

Parent Survey – Feedback from Governors January 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you so much for taking the time to fill in and return the parent/carer questionnaire regarding your child/children's experience of Corbridge CofE First School. We especially appreciate you taking the time to tell us how we are doing. Parent questionnaires are an important part of the way in which our school evaluates what we are doing well and where we can improve.

We are really pleased to report that the overwhelming majority of parents/carers are really happy with their child's experience of school. This is so brilliant to read as governors, and we are really grateful to our staff and wider school community for their continuing support. What was remarkable this year, was the number of parents/carers who used the questionnaire as an opportunity to say thank you to CFS staff for their support, dedication and friendliness this year and governors would also like to take this opportunity to echo this thanks.

We've enclosed the numerical data (apologies: it makes for cheerful but dry reading!) but have also summarised below the qualitative responses from the feedback box at the end of the questionnaire. The responses have also identified some areas in which we can do better and, in addition, we've received some helpful suggestions as to how to improve in specific areas. All of the praise, advice and suggestions will be taken on board, carefully considered and acted upon.

The survey was completed across the Federation of Broomhaugh and Corbridge CofE First Schools. If you would like to see the results from the BFS survey, they can be viewed here: http://www.broomhaugh.northumberland.sch.uk/website/parent_view/249566

Thank you.

Summary:

- 81 responses were received.
- 100% respondents agreed/strongly agreed that their child was happy at school.
- 97.4% respondents agreed/strongly agreed that their child felt safe at school.
- 97.5% of respondents said school made sure the children behaved well.
- 74.4% children had not experienced bullying (with a further 2.6% respondents "unsure"). 94.4% of remaining respondents reported that they agreed/strongly agreed that school had dealt with bullying effectively.
- 94.8% respondents agreed/strongly agreed that school made them aware of what their child will learn during the year.
- 35.9% respondents hadn't raised concerns with school. Of the remaining respondents, 98% agreed/strongly agreed that school had effectively dealt with concerns properly.
- 83.3% respondents reported that their child did not have special educational needs. 100% of parents of children with special needs agreed/strongly agreed that school gives their child the support need for them to succeed.
- 92.3% respondents agreed/strongly agreed that school had high expectations of their child.
- 100% respondents agreed/strongly agreed that their child does well at this school.
- 96.2% respondents agreed/strongly agreed that school lets them know how their child is doing.
- 94.9% respondents agreed/strongly agreed that there is a good range of subjects available to their child at school.

- 93.6% respondents agreed/strongly agreed that their child can take part in clubs and activities at school.
- 92.3% respondents agreed/strongly agreed that school supports their child's wider personal development.
- 100% respondents agreed/strongly agreed that they would recommend this school to another parent.

Information shared from the Federated Governing Body of Broomhaugh and Corbridge First Schools.

Compiled by Elisabeth Charman and Gayle Baty.

On the following page please find some responses from Mrs. Hart and Miss. Florek.

Parent Survey – Responses collected Autumn 2022

What we are doing well:

- I think the school is fantastic and all of the teachers do a wonderful job. My son has thrived here. Thank you.
- My son enjoys school, and is very keen to tell me what he's been doing. Good work CFS!!!
- My child doesn't particularly have SEND... But does receive extra help due to in attention deficit. They support this so well.
- Myself and my partner have nothing but praise for the teachers and assistants who work tirelessly to give the children a fantastic education in a very happy environment...not forgetting the admin staff and Mr Gardner!
- My child is currently being assessed by the senco team and they are giving me and my child lots of support during this process.
- Staff approachable and kind to the children.
- Really appreciate the positive approach from teachers. Like the focus on outdoor teaching/ activities and forest school. Appreciate the time and effort that goes into inviting parents in for special events.
- My Daughter loves school, and always tells me what she's been doing with her school friends. Good Work CFS!
- An amazing and happy school that is helping my child thrive.
- Corbridge is a lovely welcoming inclusive school.

What we could do better:

- Perhaps a wider issue, not specific to the school is the aspect of the school day and how brief that is. Having an older sibling who was state educated at first schools in the area a few years ago, I am finding a much shorter school day which I feel impacts on learning and the ability of the school to include extra-curricular activities.

The government has announced plans to lengthen the school week to 32.5 hours. CFS currently falls short of this. We are discussing plans to lengthen the school day and looking at different options.

Moving forward: Consultation to be held with families regarding the length of the school day and a possible extension.

- Something I would ideally like to see is the introduction of teacher led 'in school homework' sessions - scheduled for directly after school. I think this would help develop understanding and reinforce that days learning. I would be willing to pay for that although I appreciate some might not. I feel even in larger groups, homework could be completed effectively with the advantage of having a teacher there to help.

Spring Term sees the addition of new clubs and providers and we have expanded the range of clubs on offer to include drama, history and Lego club. Lunchtime clubs are also on offer such as choir, languages and sewing.

Moving forward: Each term we will look to update preferences and we will also use our pupil voice survey results due to be conducted this term to ask for children's preferences. This will include the possibility of a homework club.

- We are very happy with CFS and rush to say a huge thank you for all you do. A couple of suggestions: a paper copy of the term's curriculum to be given to each child at the start of

term. I rarely think to look at the website, am unable to print it at home, but certainly love going through with my child what the topics planned for the term are. You've done the work, the document is there, and I appreciate there is a cost to the school, but it might help to engage a few more parents. Thank you for this opportunity to feedback.

We have made an environmental commitment to reducing paper use as a school. Curriculum meeting information is available on the school website on the class pages, alongside the curriculum map for each term.

Moving forward: If you would like printed copies, please mention this to the class teacher or school office who will happily provide paper copies.

- It's nice to see the school is trying to do more fundraising for itself ie book sale, cake sale. It would be nice if these things or other fundraising ideas could be done more frequently. As part of our courageous advocacy focus, we try to take actions that lead to local and global change for the better. Fundraising is included in this, but we also seek to visit local care homes and volunteer our time and resources. Our plan this year is to significantly expand our allotment area and include chickens and bees. The community will be able to share in our produce and support our commitment to reducing food miles. We have applied for the Tesco grant funding scheme to finance this and are also looking at other sources, such as Lottery funding. This is to help create balance between asking families for support and donations but also not being over-burdensome during a cost of living crisis.

Moving forward: A yearly fundraising calendar to be discussed by the School Council. Should grown-ups be interested in setting up and running a PTA for the school to assist with this, please contact Mrs. Hart.

- I am not sure if it's possible but also it might be nice if parents could get a bit more involved by volunteering time to help carry out small tasks which could help improve the school grounds. Mr Gardener does a truly amazing job but things like raking the excess of leaves or painting rusty looking goalposts etc just to feel like we were helping do a useful thing? it might not be allowed with health and safety but I am sure plenty of people would like to help out (I am including myself in this ha ha). Whenever a maintenance issue arises, we aim to address it as quickly as possible, giving immediate priority to anything that may present a health and safety concern. Mr Gardner works hard to keep the school and grounds presentable and in working order. A leaf blower was bought in autumn 2021 to tidy the leaves and our Global Goalkeepers started to turn these into a living wall to improve the grounds. From February 2023, Mr Gardner's hours at CFS will increase, meaning he has more time to dedicate to these jobs.

Moving forward: We will continue to prioritise outdoor maintenance and budget allocations through the premises governor's audits. We will reach out to community to help us to tidy/refresh the grounds – and explore fundraising ideas with the children to help us achieve some goals. As stated above, should grown-ups be interested in setting up and running a PTA for the school to assist with this and organise volunteers, please contact Mrs. Hart.

- Would like to see less focus on tv/ films during school hours. Television and films are used appropriately by staff in school to enhance the curriculum. This may include accessing news reports through Newsround to facilitate discussion with children or accessing documentaries or other media specific to learning objectives in class.

Moving forward: A review of screen time in school to take place.

Once again, we thank you. We have an open door policy at school and are always available to answer questions and provide clarification – big and small! By working together, we can ensure we are always the best we can be here at Corbridge CE First School.