

Tenbury C E Primary Academy



Governors' questionnaire to Parents/Carers - result summary.

Governor and School Response to the Parental Questionnaire 2025

Many thanks to all parents and carers who completed the questionnaire at Parents' Evening – your views are always important to us and help shape the direction of our school in the future. The overwhelming feedback from the vast majority of parents was extremely positive and we are delighted that our school community continues to recognise the many strengths of the school and the efforts of our wonderful school staff. This year, it was decided to survey parents/carers in a slightly different way, asking for written responses rather than the tick boxes of previous questionnaires. 22 papers were filled in, with some covering parents with children in several year groups. Comments with a number after them indicate multiple mentions.

What do you feel that the school does best?

- Excellent communication (4)
- Very welcoming (4)
- Brilliant at solutions to challenging behavior
- Supportive learning environment (2)
- All staff helpful and supportive (2)
- Very good Christian ethos (3)
- Caring, Kind and nurturing (4)
- Really understand the children
- Assistance of children with learning difficulties
- Encourages good behavior.
- Good school dinners
- Good community spirit
- Encourages all children to reach their full potential
- Staff work really hard including after school activities
- Forest school and Music
- Very approachable
- Good understanding of child's needs
- Strong leadership
- Very dedicated
- One-to-one attention
- Wrap around care
- Child very happy to come to school every day
- Child loves sharing there learning with family
- Supportive with speech and language
- Flexible learning for all abilities

What could we do to improve further and how?

- More after school clubs (4)
- More sporting fixtures (4)
- Would like year 6 leavers jumpers earlier
- Wish year 6 was more fun and not all about sats
- More notice of activities/events (2)
- Less homework for reception
- Art is deprioritized.
- More creative foundation curriculum
- More emphasis on PHSE and wellbeing
- A parental app for trips, attendance behavior etc.
- Parent pay doesn't work very well.
- More Music (Rockstars overpriced)
- A better variety at the Tuck-shop
- Stop people parking right outside the school if they live within half a mile

Are there any additional comments you would like to add?

- Very proud my child attends Tenbury Primary
- Do the children still do the daily mile?
- More support for SEND. Should there be a separate Sendco with more time?
- They are really good at looking after me
- Would be nice to see Mrs. Phelps in front of school in the morning.
- Lovely school, children really happy
- Thank you for everything you do for my child
- School has been a very positive experience for my children
- I know my child is safe and happy at school

Your views are always very important to us and we will always try and take suggestions on board where possible:

Four parents commented that they would have liked more after school clubs:

We would totally agree with this – the barrier to this is primarily money! There is no funding in the school budget for After School Clubs. We always run sports clubs throughout the year which are led by either our Sports Coach, Mr Bufton, or our class teachers. Our teachers have also run clubs such as Computing, Lego, Chess and Dominoes. We are incredibly fortunate that our teachers are willing to give up their time in this way, as it means that all clubs are excellent quality and free and, therefore, accessible to all. We also offer clubs from external providers when they are available (e.g. the current Dance Club on Thursdays). Although most clubs are aimed at KS2 pupils, our younger pupils are always able to attend the childcare After School Club, which has a range of fun activities every day.

Four parents commented they would like more sporting fixtures. We totally agree! Since the pandemic, the number of sporting fixtures available to us in Worcestershire seems to have dropped significantly. We always try and join in anything that is offered to us and also now have links to some tournaments involving Shropshire schools, through our partnership with the Sports Coach and Shrewsbury Town Football Club. If you are aware of any sporting tournaments (which are not too far away for practical purposes), please let us know!

Homework is always a contentious area! As you can see, one parent stated they would like less homework for Reception. As a school, we follow the Department of Education guidelines for the amount of homework set. Any computer-based homework in KS1 is generally in the form of games and activities to make learning fun and Times Tables Rockstars for KS2 pupils is another way of making learning those times tables more interesting. In Reception, it is primarily things to enjoy doing together, such as reading a book/sharing a story sack. If parents/carers ever feel their child is not coping with their homework, please see your child's class teacher and we will try and discuss ways forward together.

One parent would like more notice about events as its difficult to organise with a few weeks' notice. We appreciate that this is difficult for working parents and therefore try to give as much notice as possible. Much of the time, we do not know about events ourselves until a few weeks before (or even days occasionally!) but we will always endeavour to try and give as much notice as possible. It is essential that parents/carers look at the school weekly newsletter, which is always posted on both Google Classroom and the school website to see all upcoming dates – the text messages sent the day before are simply a reminder.

One parent mentioned they are having problems with the 'Parent Pay' system, which in our school is called 'School Money'. The possibility of a parental app was also mentioned. If you are having any problems at all with School Money, please see Mrs Newall in the office. We will certainly look into the possibility of an app for parents next year.

One parent mentioned they would like the Y6 hoodies earlier. As these are specifically Leavers' hoodies, the children are not given them until a few weeks before the end of the Summer Term. This always works well in making the children feel special but ensuring they stay on track and don't get too excited too soon! One parent said they wished Y6 was more fun and not all about SATS. We were surprised by this as the Y6 children always say how much they enjoy Y6 and all the things they get to do/responsibilities they have, which are nothing to do with SATS. They even seem to enjoy SATS themselves, Homework Club and the SATS breakfast! If ever a parent/carer feels their child is not coping in Y6 (or any class for whatever reason), we would always urge them to see their child's class teacher.

There were three comments linked to the curriculum – art, creativity and PSHE. These things are all built into our curriculum, with children getting all opportunities required through the National Curriculum and following a clearly structured programme. From September, we are trialling an additional PSHE resource, which is built around promoting mental wellbeing and further developing resilience.

One parent felt that 'Rockstars' was over-priced and they would like more music. Rockstars has proved to be extremely popular with many of our parents and children, although we appreciate that it is expensive. We do also offer more traditional music lessons in flute and clarinet which are less expensive for Y3 children and above. If you know of anyone who would be able to teach other instruments in school at a low cost to parents, please let us know and we will see what we can do!

We are unsure about the 'better variety' at Tuck Shop comment, as there is always lots of choice! It is a 'Healthy Tuck Shop' however, so we are not allowed to sell chocolate bars and crisps, as we have Healthy School Status.

We know that parking is always an issue outside school, but there is little we can do about this. We have negotiated with the Pembroke, so that parents can park there at drop-off and pick-up times and we always try and encourage children to walk to school. It has been lovely to see so many more children coming to school on bikes and scooters this year. We are hopefully going to have a new covered bike rack installed in the next academic year!

Children do still do the Daily Mile at times, but the profile of this has definitely dropped since we started the initiative a few years ago. We will have another big push from September and try and get the children running regularly again!

One parent suggested a separate SENDCO with more time. This is a brilliant idea but unfortunately, we simply do not have the money in the school budget. Therefore, our SENDCO, Mrs Gittens, has to continue to juggle both her teaching commitments and SEN meetings. Both Ofsted and our Academy Trust have been impressed with the level of support we are able to give to our SEND pupils and we are able to offer an environment where our children are able to thrive.

Finally, one parent mentioned they would like to see more of Mrs Phelps on the gate on a morning. I stand on the gate whenever I can, as it is lovely to see the children coming into school and welcome them. However, it is impossible to do this every morning due to a range of commitments including meetings, phone calls, visits to other schools and Headteacher days with our Academy Trust. I also support other schools in the DHMAT and may be on a visit or TEAMS meeting. I will endeavour to be on the gate as much as possible next year – it is good to know that it is appreciated!

The results from the questionnaire are extremely positive and we will continue to tailor our approach with parental views in mind and are always open to more suggestions. We would like to thank all of those parents who took the time to complete the questionnaires and look forward to working in continuing partnership with you all in the future! As always, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher if you ever have any queries/concerns, no matter how small and thank you for your continued interest and support.

Mrs Phelps and Governors of Tenbury CE Primary Academy

