

Barcombe CE Primary School

Parent Questionnaire January 2015

Please tick your child's year group	Reception	Year1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
	4	4	8	5	3	5	4

27 Families responded

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	Comments
My child enjoys school	16	11				<p>Always happy and willing. Amazing (except for puddings!)</p> <p>He has never said he doesn't want to go to school.</p> <p>My child has been happy at Barcombe School since his arrival.</p>
The school informs me about my child's progress	8	17	1		1	<p>It would be nice if parent consultations happened termly as it seems a long time in between each.</p> <p>Could be better.</p> <p>I would like more feedback of my child's progress.</p> <p>Teachers are always open and approachable. PT evenings full and informative and yet we still feel like we don't always know what the children are doing (largely because it's so hard to get them to tell us anything themselves!)</p> <p>More updates on the blog maybe?</p> <p>The communication on progress is excellent.</p> <p>Only at parent consultations.</p> <p>Excellent parent/school communication . Looking forward to receiving some of this electronically.</p>
My child is making enough progress at this school	12	15				<p>I am amazed at how quickly she has learnt to read and write in such a short time.</p> <p>Academically.</p> <p>Very impressed with standards of literacy. Spelling held back by phonics.</p> <p>As much as my child is able with the support she has in place.</p> <p>After much disruption due to staff issues, things seem to have settled down.</p>

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Agree	Don't Know	Comments
The teaching is good at this school	14	13				<p>Teacher seems to use an excellent range of methods to engage the children in learning.</p> <p>As in any small school, some teacher/pupil combinations are more effective than others but all staff work to consistent standards.</p> <p>We are extremely impressed with our child's teacher. She has total control over the class and keeps them engaged at all times.</p> <p>This is an aspect which has improved significantly. We can always do better though.</p>
The school helps me to support my child's learning	9	17	1			<p>There is a lot of homework and sometimes I think she is too tired to do it.</p> <p>Comprehensive homework tasks suggest a topic though the purpose of each task is not always evident.</p> <p>Curriculum meetings are a great idea.</p> <p>The class blog has been a welcome addition to school parent communications.</p>
This school ensures the pupils are well behaved	17	10				<p>There is a strong focus on good behavior and this is noticeable whenever I visit the school.</p> <p>A culture of happy good discipline is endemic rather than enforced.</p> <p>The children are always well behaved and respectful to visitors in school.</p>
The school helps my child to have a healthy lifestyle	10	13	1		3	<p>I would prefer if they were encouraged to play outside more. I have heard that they watch TV at lunchtime on rainy days which I don't think is acceptable. I would be happy to provide waterproofs and wellies daily to encourage more time spent outdoors.</p> <p>Fruit is not always available as a pudding at lunchtime, having already run out.</p> <p>BUT at lunchtime the fresh fruit nearly always runs out before he gets there – more please!</p> <p>I think they need more encouragement to drink water during the day and more PE!</p> <p>Some evident awareness of healthy living and eating.</p> <p>There are always activities in which my children can stay active and there are always healthy snacks and water available to them.</p> <p>How about getting rid of pudding for school dinners – fruit only option.</p> <p>How about a water fountain in playground – hydration aids learning well.</p> <p>Good at encouraging pupils to participate in a variety of sports.</p>

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly agree	Don't know	Comments
The school makes sure my child is well prepared for the future	11	10			6	<p>Happy to be just a child for now!</p> <p>This is a bit of an open question, how far in the future? Tomorrow, 5yrs etc...!</p> <p>Not really seen yet but only in Year 2!</p> <p>This is extremely important. Would like to see the introduction of more school trips – British Museum, Science Museum etc. – understand that this is a financial issue however.</p>
The school deals effectively with unacceptable behaviour	11	8			8	<p>I haven't experienced this yet.</p> <p>The Head Teacher and all the staff dealt quickly, sensitively and effectively with a situation my son experienced. I was extremely impressed.</p> <p>No direct experience.</p> <p>I have had plenty of experience with behavior concerns from other children and from my own. Every time the school has dealt with it effectively and helped my family through it.</p> <p>We are in the lucky position of not having seen this.</p> <p>This has been an issue for my child. However, this has been well dealt with by the Head and his team.</p>
This school responds well to any concern I raise	12	11			4	<p>Haven't had any concerns yet.</p> <p>Teaching staff are always positive and helpful.</p> <p>When concerns have been raised, the Head Teacher has been quick to hear them and effective at taking appropriate action.</p> <p>All concerns are always dealt with efficiently.</p> <p>Haven't raised any yet.</p> <p>Head Teacher visibility always extremely good.</p>
This school is well led and managed	14	13				<p>It would be nice if sometimes the school thought a little more 'outside the box' with regards to keeping school interesting.</p> <p>Excellent leadership from Head Teacher. Direction setting from Governors could be more progressive/innovative perhaps?</p> <p>Leadership is so important; when the person at the top is positive and upbeat, the rest of the team will follow. Mr. James is both of these things.</p> <p>I feel the school is in a brilliant place and my children seem very happy. My partner and I are extremely delighted that our children attend this wonderful school.</p> <p>The school has made significant strides in terms of the systems which have been introduced in the last 2 years.</p>

Overall, I am happy with my child's experience at this school	15	12				<p>Excellent, friendly and enthusiastic staff throughout.</p> <p>Over the years my child has had a few ups and downs, mostly downs, with their learning and behavior but not through any fault of the school, and had great support to help them succeed.</p> <p>Barcombe Church of England Primary School boxes well above its weight. Both my children have enjoyed their school experience.</p>
I would recommend this school to another parent	17	10				<p>I would recommend as a 'safe' rather than dynamic school.</p> <p>Absolutely!</p> <p>Yes.</p> <p>I have personally recommended this school to many parents.</p>

Can you tell us about any aspect of the school over the past 12 months which has pleased you and you would like to see us continue with?

It has been great to see the kids going and learning outdoors at Wild About Barcombe. I would like to see more of this.

Very good pastoral care.

I am happy with the progress x has made in literacy and the learning support he receives.

There is a positive atmosphere at Barcombe. All children seem to be encouraged to do their best whatever their ability and emphasis is placed on this rather than a score/level of achievement. I have had the privilege of listening to children read and see first-hand how happy and purposeful the children are in their day to day learning. When I pick up my children they are full of smiles and reports of a good day. Thank you.

Sporting activities.

All the art work displayed around the school and in the classrooms is a joy.

The Break Out of Barcombe trips out are fantastic opportunities for the children to explore the amazing surroundings the school is fortunate to have. It would be great if they could do it more often.

There is a clear increase in the amount of sport offered. Good to see an emphasis on sport and improved participation along with competition.

Seems to be an increased emphasis on music & singing. A great addition to 'core' education.

Break Out Days are terrific. The kids love them and the learning is embedded. Please continue and do more where possible!

Teachers are good at creating inventive ways to engage children with topics etc., Great Fire of London – burning model houses.

Lots more links with community and outside projects and learning being brought into school.

Yes, football after school.

I love the way the pupils hold open doors for people on events.

The high academic standards expected of the children are impressive, though the learning atmosphere appears supportive and not overbearing.

The new mission statement is a welcome expression of priorities and philosophies.

Class assemblies.

Sports activities (loving hockey!)

Sports Day.

Christmas production.

There seems to be lots of sporting activities which the school positively encourages and supports.

The school works really hard at being inclusive so even if your child doesn't really excel at anything they somehow manage to make the child not notice.

I have been very impressed with the level of support my son received around issues of toilet training whilst in reception year – the complexity of the situation was understood and I felt very supported – was a fantastic support in fact. My child is also now well supported as an individual in Year x and his individuality understood and celebrated.

Outdoor play whatever the weather.

School plays and class assemblies – he really enjoys these and it's a great opportunity for us to see him with his class.

My child was identified as performing well in maths and was invited to go to Chailey school each week to help build on this standard. I think it is tremendous that the school recognizes children who show a particular talent in a subject and helps realize that child's potential. Please continue with this!!

My child had a bumpy start at school for the first few years but the school/staff have always given the care and support our family needs. Our child is improving as a result and our family couldn't be happier.

The fact that after school clubs are now 'pulled out of the hat'.

Very impressed with Spanish Club.

Very impressed with efforts regarding sport.

Outdoor activities where classes can bond as a year such as Break Out of Barcombe.

I am very pleased to see the school having established a stable staffing regime after a period of significant change. Much of this not of the school's own choosing. I am also pleased to see the efforts to upgrade teaching skills, not only in the case of teaching staff but in terms of the support staff which is very important. I have been particularly pleased by the efforts of the SEN team.

Is there an aspect of the school that you would like to see improved?

I am not sure where this response fits, but my one concern about the school is the level of religious teaching. I understand that it is a C of E school, but it is also the only school in the village and this is the reason most parents choose it. I cannot understand the need or reason to pray 3 times a day or some of the language that is employed to teach about God. I feel the school should respect that a number of families want a secular upbringing for their children, but are unable to access this within the village.

None that I can think of.

More trips – outside learning.

I think there needs to be a clear separation between Year 5's & 6 in Owls.

More notice regarding events or special days which require dressing up etc., so that there is enough time to prepare.

Clear information about inset days well in advance.

I understand Barcombe is a C of E school but feel Church officials should not be taking weekly assembly. I do hope that the children are aware that a Christian faith and bible stories are something some, but not all, people believe and not an absolute faith.

The Board of Governors needs more diversity and less religious influence.

I would like to see the children learning about all the different religions and about atheism. Not such a heavy focus on Christianity.

It would be good to see more swimming lessons – a life skill.

Outside play and learning – more use of the surrounding environment – more play outside in all weather.

Languages – continue with French school link.

No railings round the school please.

Yes, I think one assembly a week would be enough so that leaves more time for PE or learning!

It is so warm in the school – would it be possible to turn the heating down a bit? I really believe that when it is not so warm, they drink plenty and move more, children will be better behaved and able to concentrate!

More bagels.

Maybe an end of year show for Key Stage 2 as they no longer do a Christmas one?

Less homework please. Let them and their families enjoy their precious childhood. Homework kicks in at secondary school. Spellings, reading and times tables are enough for primary children.

Perhaps the children need to understand hygiene better. My children don't automatically wash their hands after using the loo let alone flush it; can the school really instill this in them?

I would prefer more aspects of other cultures and religions to be learnt about in an active way.

I would like more specific maths homework and a better insight into supporting my child with how they are learning maths – however, I do feel able to discuss this with the teacher and am confident I will be supported as appropriate.

All in all Barcombe is a wonderful school and I feel happy and safe in the knowledge my child is learning there.

School play for KS2.

More Break Out of Barcombe for Year 1+

Karate as an after school club?

No.

It would be lovely to have more free after school clubs that all classes and year groups can attend.

There seems to be many letters/much paper correspondence. For environmental reasons and to make sure it doesn't get lost how about switching to email/website or give parents an option.

Playground water fountain – it's unrealistic to expect the children to use water bottles if thirsty.

Single year classes – Years R to 6.

'Wet Play' – children can play out in all weathers.

Playground facilities could be improved as well as the catering arrangements which would benefit from more scrutiny as well as pupil feedback. A simple board at the exit from the canteen where pupils could indicate their satisfaction on a scale of 1-10.