



Analysis of Parents' Questionnaire March 2014

Many thanks to all of you who took the time to complete the questionnaire.

61 out of a possible 122 questionnaires returned which represents a 50% response.

Question	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
	Overall total: 46%	Overall total: 35%	Overall total: 6%	Overall total: 6%	Overall total: 7%
My son / daughter is happy at this school.	59%	34%	5%	2%	0%
	93%		7%		0%
My son / daughter feels safe at this school.	52%	34%	2%	5%	7%
	76%		7%		7%
My son / daughter makes good progress at this school.	43%	43%	8%	3%	3%
	86%		11%		3%
My son / daughter is well looked after at this school.	56%	31%	3%	0%	10%
	87%		3%		10%
My son / daughter is taught well at this school.	46%	43%	5%	5%	2%
	89%		10%		2%
My son / daughter receives appropriate homework for their age and ability	26%	33%	20%	13%	8%
	59%		33%		8%
This school ensures the pupils are well behaved.	44%	41%	2%	7%	7%
	85%		9%		7%
This school deals effectively with bullying.	39%	34%	0%	8%	18%
	72%		8%		18%
This school is well led and managed.	43%	33%	5%	5%	15%
	76%		10%		15%
This school responds well to any concern I raise.	46%	38%	5%	8%	2%
	84%		13%		2%
I receive valuable information from the school about my son / daughter's progress.	44%	34%	11%	8%	2%
	78%		19%		2%
I would recommend this school to another parent.	52%	25%	3%	7%	13%
	77%		10%		13%

Additional notes:

- Where N/A was used this was marked as a 'Not known' for the purpose of this survey
- The majority of the replies either agreed or strongly agreed with the questions
- A total of 81% of the replies agreed/strongly agreed with the questions
- A total of 12% of the replies disagreed / strongly disagreed with the questions
- A total of 7% replied 'don't know' to the questions

Some suggestions made on the completed questionnaires:

- Homework to be set more regularly
- Information on progress and regular feedback
- More involvement of parents in school life – especially fundraising
- Programme of summer activities in advance of the school holidays to allow time to organise routines
- Information about day to day activities: ‘we miss having a diary’ (year 10 parent)
- More ‘parent and child school dinner days’

A common thread from both positive and not so positive responses were:

- That their son / daughter did not receive appropriate homework for their age and ability, with many comments saying a total absence of homework
- That they did not receive information from the school about their son / daughter’s progress

Action to address these common themes and suggestions made:

- A homework policy and timetable has been drawn up for the school. This will identify which homework will be set on a daily basis with a date for completion and return to school. This will be implemented early in the summer term.
- Progress is entered on the school data tracking system on a termly basis by all staff. Instead of this being shared annually this will now be shared termly with parents / carers, with the opportunity for parents/ carers to discuss this with staff on a termly basis. This will be implemented in the summer term – with the data outcomes from the spring term being shared with all parents / carers.
- Staff to place more emphasis on home / school diary being used to give information of what has been experienced during the school day.
- Programme of events to include social and fundraising to encourage parental involvement. Parent coffee mornings have started to address these issues and a group of parents have assisted with fundraising in the arts week, are arranging a barn dance and have volunteered to help on the school farm at weekends.
- Programme of activities to be offered by ‘Aiming High’ funding to be circulated in the second half of the summer term.
- A programme of ‘special lunches’ to be discussed with catering team and included on the school calendar. We will aim for at least one per term.

Concerns raised on the questionnaires ‘any other suggestions or comments you would like to make’:

Although the number of concerns which were raised by parents / carers was small, as a school we want to be able to restore confidence and trust in parents / carers. We operate an ‘open door policy’ and will actively try to address concerns raised.

Where parents / carers raised significant concerns and gave their names, contact will be made with them to give them the opportunity to discuss them with Mrs Carmichael, Head of School. Some have already been replied to in writing with an invitation to discuss in person. Some concerns have already been addressed.

Some of the concerns raised and not already address by actions above:

- Safety of the students.
- How behaviour / bullying is dealt with
- Admission to residential provision
- Systems for medication

- Lack of SALT (speech and language therapy)
- Target setting too generalised
- More effective use of funding for learning aids and specific learning plans / outcomes
- Returning phone calls / messages
- Information sharing of examination process

Action to address these concerns:

An invitation to parents/ carers to come into school to discuss these concerns and come up with a 'way forward' to address them. This will be scheduled for early in the summer term.

To end on positive note:

Many thanks to all of you who took the time to respond to the questionnaire and to share with us your thoughts. The information you have provided has been enlightening and will help us to continue to build on the progress we have already made to make Walton Hall School a positive learning experience for all its students, parents and carers.

Some of your quotes:

- 'I am very happy with the school and xxx's education'
- 'I am very pleased with how xxx has progressed over the last few years'
- 'Xxxx loves coming to school, excellent progress and he is enthusiastic in his learning'
- 'Xxx feels a valued member of the school. Residential has been fantastic'
- 'My son loves school and is doing very well'
- 'You're doing a great job!'
- 'I have just had an issue with a friendship issue and it was dealt with very well. I have a lot of faith in the teacher'
- 'She loves school': quote: 'I'd be devastated if I couldn't go to Walton Hall School'
- 'This year has been a marked improvement from previous years. Smaller groups seem to work better for my son, with better supervision'
- '..... in a short time, by amazing teachers, teaching assistants and leadership..... this fantastic team have made this happen she is now back to what she should be – confident, happy and eager to learn..... I have already recommended this school to 3 other happy parents'
- '..... any little issue we have had has been dealt with in a proper and caring manner'
- 'Very good information from 6th form, comprehensive meeting with detail of what xxx is doing.....'
- 'Although the school has undergone considerable changes in management, I feel that good will come from this in providing a wider curriculum and opportunities for pupils'
- '.....we are extremely pleased with the support both xxx and ourselves receive from the staff involved with xxx'
- '... a great support to my daughter with her anxieties, let me know every day how she is in class. They have also been very supportive to me'
- 'Really pleased with the change in management. Feel more welcome and more involved. Happy to raise concerns and feel I am listened to now'
- 'Great to see improvement – really happy now – thank you'
- '.....xxx is happy going to school which in turn make us all happy. Keep up the good work'