Please see Ms Ikhlq about English classes. She does offer classes dedicated to developing these skills and she would be delighted if you could attend. Coffee drop in mornings would be an ideal time to do this. This takes place on a Thursday morning at 9am.

Each year group does provide at least three parental workshops aimed at parents to help support their children at home. If you feel that you would like support in a specific area, then please speak to your child's class teacher and they will try to take account of parental views when planning these sessions.

(8) Parents not knowing about staff who are off ill long term and staff leaving and the impact that this has on the class.

Staff and children build up strong bonds throughout the year and occasionally teachers leave during a school year, whether that is to go to a new school or for maternity leave. At Parkfield this year, we have had a larger than usual number of teachers who have temporarily left to have babies. This has required us to move staff around within school and to recruit some new teachers. These decisions are not been taken lightly and have been taken in the best interests of the children. I however do apologise for any short-term distress and inconvenience caused to children and parents by this. These changes though have always been communicated to parents via letters.

Long term staff absences are rare and the reasons for these are understandably confidential. We do currently have one long term absence and we wish that person a speedy recovery.

(9) Children's weakness get specific development activities online or on paper.

Most children in the school currently have access to Mathletics. Teachers identify the children's strengths and areas for development and set work

accordingly. We are also investing in a writing piece of software next year which will allow children to assess their own and others writing in school and at home. We hope that this will motivate and develop the children as writers.

(10) There was no bullying.

Bullying is a very unpleasant experience for any child and their parent/s. At Parkfield though, bullying is fortunately rare, with only four incidents of bullying in the Autumn Term 2016/2017. We address concerns when they are raised, but what we really need is for all children to 'tell' if this happens to them. Most children are very good at this. The quicker they tell, the quicker it can be dealt with. We would be grateful if you could support us by reinforcing this message at home also.