



Dear parents and carers,

Thank you to the parents that completed our parent survey. A total of 43 parents completed this which is really positive in helping us to ensure we have a good range of views. We appreciate your feedback. Below is an overview of what we asked, your responses and our next steps as a school. This is the long response with full details – a one page summary is also attached!

We asked about the transition arrangements we have in place and what else you would like.

You said:

Can we include information about FoFs (1 parent) and work to complete during the summer to prepare for the new year (1 parent)? We were also asked to send out medical forms ahead of the new school year (1 parent). All other responses were to thank us for the arrangements in place or to confirm that you do not want anything further.

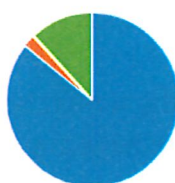
We will:

- Provide an overview of FoFs and how to be more actively involved – great idea, thank you!
- Provide RKE sheets at the end of the term for your Autumn 1 topics. This will enable you to learn the vocabulary and have time to explore the suggestions in the explore section. We will ask for your projects to come into school on the first day of term for us to share. We are really keen to increase the number of people using these at home to support learning so hopefully this will help.
- Send out medical forms ahead of the new school year for you to complete over the summer.

We asked if the newsletters are helpful and how frequently you would like to receive them.

You said:

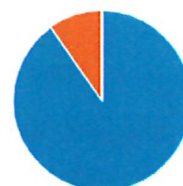
● Yes	36
● No	1
● Sometimes	5



that most of you think they are helpful.

And that you would prefer them to continue to be weekly.

● Weekly	37
● Half termly	4



We will:

Continue to provide weekly newsletters and continue to aim to ensure all useful information is available.

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We asked for suggestions to help us improve communications.

You said:

- There have been occasions that you would like more advanced notice (1 parent)
- You would like less but short, concise information (2 parents)
- That you would like more information (3 parents)
- You would like a timetable of the week for the class (1 parent)
- An alternative to Microsoft Sway would be better as a format (1 parent)
- That you like Microsoft Sway (1 parent)
- A shorter newsletter would be better (1 parent)
- Emails to contain details of which year group it relates to in the header (3 parents)
- You would like more WApp reminders (1 parent)
- Various positive messages about clarity of communication within the documents sent (5 parents)

We always aim to get communication right for people but each family will have their preferences about how much they receive, as you can see from our requests for both more and less communication. We will try our best to meet the needs of all of our families.

We will:

- Send out more reminders. We publish all dates on our calendar for parents and publish all trips and enrichment dates in September to reduce communications which we did based on previous feedback that we were repeating information. Based on your feedback, we will increase the reminders about enrichments that are sent.
- Class timetables will be on the class pages of the website for your reference. Please be aware that these are subject to change and the half termly posters you receive each half term about the learning in class will give you a clear overview of what is being taught.
- Continue with Microsoft Sway as the format because this can be accessed by all devices and parents do not need to have any specific subscriptions like Office to access it.
- Add the year group to the emails you receive – we apologise that this has not been in place.

Please note that the WhatsApp groups are not school led. These are set up by FoFs and managed by your class reps.

We asked what you would like us to do to enhance playtimes.

You said:

- Suggestions were given about new equipment you would like to see including monkey bars, giant jenga, a new playhouse and water play (5 parents).

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- You are frustrated that there is money available in the FoFs account that has not yet been used to increase playtime provision (1 parent)
- Lots of positive things about the provision, the support children get and the opportunities available (12 parents)

We will:

- Purchase some new equipment – staff were asked before half term to review the equipment that needs replacing with a view to use some more of the FoFs money to do so. FoFs have spent a significant amount of money in the last year on wet play resources and playtime equipment and we thank them for their ongoing support.

We asked your views about about Club Key returning in September at a cost of £60 a half term for up to three clubs a week.

You said:

- That you would like the option of up to three clubs a week for a £60 charge each half term (38 parents)
- That you would like a range of clubs including sports, STEM, creative arts and cooking.

We will:

- Organise some pay per club options so that we can keep clubs like Jam Coding and have a Club Key option too. We will let you know what this will include when we have made the arrangements before the summer holidays.

We asked if you had been able to speak to somebody in school to resolve any concerns you had and if they had been resolved.

You said:

- That you were able to meet with somebody and that they had resolved your query / concern with the exception of two parents.

We will:

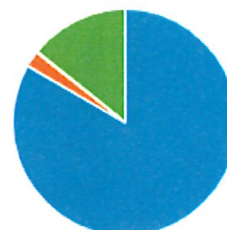
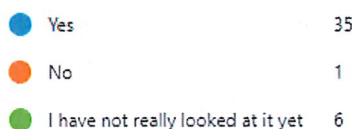
- ask that the two parents to contact the office to arrange an appointment so that we can seek to resolve their query. We only have the name of one of these parents (who we will contact) so if you are the other parent, please contact us.



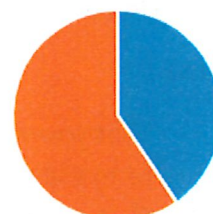
We asked if you were happy with the information you receive about the curriculum and if you have used this to support learning at home.

You said:

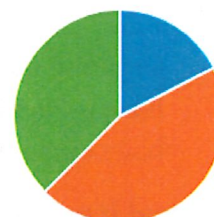
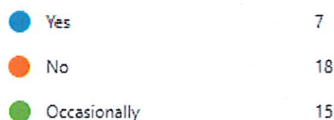
- That the vast majority of parents are happy with the information provided about the curriculum



- That most of you have not used the RKE sheets to support learning at home.



- That you do not all use the online resources to support learning at home.



We will:

- Continue to provide these resources because we can see from the data that the children who are using these resources are using them well and as a result are making good progress.
- Offer more frequent workshops to enable you to know how to better use the resources at home to help your child.

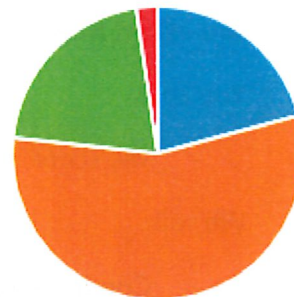
We asked for your views about the quality of education at Fernhurst.

You said:

- That the vast majority of you feel your child is making good or very good progress.



Very good - my child is making ...	9
Good - my child is making prog...	24
Fair	9
I do not feel happy with the edu...	1



-
- That you would welcome more challenge because you feel the pink marking in books reflects a lack of stretch (1 parent).
- That you are not sure if there is enough creativity in the curriculum (1 parent)
- One parent expressed some negative views and we would welcome the opportunity to discuss this with them.

We will:

- Continue to enhance the curriculum so that we keep moving forward in ensuring all children make good progress from their starting points.
- Discuss the stretch and challenge with parents at parent consultation so you are aware of what is in place. We have a policy which focuses on live marking so that children get swift feedback in the lesson – this can lead to the end marking looking positive because they have acted upon the advice provided.
- Make the creative curriculum more visible. The children have weekly music lessons as well as alternating art and DT each half term. The National Curriculum highlights the expectations and we follow this. We have utilised enrichment experiences to enhance this offer and will continue to do so. We will make these opportunities more visible to you through the website and social media as we recognise that a lot of the information you receive is in relation to English and Maths.

We asked how happy you are with SEND provision. Unfortunately only four parents responded to this.

You said:

- That the majority of you are happy with the communication about targets (3 parents)

We will:

- Continue to offer weekly SENDCo surgeries which can be booked by contacting the office. These are twenty minute meetings with Ms Ludlam to discuss SEND and the provision that your child receives.



We asked how good you feel behaviour is at Fernhurst.

You said:

- We score 3.86/5

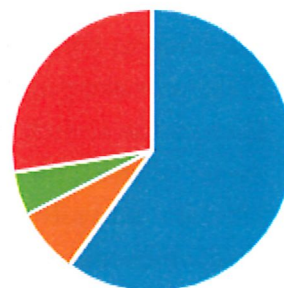
We will:

- Continue to support our children to make good choices and work with parents when this is a challenge.
- Continue the good work that Ofsted identified while looking for opportunities to develop this further.

We asked who you would speak to at school if you had any concerns about school.

You said:

● Class Teacher	24
● Whoever is on the door	3
● The office team	2
● Mrs Thornton	11



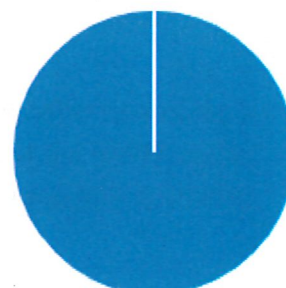
We will:

- Continue to have an open door policy where you can speak with teachers at the end of the school day. They are normally the best people to speak to regarding any concerns you may have about your child as they are with them each day.
- Continue to have a staff member on the door so that you can pass on messages easily.

We asked if the school calendar is helpful.

You said:

● Yes	41
● No	0





We will:

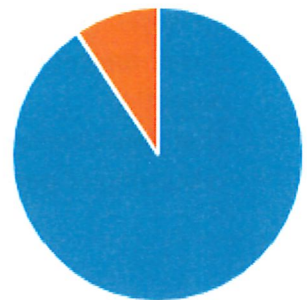
- Keep it updated!

We asked if you were happy with the range of trips and enrichments available and for feedback on these.

You said:

- That the vast majority of you were happy with these opportunities.

● Yes	38
● No	4



- That you would like more trips (2 parents)
- That you can feel frustrated if reminders and transport requests are made with short notice (2 parents)
- That the cost can be a challenge (4 parents)
- That the payment options available are helpful (1 parent)
- That you do not know why the children have not been swimming this year (1 parent)
- A variety of positive messages about the range of opportunities available (6 parents)

We will:

- Ensure we send out the annual trips and enrichment planner in September to help you to plan and put the trips for the year onto ScoPay to give you flexibility in how you can contribute to the costs.
- Continue to seek best value for trips. It is always a challenge with small class sizes to keep the costs as low as we would like to due to transport costs. Where possible we combine year groups to reduce costs and we apply for grants to support costs.
- Be swimming next year. To keep the costs low, we are swimming every second year. The national curriculum requirement is that children should leave primary school having been taught to swim 25m and we do this by offering lessons in KS2 for two consecutive year groups so that the costs are reduced for parents.



We asked if you had any other feedback for the school.

You said:	We will:
Many positive comments about the school, staff and ongoing drive for improvements (parents)	Keep up the good work! Thank you for your positive comments – they are much appreciated.
That you would like more consistency with classroom set up (1 parent)	Build on the improvements that have been made. We have been developing this and have more plans as we move into the next academic year with regards to standardising some of the imaging used (widget) to support displays,
That you have heard there is bullying (2 parents)	Continue to ensure that bullying is not tolerated. This was an area that was extensively explored during our recent Ofsted inspection where the inspection team looked through case files, behaviour records and spoke with children to identify what they classed as bullying. They concluded that on the rare occasions that there are concerns, that the school deals swiftly with these incidents. We have systems in place to ensure that children are able to speak to staff and our recent pupil survey showed that all children have safe adults that they can discuss worries with.
Staff turnover concerns you (1 parent)	Make sure that staff are well supported at Fernhurst. Part of this includes career progression within the Trust. Both Miss Allen and Mr Shaw joined us from other Trust schools. We cannot promise that staff will not leave to take up new opportunities but we can promise that we will always put good transition in place and ensure that there is a good handover between staff.
That you feel the school grounds could be improved (1 parent)	Continue to develop these through the support of our working party days and use of FoFs funding. We are currently creating a sensory garden and wild flower area as well as fundraising for an outside classroom area.
You would like more handwriting in class (1 parent)	Continue to have handwriting practice for all children in class. We will continue to offer further interventions for children who need more support.
That you are unhappy if children are kept in at break for not completing home learning, like reading (1 parent).	Continue to support our children to complete home learning at break if it is not completed at home because we know that the children who read frequently and have a good knowledge of the key facts given as home learning do better in school. We consulted with parents in 2020 about the home learning expectations and agreed that reading at least three



	times a week, practicing phonics, times tables and spellings was an appropriate expectation.
You would like home learning support in wrap around care (1 parent)	Speak about this with the company that will be taking on the provision in the new school year.
You would like us to showcase awards and achievements more in school (1 parent)	Use the display in the front office to support this.
You like the options available to stagger payments for trips and residential visits (1 parent)	Continue to offer this.
Meet the Head sessions are good (1 parent)	Continue to offer these each half term.
You would like more details about what the children do at Forest School (1 parent)	Keep the detail in the school report about Forest School that we started last year to give you an overview of the time that the class have had in the forest. We will also aim to provide more regular photographs in our newsletter. Please ensure your photo permissions are up to date to support this.

We are pleased that the vast majority of our parents are happy with the school and would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your kind words. Praise given about specific staff members has been shared with them – education is a challenging career and it really does make us smile when we hear your lovely feedback.

The survey contains the views of one parent who is not satisfied with any aspect of school life. Unfortunately this parent has not let us know who they are in the survey but we would welcome the opportunity to discuss this further. We hope that this parent will book an appointment via the school office or come to the next open forum to share their views.

The next opportunity to discuss the school with Mrs Thornton will be on Monday 17th July at 14:30. At the meeting, details of next academic year will be discussed alongside anything else that is helpful to the parents who attend.

Kind regards,

Mrs Jennifer Thornton

Headteacher

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