

Parents' and Carers' Survey – December 2023 – The Results



Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you for responding to the Survey we issued in December last year. 72 completed Surveys were returned, a positive increase from last year, and we are really pleased so many of you took the opportunity to have your say. We appreciate all of your feedback and it has been gratifying to see so many positive responses and the significant improvements you have indicated compared to last year – it has made us feel valued and is a great way to appraise the work we are putting in to improve TGMS for your children.

Also, we are pleased to see the majority of your fair and constructive feedback aligns with our school's development plan and priorities. We did not put duplicate constructive feedback points but rather made sure every key theme has been included. If your written feedback has not been included, it is because we judged it as specific to you or your child, and we hope you will reach out to us for a meeting as the survey is anonymous.

Once again, thank you for your continued support and we look forward to doing all we can to drive the school forward.

Kind regards

Mr Isaacs and the TGMS Team

Parents' and Carers' Survey – December 2023 – KEY FINDINGS

Percentage measure is respondents who agreed or strongly agreed



*of the 77% of participants who did not select 'I haven't raised any concerns'.

**of the 63% of participants who did not select 'I have not had any experience or knowledge of this'.

Contents:

(i)	Questionnaire data	p. 2-3
(ii)	In your opinion, what are the best things about TGMS?	p. 3-4
(iii)	In what ways would you like to see the school develop over the next three years?	p. 4-5
(iv)	Have you any further comments about the school - anything else that you'd like to add?	p. 5
(v)	Analysis	p. 5

(i) Questionnaire (72 responses)							
		Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know	Strongly Agree and Agree Combined
1	My child is happy at this school.	64%	35%	1%	0	0	99%
	2022 Comparison	64%	36%	0	0	0	100%
2	My child feels safe at this school.	71%	28%	0	0	1%	99%
	2022 Comparison	64%	36%	0	0	0	100%
3	The school lets me know how my child is doing	39%	50%	7%	0	4%	89%
	2022 Comparison	29%	57%	12%	0	2%	86%
4	The school's reporting to parents strategy (open classrooms; virtual parent evening; end-of-term scorecards) is effective.	31%	44%	14%	4%	7%	75%
	2022 Comparison	29%	54%	14%	1%	2%	83%
5	The school has high expectations for my child.	46%	50%	0	0	4%	96%
	2022 Comparison	29%	55%	9%	0	7%	84%
6	My child does well at this school.	44%	53%	0	0	3%	97%
	2022 Comparison	32%	61%	2%	2%	3%	93%
7	The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year.	33%	63%	1%	0	3%	96%
	2022 Comparison	20%	57%	12%	2%	9%	77%
8	There's a good range of subjects available to my child at this school.	42%	58%	0	0	0	100%
	2022 Comparison	34%	64%	0	0	2%	98%
9	My child can take part in clubs and activities at this school.	55%	43%	1%	0	1%	98%
	2022 Comparison	38%	62%	0	0	0	100%
10	The school supports my child's wider personal development.	44%	50%	3%	0	3%	96%
	2022 Comparison	23%	59%	3%	12%	3%	82%
11	My child has Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND), and the school gives them the support they need to succeed*.	50%	50%	0	0	0	100%
		*of the 28% of participants who did not select 'my child does not have SEND'.					
	2022 Comparison	14%	44%	14%	14%	14%	58%
		*of the 25% of participants who did not select 'my child does not have SEND'.					

12	This school makes sure the pupils are well behaved.	44%	56%	0	0	0	100%
	2022 Comparison	57%	43%	0	0	0	100%
13	This school deals effectively with bullying**.	33%	57%	2%	0	8%	90%
		**of the 63% of participants who did not select 'I have not had any experience or knowledge of this'.					
	2022 Comparison	36%	44%	7%	3%	10%	80%
		**of the 50% of participants who did not select 'I have not had any experience or knowledge of this'.					
14	When I have raised concerns with the school, they have been dealt with properly***.	51%	41%	2%	0	6%	92%
		***of the 77% of participants who did not select 'I haven't raised any concerns'.					
	2022 Comparison	26%	56%	11%	0	7%	82%
		***of the 80% of participants who did not select 'I haven't raised any concerns'.					
15	I would recommend this school to another parent	Yes: 97%			No: 0		Don't know: 3%
	2022 Comparison	Yes: 91%			No: 0		Don't know: 9%

(ii) In your opinion, what are the best things about TGMS?

- It's a welcoming school that expects my child to achieve, but you support her personal development also
- The extra curriculum activities are wide ranging, inclusive and drive a feeling that all interests are respected and catered for in an open and safe culture where an individual can thrive as well as be a member of a community. Well done TGMS for continuing to get it right. 🙌
- The recent changes to the SLT have made tangible difference
- The teachers, the different after school clubs, FOTGMS
- The teaching staff are, without exception, fabulous
- Fantastic teaching staff, great pastoral care
- Good community spirit, where pupils, staff and parents all work together
- How happy and enthused about their learning my children are!
- I love the general feeling when you walk into the school, as a year 3 mum I've already witnessed year 6 pupils on a couple of occasions be so encouraging to my son
- The staff are fantastic and have a headteacher who genuinely brings enthusiasm and warm pastoral care to the role.
- The school encourages independence. Teaches the children what is right and wrong e.g. bullying and conflict, the environment, recycling etc. Good mix of male and female staff
- Passionate staff and the broad range of fun activities like school trips and workshops
- The superb teachers who build excellent relationships with my son. The high expectations for behaviour, challenging yourself, and personal and academic growth. The motivating reward systems. The warm, welcoming and caring atmosphere of the school. My son is proud to go to this school and does well here with all that is provided for him
- The ethos of kindness and support; the broad range of the curriculum that includes music and theatre; offering free clubs during school hours
- The pastoral care, the range of topics being taught, the effort and energy the staff put into making learning fun, the fabulous lunch time clubs and I feel like the children are treated as individuals and with respect
- Great Teachers and staff, great leadership, welcoming and accommodating reception, wealth of readily available information on subjects LOs and policies, happy environment, caring approach to children

- Caring and supportive staff. Nurturing environment combined with encouraging challenges and making pupils realise it's perfectly ok to make mistakes
- The teachers being approachable, the commitment to the pupils' individuals development. The approach to sustainability and climate change
- It is still nurturing but still while encouraging greater independence. Also it is great to see expanded opportunities from both the curriculum and range of school clubs
- Please can you pass on a thank you to the office team, who are incredibly helpful.

(iii) In what ways would you like to see the school develop over the next three years? (Most representative selection of answers)

Common Theme 1: No changes/effective development already happening

- *Multiple comments (thank you)*

Common Theme 2: In-person Parent Evenings

- *Multiple comments, including the following:*
- I would love for the school to start providing in person parents evenings again. I understand you have open classrooms but this always seems to be on a Wednesday when our child has a lesson straight after school so not able to attend
- It would be helpful to have the option for in person parents evenings for those parents that want them. Although I find the virtual appointments very convenient the connection isn't always great, although this year both my appointments worked perfectly, I know of some that didn't and they haven't in the past.
- Please offer in person parents evening as well as virtual

Common Theme 3: Further 'stretch' or 'contextualisation' opportunities within our Curriculum

- *Several comments, including the following:*
- More opportunity for children to see how their learning is implemented in real life (e.g. using maths to engineer working models) and opportunities for critical thinking (group challenges, debates etc)
- Some exposure to life lessons skills such as cooking, finances/budgeting, debating, careers - additional roles and responsibilities on 'big' productions or assemblies such as children directing/lighting/costume - perhaps an end of term disco also opportunity to raise funds, and children have something to look forward to and socialise (these are a big hit with other local schools)

Common Theme 4: More lunch options for parents to choose from

- *Several comments, including the following:*
- Offering school lunches
- Hot food for lunch
- While this has been looked into, serving hot dinners in school should be reconsidered again.

Additional Constructive Feedback:

- I think that some of the fund raising needs to be more mindful of the fact that they are a state school and therefore have a wide range of affordability of parents. Could we look at a lottery for teacher for the day. My child was disappointed they could not partake as we simply could not afford it. Could we perhaps have a lottery.
- The parking at the top of Cock Lane, opposite the woodland car park, is very concerning. I have to walk into the road to be able to see around the corner. It's very dangerous and baffling that people choose to park there.
- Improvements to the environmental area finished and the children enjoying it

(iv) Have you any further comments about the school - anything else that you'd like to add?

- It's great that you are asking for and welcoming feedback. Keep up the good work!
- I think the school is friendly. There is a nice community which is demonstrated through events like Christmas Fayre.

- No keep doing what you do!
- Overall, you have been a fantastic school for my child and he has thrived beyond my expectations. Thank you very much to all of the staff.
- Teachers are at the heart of any school and my children love their teachers.
- More after school clubs would be amazing e.g. greater range of sports clubs
- We love the school and my children have been very happy here. My youngest will start in a couple of years and I have no doubt he will have a wonderful experience too.
- We could not be happier with all that TGMS does for our son. Every member of staff that he has been lucky enough to be taught by has been absolutely excellent in supporting his academic and personal wellbeing needs. My son is thriving at this school due to the superb teaching of all staff and excellent leadership. The reward systems of pin badges for the tie are highly motivating for the children. My son has excellent opportunities that are offered to him by TGMS that have been really important for him.
- My child has settled so well since joining TGMS in September. He has really loved his first term.

v. Analysis

- Aim to maintain all the fantastic positives that parents and carers commented upon in the Survey! We have retained the key strengths from last year e.g. children feeling happy and safe, good pupil behaviour, range of clubs and curriculum subjects.
- To have 100% of respondents agree that we give SEND pupils the support they need to succeed (up from 58% last year) is verification that our refinement of the SEND processes, is working effectively for the pupils and their parents. At TGMS, we believe SEND is the responsibility of everyone, not just the SENDCo, and it is very positive that the parents are recognising our improvements.
- 96% of respondents (up from 77% last year) agree that the school effectively makes them aware of what their child will learn during the year. It is good to know that all of our work in redeveloping and refining the Curriculum Documents (and publishing them on the website) has had the desired effect.
- 96% of respondents (up from 82% last year) agree that the school effectively supports their child's wider personal development. Such a strong response indicates that all staff offer highly effective pastoral care that makes a tangible difference to the pupils. Also, it suggests that Curriculum developments, including the introduction of Jigsaw PSHE/RSHE and the refined teaching of British Values and Protected Characteristics in assemblies, are effective.
- The data shows significant ($\geq 10\%$) improvements in the respondents' perception of our high expectations for their child, and the effectiveness of how we deal with bullying and concerns.
- The key area with a significant reduction in the respondents' perception of effectiveness is the school's reporting to parents strategy (75%, down from 83% last year). Also, there were many written comments demonstrating the strength of feeling of the respondents who do not think the strategy is effective. We will investigate hybrid options for parent evenings that must work logistically for teachers and parents (especially considering that the majority have indicated is current effective) whilst not adding to teacher workload.
- In response to the hot-meal option at lunchtimes, we still have not found an option that satisfies our criteria: no washing up (we don't have the facilities), cost effective for parents and the school, and mindful of the environment and sustainability. However, we will continue reviewing options and will welcome any information any of our parents may have.
- The comments on further 'stretch' and 'contextualisation' in our Curriculum are constructive and fair, and I know all teachers actively try to develop these opportunities already. We must continue this and consider how to more effectively communicate all we do to parents.
- ***Aim for excellence: build upon the firm foundations and tradition of being a successful school with a more dynamic and rigorous Curriculum, and enhanced engagement strategies with parents and the community for the benefit of our children.***