

# Euxton CE Primary School

## Parental Questionnaire Feedback 2018

### **Suggestions and Comments**

Thank you for your suggestions and comments. I have tried to respond to suggestions on a similar theme. Please remember I am available for a chat if you feel your comment has not been addressed or you would like a more personal response. Please be assured that every single suggestion has been looked at by staff and considered. We really do appreciate your feedback.

### **Health and Safety**

#### ***Additional lighting at the bottom of the school path, near the woods.***

This is something I have discussed with the Headteacher at St. Mary's. They have recently had some additional lighting at the front of their school installed, and we were waiting to see if this improves things before deciding what to do next. We will both discuss this with the Local Authority Property Group and I will keep you informed.

### **Homework**

#### ***Too much homework. More homework. Parent crib-sheets to support.***

Homework - this is hard to get right for everyone. Some of you will feel the children get too much, some not enough, which were reflected in the comments. Lots of the children do so many activities outside of school they just need time to relax at home. On the other hand the children need to be able to consolidate their learning and also be prepared for high school. We have looked closely at homework this year and compiled a list of what each class are doing. Teachers do set regular weekly homework on set days, as you know. Tasks vary and may involve worksheets or may be a fact-finding mission, ensuring that there is something for everyone. We have considered holiday homework and have changed track during the Christmas and Summer holidays, which I know has been well received. In terms of parental support, we do have a homework helper section on our website to support parents, which includes maths methods. We hope that helps.

### **After School Club**

#### ***Extend hours before and after school. More children accommodated.***

Firstly, as a parent with two children who go to Breakfast and After School club daily, I fully understand and appreciate this. As our club is a school-run organisation, we are limited to two hours after school. Therefore, we need to finish by 5:30pm. In terms of an earlier start in the morning, at present this is not possible due to staff's own personal circumstances. We have just changed this to 7:40am due to the school drive not being able to be used. We really appreciate your support with this and hope you found this useful. We have discussed the numbers of children able to access this provision and this will be increased from September, although this still won't be able to accommodate absolutely everyone it will help.

### **Sport/PE//Extra-Curricular**

#### ***More PE. More Regular PE. More extra-curricular activities. Information about teams.***

Each class has two timetabled PE slots a well and staff try their best to ensure that these sessions happen. I must say, they usually do. PE is so important; hence the government giving schools double the amount of funding to support the delivery of sport. We currently use the Chorley Schools Sports Partnership to help deliver some sessions. This is great as specialist teachers teach their area of PE. Our staff continue to be developed professionally in the teaching of PE and we use the expertise of our own staff to support us all. The staff, including support staff, do a fantastic job providing extra-curricular activities in their own time for the children. Sometimes this means a couple of evenings a week dedicated to the children, which is above and beyond expectations. For a relatively small school we provide such a lot and I know you are appreciative. The staff think carefully about the age of the children and try and fit clubs to the most appropriate age. Sometimes having too wide a range of ages can make it less effective as it is difficult to pitch it right. With more staff, volunteers and time we would love to provide even more. We make a big effort to include activities for our younger children, although I do appreciate that there are many more for the KS2 pupils. As a staff we

have discussed having more opportunities for the infants, including Reception as their first year in school progresses. Hopefully this will feature more next year. There are often sporting activities at lunchtime and after school ran by school staff, most of which is voluntary. We will be looking more closely over the coming months about how to extend our PE provision and how best to use the School Sports Grant effectively. We do enter a lot of competitions and most of these are organised by Mrs Millar, who does a fantastic job with the children. She is involved in most classes PE, so as well as the children going to clubs, she selects children from lessons who have shown a real interest or skill. If your child has a particular desire to be in a team or become more involved please have a word with either Mrs Millar or myself and we will try our best to include them in some way.

#### **Pupil progress updates.**

##### ***More information on progress.***

We were delighted that the overwhelming majority of you felt you were kept informed about progress. In terms of Parents Evening's, schools are obliged to provide one opportunity per year for parents and teachers to meet. We now offer three opportunities, one each term: September; March and following the written report in July if requested. One of the reasons the first one is so early in the year is for parents and teachers to meet as soon as possible to ensure that the children are settled into their new class and are happy, and to hit the ground running as soon as possible. However, throughout the year you are more than welcome to make an appointment or see a member of staff at any time, just give us a ring or drop us an email. We are proud of our 'open-door' policy and have really welcomed the feedback that you find staff so friendly and approachable. Some schools have written reports each term, however I feel that providing the opportunity for teachers to meet with parents to discuss their child is so much more beneficial and productive and also allows the teacher to spend their time planning, preparing and assessing and not completing more paperwork. Often, during the year there are additional evening meetings that are led by staff, including the Reception Reading Meeting, Y2 and Y6 SATS information evening and Online Safety Workshops. We have also offered Y1/2 and Y4/5/6 parent's maths and English support meetings. These do have to be in the school day unfortunately as they are ran by an outside agency; however, I am sure we could get some support leaflets to you if you were unable to attend.

#### **School Meals**

##### ***Better school meals. Healthier dinners.***

In many ways, we are delighted with the provision that Elaine our cook and Kirsty as support provide and feel very lucky to have them. We are entered into a contract with Lancashire County Council who provide the service. The menus are all prescribed to us and Elaine follows these, which have been carefully designed to follow nutritional guidelines. We have a healthy salad bar and now that our Y4 children have been trained in hygiene, they will be able to help supervise this and encourage children to include some of these additional items to their meal. However, as always, it would be wonderful to make things even better. A few of you mentioned better school lunches, but it would be great to know more about what you would like to see. Elaine is more than happy to meet or speak to any of you about the service. Please let me know if you would like me to arrange something. Thank you.

#### **Curriculum**

##### ***Better reading books. More outdoor learning. Less focus on religious studies.***

We are currently looking at updating and improving our reading materials for the children. We will be sourcing more of our own and our PTFA will be supporting us too. We would welcome any donations of unwanted, great condition books that your child no longer reads at home, to extend this further. I agree about more outdoor learning, and this is something which we are looking at. The outdoors has had, and is having, a transformation. The new grass has allowed us more space, we have had a new adventure trail installed and we are also working hard on creating a sensory garden for all to use. Hopefully our new environment will inspire further opportunities for outdoor learning. A couple of questionnaires highlighted less focus on religious education. As we are a church school, and proud to be, we follow guidelines from the Diocese and look to embrace spiritual opportunities throughout the curriculum wherever we can.

**Thank you once again.**

**Nick Ward  
Headteacher**