

# Parent/Carer Questionnaire Analysis

October 2021

The return rate for St. Vincent's 2021 Parents/Carer Questionnaire was 67% (100 completed questionnaires out of 150 families\*). This is a good response and school is very grateful for everyone who returned a completed questionnaire. Thank you.

\*Y3 was used as a statistical sample to obtain a figure for the number of families in St. Vincent's - from 210 pupils attending the school: 47% of pupils are the only child attending, 40% have one sibling and 13% have 2 or more siblings in the school.

Communication	+	na	-
Q1. The school encourages parents to play an active part in school life.	96%	4%	
Q2. It is easy to approach the school with questions or problems to do with my child(ren).	98%	2%	
Q3. The school handles complaints from parents well.	97%	2%	1%
Q4. The school informs me of what is being taught.	96%	3%	1%
Q5. The school keeps me well informed about my child(ren)'s progress.	95%	5%	
Q.6 I find it easy to get in touch with my child's class teacher.	99%	1%	
Q7. Parents' evenings providing me with information about my child(ren)'s progress.	100%		
Q8. The school's weekly newsletter is useful and informative.	99%	1%	
Q9. It is easy to approach the Head teacher to discuss or seek information about my child(ren)'s needs.	99%	1%	

The above results show that 97.7% of respondents are satisfied or very satisfied with the level of communication offered by the school. However, as some respondents indicated neither satisfaction nor dissatisfaction due to personal/professional circumstances, e.g. they are unable to participate in school life, the true value of parental satisfaction for the school's level of communication is **99.8%**.

Parents/Carers suggested the following to improve communication at St. Vincent's:

1. 2 respondents requested results from weekly spelling tests
2. 5 respondents requested more frequent feedback about their child's academic progress
3. 1 respondent requested more interaction between teachers and parents
4. 1 respondent requested photographs be uploaded onto the website more promptly

In response to respondents' comments:

1. Weekly spelling test results should be written on the new spelling list. Teachers will be reminded to maintain this practice.
2. St. Vincent's has an established monitoring and assessment schedule that involves formally assessing all pupils six times in the school year (at the end of each half term). Consequently, reports on each child's progress is shared with parents/carers six times per year:
  - Oct/Nov - Parents/Carers Evening in school
  - Dec – Written progress report sent home
  - Feb – Parents/Carers Evening in school
  - April – Written progress report sent home
  - July – End of Year report + invite into school for 'Book & Look'

The HT concludes that this schedule ensures feedback is both valid and meaningful: indeed, progress is a measure over-time. Any parent/carer concerned about their child's school work can make an appointment to speak to the class teacher.

3. For the past 2 years, Covid19 has dictated that interactions in school must be minimised. Teachers are unable to meet with parents/carers between 8:30am – 3:15pm due to the nature of the job, however, at St. Vincent's, phone messages and appointment requests are responded to at the teacher's earliest opportunity.
4. St. Vincent's is a dynamic school and pupils are awarded a wealth of wonderful learning and development opportunities within every school week. These experiences are shared via the weekly newsletter and through the school website. Whilst the newsletter is printed and sent home every Friday, time constraints mean that photographs are not uploaded onto the school website's gallery with the same degree of regularity. We will try to improve this.

<b>Teaching and Learning</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>na</b>	<b>-</b>
Q10. I am satisfied with the work that my child(ren) is/are expected to do at home.	94%	4%	2%
Q11. The school offers a good range of after-school activities.	97%	3%	
Q12. The quality of teaching in the school meets my expectations and is serving my child(ren) well.	98%	2%	

The accumulative level of satisfaction in the category of Teaching and Learning is 96%. As previously noted 'na' is interpreted as a positive response, therefore, the overall Teaching & Learning statistic is 98% parent/carer satisfaction.

Parents/Carers suggested the following to improve teaching & learning:

1. 1 responded would like help with their child's homework
2. 10 respondents would like more after-school clubs, more club spaces and greater variety

In response to respondents' comments:

1. St. Vincent's teachers run a free-of-charge Homework Club every week for Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6. We are sure parents/carers are grateful that teachers give-up their time so willingly to support the pupils in this way. In KS1, only work that the children know how to complete is sent home: tasks can be completed independently although it is more beneficial and rewarding to share the experience with a parent/carer/older sibling.  
Miss Willis has agreed to trial a Y2 Homework Club from January 2022: she will assess whether it is beneficial and enjoyable for the children.
2. We currently run 2 after-school clubs every day (excluding the four KS2 Homework Clubs) and also have a daily Breakfast Club that starts at 7:30am. Whilst we appreciate how popular our clubs are, unfortunately, we are unable to expand this schedule due to restrictions of both time and space, e.g. on Tuesdays, there are children in school for a period of 10 hours. The caretaker and cleaners cannot complete their cleaning duties if children are in the hall and the classrooms and are using the toilets. All rooms need to be cleaned thoroughly at the end of every school day.  
Risk Assessments for all clubs dictate the safe adult:child ratio, e.g. there are more spaces in film club than in cook club. St. Vincent's astute Health & Safety practices apply to After School Clubs also.  
We are always looking for new and exciting club activities and welcome suggestions from pupils, parents and carers.

School Values	+	na	-
Q13. The school's values and attitudes have a positive effect on my child(ren).	99%	1%	
Q14. The school achieves high standards of behaviour.	100%		

The overall level of satisfaction in school values demonstrated at St. Vincent's is **100%**.  
As a Roman Catholic primary school, St. Vincent's is centred on the values given by Jesus Christ and teaches the values of Catholic Social Teaching: community, respect, dignity, truth, solidarity, tolerance and justice.

Parents/Carers suggested the following to improve school values:

- 1 respondent requested their child's worries be listened to.

In response to respondents' comments:

1. St. Vincent's is particularly proactive when it comes to pupils' mental health and emotional wellbeing: we employ a child-psychotherapist, run a wellbeing lunchtime club, schedule a range of wellbeing activities e.g. mindful colouring, classroom 'worry dolls', and all staff receive annual training in strategies for supporting pupils in this area. All pupils are encouraged to share their worries with a trusted adult in school. Similarly, parents are encouraged to speak to their child's teacher if a child is worried, upset or unsettled.

Parental Confidence	+	na	-
Q15. Leadership within the school is playing an effective role in the education of my child(ren)	99%	1%	
Q16. My child(ren) is/are safe and well cared for at school	100%		
Q17. My child(ren) enjoy(s) going to school.	100%		
Q18. I am pleased that my child(ren) attend(s) St Vincent's RC Primary School	100%		

**100%** of respondents expressed confidence in the roles performed by the school.

Parents did not make any suggestions on how to improve values.

### Additionally

Parents/Carers suggested the following improvements:

- 1 respondent requested we change the school lunch menu.
- 3 respondents requested we install playground climbing frames and furniture.
- 1 respondent requested we acquired a football field.
- 1 respondent requested we create a shelter in the school playgrounds.

In response to respondents' comments:

1. The school lunch menu is created by Newcastle City Council and follows healthy eating principles. Four meal choices are available each day and our school cook is very accommodating in meeting personal preferences and requests.
2. Climbing frames and trim-trails are a great idea and we wish we had the space to safely install them in our playgrounds. Sadly, St. Vincent's is woefully lacking in outdoor space in relation to the number of pupils and, consequently, we are obliged to prioritise outdoor space

for P.E. lessons.

3. We too want a school playing field for football, other sports and playtimes. Alas, the school was built nearly 90 years ago before physical activity was considered an important part of the school day.
4. As mentioned above, St. Vincent's is an old school with little outdoor space. Pupils do not need a shelter because on rainy mornings they come directly into the building. Whilst a shelter for waiting parents/carers would be hospitable, it would create hazardous obstacles in the playgrounds.

### Reasons for choosing St. Vincent's RC Primary School

Religion	1st
Local Reputation	2nd
Location	3rd
Discipline	4th
School Clubs	5th
School size	6th

Religion is considered the biggest motivating factor for selecting St. Vincent's RC Primary School.

Respondents were asked to give one thing they particularly liked about St. Vincent's. Here is a selection of some of the comments the school received:

#### Communication:

*"Teachers are easy to approach"*

*"Keeping in touch with school is very easy."*

*"Ms Ness is always on-hand when needed."*

*"Communication is excellent..."*

*"The teachers and head of the school are absolutely lovely and helpful with both pupils and families."*

#### Teaching and Learning:

*"...the children get to experience lots of different things, e.g. Kielder Forest."*

*"Fantastic level of education and range of extra opportunities (educational trips etc.)."*

*"The teachers really encourage my children to do well."*

*"My children are learning a lot and are improving..."*

*"...various trips help the children's learning."*

#### Values:

*"The school has no bullying...the kids are very kind,"*

*"The Christian values promote fairness and develop responsible adults."*

*"All children are well mannered and polite."*

*"Pupils have great respect for their teachers."*

*"School is one big family."*

#### Parental Confidence:

*"The school is great for being on-top of situations in and outside of school."*

*"My daughter really enjoys coming to school. The staff are amazing with the pupils."*

*"St. Vincent's is a fantastic school..."*

*"Staff are dedicated to the educational needs and well-being of each child."*

*"Staff genuinely care about how the children are progressing: it is not just a job."*

In conclusion, St. Vincent's RC Primary School's 2021 Parent/Carer Questionnaires reflect excellent levels of parent/carers satisfaction in all four key areas surveyed: Communication, Teaching & Learning, School Values and Parental Confidence.

The school governors and staff are continually appreciative of the great support and consistent cooperation received from all our parents and carers.

Thank you!