

Parental Feedback 2014/15

48/135 returns (36%)

Written Comment summary

(tick box section is sent to the local authority, results are published in late spring to the school)

(Comments are in no particular order, wording has been kept accurate to original comment)

Important Strengths of the School

- Safe environment where children feel happy , secure and safe
- Variety of sports and after school sports on offer
- Sports
- Discipline
- Family atmosphere
- Good teaching
- Christian values
- Events
- Sense of community
- Small size means that all children are known personally by teaching staff
- Very good range of extra-curricular activities on offer
- Intimate
- Communication with parents
- Curriculum focus
- Religious links
- The friendly, welcoming atmosphere that is noticeable as soon as you enter
- Promotes good values
- Staff are very friendly and easily approached
- Different events throughout the year gives a real community spirit
- A great structure to the learning
- Good communication between parents and school
- The school always puts the kids first
- Feel good factor, atmosphere
- Very strong headteacher
- Excellent headteacher and staff, support from all staff has been over and above anything we could have expected to help our children settle
- Fully committed staff throughout the school – as reflected in the popularity of afterschool clubs and the obvious enjoyment of the children

- The teachers
- The introduction of residential/overnight stays at activity centres
- Well behaved children
- Pleasant happy environment
- Good relationship with local church and community
- Well balanced and family atmosphere
- Values childrens well being
- Everyone made to feel welcome – friendly atmosphere
- good academic results
- Committed to helping a child achieve their best
- Moral values taught very well throughout
- Any issues dealt with promptly
- Anti-bullying, zero tolerance. Being able to voice this has been quite easy for my child and the problem was addressed immediately and in correct manner
- All staff members are approachable and have listened to both myself and my child. Staff have a great positive attitude
- My child always wants to attend school
- Always made to feel welcome
- enthusiastic staff
- It's a fantastic c of e school with good beliefs and faith
- It has a great athletic and sports scheme
- caring and supportive environment
- approachable headteacher, consistent caring and Christian ethos good vicar and headteacher with open Christian values
- the ability to achieve their goals
- the duty of care the staff give to the pupils
- the teaching staff always have the best interests of the children in mind
- the schools provides lots of opportunities for the children to engage with and develop their knowledge and skills whilst having fun
- teaching children to become confident and independent
- Sense of belonging and being part of the community
- Good reputation
- Great rate
- The incredible support all the staff give the pupils and parents
- How friendly the school is ie they make the children feel at ease

Ways that the School can be improved

- More extra curricular clubs for KS1
- Improved classroom spaces/cloakrooms
- Smaller class sizes or more TA support
- Better cloakroom facilities
- For children who don't like desserts or fruit – what are the alternatives?
- Keep extending the outdoors for teaching and play
- Introduce more challenging and exciting PE. Make use of all equipment and facilities
- Increase in male teachers (taking nothing away from the female teachers)
- More PE taught by a specialist
- Better communication with working parents who cannot get to school
- Increase from 5 to 6 classes
- Work towards higher academic aspirations
- Timing of parents evenings – first too early, second too late
- More encouragement for less confident children
- More room in changing areas for PE
- External coaches clubs – make sure they listen to children
- Trips can sometimes be expensive
- Better communication with parents
- Less mixed age groups/classes
- Swimming lessons available to all children
- Names of classes/year groups confusing
- Make the most out of anti-bullying week
- More creative and music learning
- provision for children preparing for the grammar schools could be better for more weeks in advance
- build another classroom
- use of email for correspondence and newsletters
- more notice for some events
- more healthy snacks as well as toast/crumpets
- know lunch menu in advance so that parents can guide children
- trips to heritage sites, historical places
- class pets, chickens
- improve school website
- Funding!
- Develop outdoor education provision

Other Comments

- Transition from infants to juniors could be discussed better

- This is an excellent school
- The school is well run, well organised and really cares for the children
- We have been very pleased with this school
- Our daughter especially likes the fact that children are designated specific roles in school such as music leader, play leader and head girl/boy
- Provision for vegetarian foods could be improved
- My youngest daughter has just started reception has settled into school life very easily
- Liked old headmistress but new one is really pushing school forwards
- Would like to see year 6 taught separately as it is an important year video all concerts and plays so that parents can buy a DVD
- More background help with homework would help us support at home
- New head has settled in well and has made several positive changes
- A more focussed approach to targeting SEN intervention, moving children on
- Our school is a very happy school and is making very good progress both socially and academically
- We have been very happy with the school since our children started in 2007
- Lots of clubs at lunchtime and after school is great
- This school is fantastic. I am so pleased I sent my child here. They have come on so much and really enjoy attending school

Actions taken or proposed by staff/Governors to address areas for improvement

- Headteacher, Governors and staff will continue to consider classroom size/capacity when proposing numbers annually in Spring. Admission numbers dictate class arrangements but the HT and Governors will continue to discuss options each year
- Staff and governors continue to seek other funding to improve the school
- Mixed age classes are currently unavoidable due to school numbers
- The outdoors will continue to be on the school improvement plan indefinitely
- WE HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN GAINING A BIG LOTTERY FUNDING AWARD OF £10,000 TO HELP IMPLEMENT OUR NEW OUTDOOR AREA – Caton`s Little Explorers (work will commence around the outside of Class 1 and Class 2 during Autumn term/Spring term this year
- Outdoor education has been agreed as an essential part of our curriculum by staff and parents
- Improved cloakroom/changing facilities are planned for next year on the schools premises improvement plan

- Class names have been discussed by staff – it is planned to change to themed names by the end of this academic year
- Reporting of children's progress to parents will be discussed with staff in the Spring term (including timings on Parents evenings). Staff continue to offer appointments with parents at any time during the term to discuss progress.
- Children's progress is now tracked rigorously on a half term/termly basis with on going assessment throughout the term. Children not making expected progress/exceeding expected progress are identified early and support/intervention is put in place quickly
- The Headteacher and children will continue to work with the catering staff to hold more special lunch events and improve the selection of meals available on a regular basis
- Financial aspects of trips/events for parents will be discussed with staff and PTA in the forthcoming year in order to consider best value for money and timing of costs. Forward planning and communication with parents at the earliest time will be highlighted
- Enhanced PE lessons and extra-curricular activities is continually being developed and supported through additional Government funding. Last year staff and children were supported in learning hockey skills/games. This year our focus is kwik cricket/cricket and orienteering
- Activities for all children, especially KS1 will continue to be reviewed on a termly basis, suggestions from parents have been noted and will be considered by staff
- Increased preparation for Grammar school exams is not planned. Test paper familiarity will continue in Autumn term only. The school will not tutor towards a grammar school test.
- New website will be going live before the end of autumn term 2014.
- Newsletters and other information via email/text will be increased in Spring 2015
- PHSE/antibullying has an increased focus this year alongside the new curriculum. We continue to teach Spiritual, Moral, Cultural and Social aspects of learning on a daily basis throughout school, linked to our Christian Values work
- Better communication methods are constantly being reviewed, especially for events/ activities. Weekly newsletter continues to be best source of information. Website re-model will improve communication.
- More school pets – to be discussed with staff! Chickens would be great if willing volunteers would help look after them in the holidays.
- Male teachers are very welcome to apply for vacancies in our school – but we cannot specifically advertise that we `need a man!!!`