

Governors' Reply to HPP Annual Survey 2017-2018



The Governing Body of HPP is a voluntary board made up of senior school leaders, parents and community members. Our job is to set the strategic vision of the schools, ensure that children are safe, happy and achieving the best possible academic performance, and to ensure that school funds are used appropriately to achieve impact.

Part of our activities involve the annual parent survey, in which we ask our parent/carer community to give us feedback on their experiences of Hampton Primary Partnership. We really value the comments that parents provide – they help us identify potential areas for improvement and give us ideas for developing our schools' vision.

We know that the last two years has been a period of enormous change, with school expansion, a change in the leadership structure, and many changes in staff. We are grateful to parents for their patience and support in what has been an exciting, but sometimes challenging, period. We are especially pleased that despite the many changes, parents who responded to our survey gave us top marks in the essential areas of enjoyment of school, safety, quality and accessibility of teachers, year group transition, meeting individual needs, and overall child's school experience. This is a testament to our dedicated staff teams who always put the children first and work tirelessly to ensure they have a positive school experience.

Areas with a strongly agree rate (90% or higher):

My child enjoys school.	99% "Strongly Agree" or "Agree"
The school keeps my child safe.	99% "Strongly Agree" or "Agree"
I am happy with the progress my child has made since September.	90% "Strongly Agree" or "Agree"
I am happy that my child is taught well.	96% "Strongly Agree" or "Agree"
The transition to next year group ensured child was prepared and settled.	90% "Strongly Agree" or "Agree"
The school meets my child's particular needs.	98% "Strongly Agree" or "Agree"
The school takes account of my concerns or suggestions.	99% "Strongly Agree" or "Agree"
I am made to feel welcome when visiting the school.	94% "Strongly Agree" or "Agree"
I have been able to speak to the class teacher when needed.	99% "Strongly Agree" or "Agree"
The school is led and managed effectively.	90% "Strongly Agree" or "Agree"
Overall, I am happy with my child's experience at this school.	98% "Strongly Agree" or "Agree"
Would you recommend this school to another parent?	96% "Strongly Agree" or "Agree"

Areas below 89% agreement rate:

The school informs me about my child's progress	89% "Strongly Agree" or "Agree"
I am happy with the expectations for home learning and support the school's procedures	85% "Strongly Agree" or "Agree"
The school helps my child to adopt a healthy lifestyle	86% "Strongly Agree" or "Agree"
I am happy with the behaviour management and rewards system in the school and believe it effectively with inappropriate behaviour.	89% "Strongly Agree" or "Agree"
I am happy with the quality of communication between home and school	88% "Strongly Agree" or "Agree"

We thank you for your additional comments:

Amongst the many positive comments were a few themes that we have now discussed at length with the senior leadership team (Ms Lockey, Miss Tester and Mr James). Here is what we are doing to address your concerns:

- **Safety**

Parents are generally satisfied that their children are safe at our schools, and our link governors for safeguarding (Alison Horn) and health and safety (Andy Wadham) work hard to ensure procedures are up-to-date and the sites are maintained to a high standard.

A few parents raised concerns about supervision at play time, crowding in the halls during school shows, and reporting of bumps. The number of adults on the playgrounds is within the recommended guidelines and as our student numbers increase, so too will the number of adults outside. In response to your concerns, the senior leaders are meeting with staff to review how those adults are deployed in the playground, and to ensure a sufficient range of engaging activities are available in the centre of the grounds, to increase visibility.

As we move to four forms across the year groups, the leadership team are reviewing the production and ticketing of school shows.

In the Infants school, children who have had a bump or a scrape will receive a sticker to wear and a letter to parents informing them of the situation. In the vast majority of cases these are extremely minor and no cause for concern. For that reason, parents are not routinely messaged or telephoned. At both schools, if the child has a bump on the head that results in a mark or a lump, parents are called immediately. If you have any questions or concerns, please do talk to your child's class teacher or the Head of School.

- **Communications**

We see this as an area of development and we do strive to be transparent in all we do and keep parents informed of developments at both schools, within the bounds of confidentiality requirements. We have introduced a fortnightly newsletter at the Infants school, a weekly newsletter to reception families focused on learning activities, and both school websites are currently being redeveloped. We are using texts more often to contact parents and send reminders and this too seems to be working well.

Some parents expressed concern that they were not informed about progress or 'groups' that their children were attending. School leaders reassured us that any children receiving regular, on-going special support for learning would receive a letter from our inclusion manager, Melissa Talbot.

Sometimes children receive instruction in a smaller group as part of a regular lesson, but these are temporary and specific to a particular lesson. This facilitates differentiation – enabling teachers to stretch those children who are comfortable with the task at hand, and to support children who are not up to speed on that particular topic and need extra practice.

Finally, most of you will know that the Junior school had an Ofsted inspection in the autumn term. One parent from HISN expressed disappointment that we had not shared the Ofsted results with HISN families, and particularly Year 2 parents. This was an oversight by the Governors for which we are truly sorry.

- **Ensuring appropriate challenge for all pupils**

Our schools are full of enthusiastic learners and it is wonderful to hear from so many parents who want to support learning at home. A couple of years ago Governors reviewed the homework policies, taking account of current research on the value of homework for student learning, the impact on children and families, and the impact on teacher workload. We made the decision to limit homework to spelling, reading and maths (e.g. times tables). On the whole parents (and children!) have welcomed this decision, but some parents would like the option of additional work to support class learning. At the moment, parents can request extra worksheets from the class teachers for children to take home. This can be a great way to keep up with learning topics and give children extra practice. However, teachers are not able

to mark or provide feedback on the extra sheets – we need to be mindful of ensuring they have a reasonable workload and spend their time developing and delivering top-notch lessons. Children can also stretch their learning by taking part in annual competitions for public speaking, spelling, and times tables.

We are looking into online options for extra work, with automatic scoring/feedback options. Within the classrooms, there are different levels of challenge – children choose where they feel most comfortable starting and they are encouraged and rewarded for taking that next step up. The School Improvement Committee monitors teaching and learning in the classroom as well as pupil progress, and works with the school leaders to ensure that all children are challenged to reach their full potential.

- **Health and well-being**

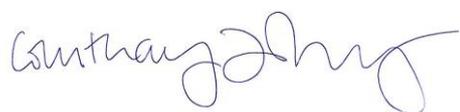
School is not just about academic performance and parents rightly comment on our promotion of healthy lifestyles. Both schools have increased physical education activities – Year 2 are now taking swimming lessons and the Juniors still do their run at least three times a week. We are investing in outdoor play equipment to enhance our outdoor spaces and increase physical games at playtime. Both schools participate in healthy eating award schemes and encourage families to walk or cycle to school.

Every year we have a handful of parents challenge us about birthday sweets and cake sales and this does make us think. We believe that healthy eating is about balance and that we have, for the most part, got that balance right. If you do not want your child to have birthday sweets, please let your class teacher know. As for the cake sales, these raise considerable sums for the classes which allows them to buy special equipment, trips or treats throughout the year. If you have ideas for alternative ways of raising money, please discuss with the wonderful HISNA and FoHJS teams and we can review the situation.

We are also aware of the importance of student resilience and getting the balance right between preparing children for exams and not totally stressing them out. It's not all about SATs and perhaps we have not been so good at communicating the other things children are doing at this time of year. We are also looking at on-going ways (for example, mindfulness) of supporting children to manage worries and stress and to be resilient, not just at SATs time, but all through the year.

Thank you once again for taking the time to complete this survey.

I hope these notes reassure you that Governors and school leaders take your comments seriously and work hard to address concerns and improve our own performance. We are all hugely grateful to the parents who took the time to complete the survey and provide us with such detailed feedback.



Professor Courtenay Norbury

Chair of Governors, Hampton Primary Partnership

"We have been over the moon with the school and our daughter's progress. Thanks to all the staff for doing such a wonderful job."

Infant School Parent

"I think this school is outstanding. My child continues to thrive in Year 6 with amazing teachers. Thank you."

Junior School Parent