

Parents Survey 2017-18

Report of the Parent Engagement Group

When: 2nd – 23rd July 2018

How: Parent Engagement Group members asked set questions of other parent/carers. Survey Monkey link on the school website.

1.0 RESULTS

35 adults completed the survey; these adults are responsible for 69 children who attend Cabot Primary School. This represents 38% of all the children in the school (182 in total). There were no significant differences in responses from adults with children in different years, though the Year 3 response was slightly lower.

The parents surveyed were of the following nationalities:

	Number	Percentage
Somali	23	66
Pakistani	6	17
White British	2	6
Arab/Middle East	2	6
Indian	1	3
Mixed heritage	1	3
TOTAL	35	

This spread of nationalities roughly reflects the population of the school.

The majority of adults surveyed were female, 91% compared to 9% male.

More adults were surveyed than the previously, up from 26 last year.

Surveying was most successful in the afternoon after Sports Day (KS2). Surveying was supported by some of the Somali and Pakistani ladies filling in the forms and helping to translate. Several surveys were completed at parent meetings eg coffee mornings, PTFA.

1.1 What people liked about the school

The adults made a total of 53 comments reflecting what they liked about the school. The Table below shows all the comments made by more than one adult.

%	What
21	Good teaching
21	Close to home
13	Staff
13	Parent: teacher relationship
11	Everything
6	Good behaviour
6	Child/children are happy
6	Headteacher

Comments included:

Non-punitive and reflective behaviour policy

Happy, progressing children

Best school locally

Teachers make time to talk to the parents

My children have made a lot of improvement and the teachers are very polite and well-mannered.

I also like how the school involves the parents in all or most of the events

I really like it, my daughter still comes to this school even though we have moved to Easton.

I like how the teachers and the Headteacher deals with issues.

How the school educates the kids is fun, yet effective

Teachers give parents a good understanding about what the children need to work on to improve their progress

Teachers have respect for the parents. It is safe.

Very good teachers and management

Open, friendly; helping children reach their potential

1.2 What could be improved about the school

A total of 36 comments were made about potential improvements to the school. The Table below shows all the comments made by more than one adult.

%	What
56	Nothing
11	More homework
6	More out of hours activities
6	Teaching

Useful/interesting suggestions are:

- New teachers need to work better with parents to help them help their children
- Use the parents waiting area to share the activities that the children have been doing in school, so parents feel more of a sense of what is happening. Improve the infrastructure in this area to make it more welcoming to parents
- Reading: repeat the Bedtime Stories model (ie staff reading to different classes; fun) in school time and more frequently

1.3 Plea for help with the Summer Fair

Everyone answered this question; 17% of people agreed to help out.

2.0 CONCLUSIONS

The survey – There was a higher uptake than previous years, possibly due to the longer lead-in time and targeting parents waiting at pick-up, during Sports Day and at parents' meetings. 4 people filled in the Survey Monkey version. Fewer men answered the survey this year than previous years.

2.1 What people liked - Adults are most appreciative about the Teaching (21%), Staff (13%) and Headteacher (6%) in the school, with a lot of positivity around the Teacher: Parent relationship (13%). Many adults like the school being close to home (21%) and reflect the good behaviour (6%) and the fact that their children are happy (6%) and safe (2%).

2.2 What could be improved – as in previous years the most common response to this was “nothing”; 56% this year compared to 39% last year. The second highest request is for more homework (11%) and then for more out of hours activities (6%). Teaching (6%) and behaviour (6%) are raised both in relation to some teachers who were new to the school last year but have since left. Cultural diversity of the school is mentioned, but only by one adult (3%) of responses, compared to 14% the previous year. There are some interesting suggestions made.

2.3 Helping the school fair - Most adults questioned did not want to help out and those that did were already involved, except one.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

To be discussed at PEG in Term 1 (20th Sept) and developed into an Action Plan for approval by the School Improvement Committee (11th October).

The survey

Use PEG members with dual language to help other EAL adults fill it in at pick-up, Sports Day and other parent meetings, especially the Yr 6 meeting. Survey would have to be ready earlier, end of Term 5 (tbc). Engage men through the parent v school football match, deliberately target men, perhaps through dual language men helping others.

3.1 Likes

Feedback to the school, so they can enjoy the praise and keep on doing these things well!

3.2 To be improved:

More homework (11%) Reiterate the school’s homework policy eg at the meet the teacher meetings, coffee mornings throughout the year. School to monitor the frequency at which homework is given and returned at KS2 and report to governors. School to provide training for parents to support their children to learn at home eg coffee mornings and to signpost parents to accessible, relevant local training eg St Paul’s Children’s Centre.

More out of hours activities (6%) – publicise Studio Club; could get the children in SC to do a poster for the parents notice board and advert in the newsletter. Parents to run activities eg joint bike ride.

Behaviour & Teaching (both 6%) – Both of these are in relation to staff who were new to the school last year and have since left. The school is confident and have satisfied the governors that training and performance management for new staff is effective. Parents to speak to teachers if they have any issues, if these are not resolved, then escalate.

Cultural diversity (3%) – PEG would like to hold an event linked to Eid in the summer. Governors to work with school on marketing to new parents this year.

Other suggestions - school to look into this and report back to PEG.

3.3 Parental engagement - continue to advertise these opportunities to the whole school community in discussions, noticeboard and newsletter. Sign-up sheet for parents to commit to specific tasks at each event.

Survey – design the survey ready for the Year6 end of year parents meeting, advertise in the newsletter and on website, recruit a man to champion, survey at parents football match, parent meetings and on Sports Day.

(KS1 – the homework consists of sitting with the children to read books, tell stories, Mathematics, and times tables. Parents are encouraged to do this in their home language. KS2 - The focus in Cabot is about literacy, numeracy and reinforcing learning in school through activities they do with another person (parent, sibling), so they do some research and talk about the project

Swimming - all children have to be able to swim 25 m at the end of Yr6, so school has decided to take Yr5 and 6 to ensure learning is perpetuated