

Friday 11th October 2024

Dear Parents / Carers,

Before the summer, we sent out a questionnaire for parents. Despite a limited response (26 responses), it was lovely to read the positive comments about our school and to receive feedback that the vast majority of our children feel happy and safe in school and that they feel they are making good progress.

There were also some questions and concerns raised in the questionnaire and I have outlined a response to each of these below. There will be a further opportunity for parents to express their views next term and I encourage you to get involved. At Sacred Heart, we are committed to continual improvement and the views of parents are important to us.

Area Raised	Response
I am not aware of what my child will learn during the year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Termly overviews of key learning sent home and on the website. • Parent pop ins on key areas such as grammar and maths
General communication from the school and PTA is sometimes either confusing or very late notice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key dates for the year have been published early in the year and emailed home • Key dates are on the school website calendar • Events for the week and the next week are on the whiteboard in the playground • Key dates are published on the newsletter
Would love more p.e in the weekly routine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional PE time in the curriculum is currently being explored
Trips are expensive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rising costs for all providers and transport has led to an increase in the price of trips. • We are trying to reduce costs by using public transport where possible. • We offer parents the option to pay in instalments. • We are trying to give as much notice as possible. • Due to decreasing school budgets and our rising costs, we can no longer subsidise school trips to the same extent as previously. • When parents were asked, the overwhelming majority valued school trips and wanted them to continue.
More trips and enrichment opportunities for younger students needed. Such as the chance to learn a variety of instruments, languages and coding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are trying to balance the number of trips and other opportunities with the rising costs and the cost of living. • The School Music Service offer currently in school is not available to our youngest children. • We have committed to whole class instrument learning this year for Y4. • We are exploring the possibility of a wider range of after school clubs.
There needs to be better links between parents and the SENCO. Perhaps the SENCO could run	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a programme of workshops for parents on SEND strategies including for ASD and Dyslexia including

specific sessions for parents with children with suspected ASD, ADHD, Dyslexia?	<p>sessions led by external agencies. These also took place last year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SENCO is holding a meeting to explain the SEND process – 7th November 2.30pm or 5.30pm • We are introducing a drop in session where parents can arrange to meet with the SENCO.
School often doesn't tell me about academic performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have 2 parents evening per year and 3 book looks. • We have an end of year report and a drop in to go with this. • Parents are welcome to ask about any concerns either face to face or via email at any time.
Children using racist and homophobic language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All reported incidents of discrimination are treated very seriously and all incidents are reported to the Local Academy Committee and the Trust Board. • Our PSHE curriculum has been redeveloped to include a strong emphasis on anti-discrimination. • All staff are receiving anti-racism training. • These messages are also being reinforced through assemblies.
Sports day was very disappointing this year. Purely based on the grounds that most parents struggled to see their child from such a distance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The races were held in front of the parents spectating area and all children were involved in at least 2 of these events. • In order to safeguard our children in a public space, it is necessary to have an area for spectators that is separate from the children.

Kind regards,

Ms. L Tuplin
Headteacher