

COURT LANE INFANT SCHOOL

PARENTS & CARERS SURVEY - 2023

Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day



This document presents the results of our latest survey, carried out in December 2022/January 2023.

We are united in the drive for children to believe, inspire and achieve.

We believe it is important to have the understanding and confidence of parents in the work of school and the results of this survey will help to shape the ongoing development of the school.

Thank you to all parents and carers who completed the survey.

*“Welcoming, supportive and engaging.
Community and inclusive feel.”*

Contents	Page(s)
Survey Results	3-10
Parent & Carer responses to questions 1-10: <i>Questions concerning overview of the school</i>	3
Parent & Carer responses to questions 11 - 15: <i>Comments relating to the overview of the school and questions concerning communication.</i>	4
A summary of responses to question 16 - 22: <i>Comments relating to communication and questions concerning learning.</i>	5
Parent & Carer responses to question 23 - 25: <i>Comments relating to how we can help your child with their learning.</i>	6 - 7
Parent & Carer responses to question 26: <i>In your opinion what are the best things about Court Lane Infant School?</i>	7 - 8
Parent and Carers responses to question 27: <i>Are there any ways you feel we could enhance our involvement with the local community?</i>	8 - 9
Parent and Carers responses to question 28: <i>Is there anything in particular that you would change/improve about the school?</i>	9
Parent and Carers responses to question 29: <i>In what ways would you like to see the school develop over the next three to five years?</i>	10

Overall results for the survey

92 families completed the survey.

1. My child(ren) feel safe in school	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
	68.5%	31.5%	0%	0	0

2. My child(ren) is/are happy in school	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
	50%	50%	0%	0	0

3. My child(ren) are well looked after in school	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
	51%	49%	0%	0	0

4. My child(ren) knows who to speak to if they are upset or unhappy	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
	45.7%	49%	0%	1%	4%

5. The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
	40.2%	56.5%	0%	0	3%

6. When I have raised concerns with the school they have been dealt with properly	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
	35.9%	46.8%	1%	0	16.3%

7. The school sets high expectations for my child(ren)	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
	42.3%	49%	2%	0	6.5%

8. The school lets me know how my child(ren) is/are doing	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
	31.5%	65.2%	1%	2%	0%

9. The school supports my child(rens)'s wider personal development	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
	39.1%	46.7%	2%	0	12%

10. I would recommend this school to another parent	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
	55.4%	42.4%	0%	0	2%

11. If you would like to, please provide any further information, comments or reasons for your answers to the above questions here (a selection have been included below that cover the main points raised):	
Excellent school, all the staff work very hard	<p><i>Thank you for these kind comments, our staff always strive to do their best.</i></p>
I feel there is a level of high expectation for my children however, the teachers know pupils limits and let them learn to their capabilities without excessive pressure which is something I really like.	
I am grateful and thankful that he's in this school. That he receives the support and intervention that he needs. Kudos to teachers and other staff who are very supportive and give love to their pupils.	
Sometimes education and wider personal development goes beyond the curriculum and classroom.	
I would like Tapestry to be used more so I can see what my daughter gets up to on a regular basis. In year R it was updated almost every day. Now she's in year 1 it only appears to be updated every 2/3 weeks or so, sometimes longer.	<p><i>You will have noticed that during Year R Tapestry is used a great deal as much of their work is practical and recorded using Tapestry. Following COVID we decided to extend Tapestry into Yr 1 & 2 to support parents. However, in these year groups it is used in a different way as more of their work is recorded in books, therefore there will be fewer observations. However, we hope that you agree that it continues to support your understanding of what your children are learning in school.</i></p>
Tapestry not uploaded as regular. Not given enough warning for school activities, for example year R nativity or school discos.	
I think the school is good however sometimes communication is not great.	<p><i>We are constantly reviewing our methods of communication and will consider how this can be improved further.</i></p>
To much stuff is online so children miss out if parents are not on phones/Internet all the time.	
More school trips	<p><i>Now that there are no longer restrictions I am sure that you will have seen an increase in school trips. However, trips and coaches, in particular, are very expensive and therefore we are mindful of the number of trips we run and the costs involved for parents.</i></p>
I like to request that there should be more extracurricular activities after school.	<p><i>We review our offer regularly but there are some limitations as, generally, we do not have a hall available for use.</i></p>

12. Communication from the school is clear	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
	37%	53.3%	6.5%	3%	0

13. I know how to contact the school if I have a question or need to give them some information	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
	48.9%	50%	1%	0	0

14. I can easily find out information I need about school	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
	43.5%	48.9%	3%	1%	3%

15. I can access the technology that school uses to communicate with parents.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
	41.3%	51.1%	4%	1%	2%

16. If you would like to, please provide any additional information, comments or reasons for your answers to the communication questions here (a selection have been included below that cover the main points raised):	
Too much is online and keeps getting missed. Please start sending paper letters home for all events	<p><i>Thank you for your comments regarding communication and we will review the methods that we use as a result of your feedback.</i></p> <p><i>Firstly, we will consider the notice that we are giving for events and ensure that in the future more notice is given when possible.</i></p> <p><i>Following last year's survey we sent out a communication information sheet which indicated what methods were and should be used for different types of communication. We hope that this was useful but will review it in light of your comments.</i></p> <p><i>As a school that is promoting being Eco-friendly we are trying to move away from paper where possible.</i></p> <p><i>CLACA, our parent teacher support group, are a real asset to our school and provide a great deal of support in way of events, both for children and parents, and fundraising. Their Facebook page, and those run by year groups, provide information to support parents and are administered independently by parents – school communication is therefore quite separate from this information.</i></p>
Information is conveyed to parents in multiple ways which can get confusing. Lots of emails from Scopay, some via Claca, some in letters etc. It can feel a bit over overwhelming. I find the Facebook page for CLACA really useful for reminders, but again, it's another source of info to be aware of and doesn't all come from one place.	
Too many platforms are used for dispersing information. I would much prefer one consolidated approach and certainly to go completely paperless.	
The communication sent out I feel could be more regular with topics, important dates etc with good advanced notice. Some dates are short notice and is difficult to achieve with work commitments.	
On some days we receive multiple emails from the school about various topics. Whilst I appreciate sometimes this can't be avoided, it would be preferable to have fewer emails where possible	
While the communication from school is clear, some notifications about upcoming events (e.g. parental class visits) have been fairly short notice. Which makes it difficult for working parents to arrange to attend. This has lead to upset children in class, when their parent has not been able to get there.	
There are too many emails and it is too difficult to keep on top of everything. As a single parent who works full time I find the communication from the school overwhelming.	

17. The school curriculum engages my children in learning	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
	38.0%	60.9%	0%	0	1%
18. My children experience a wide variety of learning opportunities	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
	43.5%	51.1%	0%	0	5%
19. My child(ren) is/are becoming an independent learner	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
	41.3%	53.3%	1%	0	4%
20. My children know what is expected of them at school	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
	38.0%	56.5%	1%	0	4%
21. My child(ren) makes good progress at school	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
	40.2%	56.5%	1%	0	2%
22. I understand the positive impact parents can make on their learning	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
	63.0%	37%	0%	0	0%

23.If school were to hold parent workshops on learning (for example, to explain how subjects are taught or give tips on helping with homework) which subjects would you like us to cover?

Response summary:

The main areas requested were:

- *Maths , Literacy including: Phonics, Reading, Writing, Spelling*
- *I would prefer them to be available as a video as it's not always possible to attend in person.*
- *I would be happy to read information as I cannot always attend workshops.*

24.When would be the best time to hold a parent workshop ? (multiple responses allowed – result is for each time)	Morning After Drop off	Afternoon before pick up	Anytime within school day	Evening
	49%	28.2%	8.7%	41.3%

25.How can we further help you to help your child(ren) with their learning? (a selection have been included below that cover the main points raised):

The school is doing everything they can. This mum just needs more time	<p><i>We know how busy families can be and therefore we have a set homework expectation for each year group which we hope is manageable.</i></p> <p><i>As a result of last year's survey we extended the time period given for homework during school breaks so that it is given out a little before the holidays begin and not expected back until a little later to accommodate families who may be busy during the break. We hope that this has helped.</i></p> <p><i>We now use Tapestry throughout the school to support communication about learning. A more formal opportunity each half term is in place to look at your children's work either through a parent evening or drop in session to look at books. We hope that you find these informative.</i></p> <p><i>Tapestry is used to upload videos on certain subjects to support parents understanding of how to teach a subject e.g. maths in Year 2. Please let us know if there are further areas you would like covered.</i></p> <p><i>We try to suggest app and games when special events are happening for example we recently sent out information about ones to support e-safety. We will consider others ways to provide more information.</i></p> <p><i>During this year we have been working hard behind the scenes to support parents understanding of topics that are being taught in school. We will be uploading information to the website via Knowledge Organisers to inform parents about what is being taught in PE and Music each term. We will also be sending home this half term information about Science and History. Please let us know what you think of these we hope you will find them a really good support in supporting your child and discussing what they are learning at school.</i></p>
Remember we too are humans and whilst we always love and support our children there are only so many hours in the day when we are working parents.	
Balance homework with weekend experiences and family time - have some show and tell time so children can reflect and share	
A little more communication about their learning individually	
Recommendations of educational apps & games to try. Recommended books. Suggestions of fun learning games to try as a family etc.	
Giving us parents tips on how a certain topic being taught	
More updates on what they are learning so we can do this at home	
Perhaps video tutorials	
Maybe if we had a copy of the topics being covered each term this might help us to talk to children about what they've been learning or give them the chance to visit relevant museums etc.	

The phonics scheme implemented restricts the texts that my children is able to bring home	<i>Our new scheme allows every child to access the book best matched to their present level of phonics and decoding – in order to facilitate this they are available through e-books, unfortunately we would be unable to do this close matching if books were sent home due to the number of one book that may be needed. However, the children also then have access to all of their previous books on line which enables them to read a larger number of books at any one time. These books will reflect the phonics and high frequency words that the child needs to practice at that time. If you have particular difficulty accessing these books please let your class teacher know.</i>
Inform us of weekly focus in phonics and maths, including current tricky words.	
It would be nice if you could give more attention to non - native speakers	<i>We agree and we are looking at ways that we can support non-native speakers and will continue to do this. For example we will be repeating our SATS evening presentation in a way which we hope will be more accessible to parents for whom English is not their first language.</i>
I think everything is planned well and works well	<i>Thank you for your kind comments.</i>
Continue to update me with what they are learning so I can speak about it, encourage conversations etc	
I feel happy our child is fully supported.	

26. In your opinion what are the best things about Court Lane Infant School? (a selection have been included below that cover the main points raised):
Happy children, positive and supportive members of staff
The support of the Head teacher with outside issues affecting my child
The staff all seem to be very caring and lovely as well as professional
My child enjoys going and it seems that you get involved in all sorts of activities
Friendly, caring staff. Lots of communication
Friendly staff, lovely homely atmosphere, installs good expectations in the children to help with their learning and development
CLACA group to organise events for the children.
How happy and safe my child feels
It's big but feels personal and small
The teachers and approach to learning.
Engagement with the children.

Approachable, when I have raised concerns in the infant school previously they have been dealt with and communicated appropriately
Children are happy and want to come to school.
Friendly, nurturing staff, Immersive learning days
The way children are helped to develop as good individuals
The staff, the standards and how much our daughter (and son when he was there) enjoys school.
The staff are amazing. It is clear to see the commitment you all have to the children, keeping them safe and happy and enabling them to grow and develop.
My daughter is happy and really enjoys school. I know who to contact should I need to and the administration is very well organised.
Lovely teachers, Classrooms are well equipped. Pupils always seem happy to be at school
Communication, Safe welcoming atmosphere, professional, driven and enthusiastic teachers
I can't single out a specific thing. The school is wonderful, my child is so happy to be there and has learnt so much in such a short amount of time.
Great teachers and SEND team.

27.Are there any ways you feel we could enhance our involvement with the local community? (a selection have been included below that cover the main points raised):	
More local trips	<p><i>We agree that more local trips is certainly something that we will consider. Unfortunately, our trips to the local library in Year R were cancelled this year after a couple of attempts due to poor weather. We will continue to look at other possibilities.</i></p> <p><i>We try to get local community organisations involved when possible – often during our topics that involve people who help us. You may not be aware that we have visits from the church to support our understanding of religion and local community groups or organisations often support our CLACA events.</i></p> <p><i>There is always more we can do and we will consider other opportunities throughout the year.</i></p>
There should be local trips for pupils like local church, local library and local museums and other local attractions to get familiar to the community	
More visits from community organisations outside the school, such as police / fire service etc.	
Doing litter picks etc	<i>This is an interesting idea, we have children who take on this responsibility within school but not in the local community.</i>
Clear concise information more regularly with advanced notice on dates.	<i>As detailed previously we will be reviewing our communication and considering what changes could be made.</i>
To invite parents into the school after school to see the children's work	<i>Opportunities are provided each half term to look at children's books. This is either via parents evening or drop ins where parents come into school in the morning to look at their children's books with their child.</i>

Collect donations offer help to a local charity	<i>We agree this would be a lovely thing to do and are looking into a possibility at the moment.</i>
Yes support with having more 20mph signs down Hilary Avenue, or humps or making it a one way street.	<i>We agree that traffic and parking can be difficult around the school. We would advise parents to contact the council if they have concerns regarding this.</i>
Maybe work with local care homes and learning disability services	<i>Prior to COVID we have in the past visited local care homes and will consider how this might work moving forward now that restrictions have lifted.</i>

28. Is there anything in particular that you would change/improve about the school? (a selection have been included below that cover the main points raised):	
More school trips would be good.	<i>Now that there are no longer restrictions I am sure that you will have seen an increase in school trips. However, trips and coaches, in particular, are very expensive and therefore we are mindful of the number of trips we run and the costs involved for parents.</i>
More opportunities to see children's work in school. More parental involvement where appropriate.	<i>Opportunities are provided each half term to look at children's books. This is either via parents evening or drop ins where parents come into school in the morning to look at their children's books with their child.</i>
More opportunities to get informal feedback and see work is welcome but appreciate this is hard. Love pause week	<i>If you are able to help in school we are always looking for adults who can volunteer on a regular basis we would love to hear from you, please contact the school office.</i> <i>We are so glad you like our pause weeks, we often ask for parent support during these weeks so please look out for emails about this.</i>
Drop off time	<i>We are sorry you are finding these times tricky – please come and talk to us if you have any ideas that would improve these times or use our suggestion box in reception.</i>
Pick up in main playground can be difficult	
Upcoming dates maybe 1 letter with all the dates for the next month rather than loads of emails	<i>This has been mentioned previously and we will definitely look at how we can streamline communication.</i>
I'd love to see a bigger green area	<i>Yes – we would too it would be so lovely to have larger grounds!</i> <i>We have in the past tried various ways to incorporate forest school links however we have yet to find a method that is both affordable and does not take up too much time.</i>
Offer forest school links and opportunities.	
PE lessons outside - to my knowledge my child has never had a PE lesson outside. If the hall is not in use then PE does not happen. I would love for the school to bring in the daily mile run or something similar as a marker building consistent fitness. Exercise is so key	<i>As the weather improves you will find that the children have PE outside and we are in the process of arranging some Friday afternoon additional PE sessions during the summer term.</i> <i>You may not be aware that we also have a sports coach with the children during lunchtime on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday to support active play.</i>

29. In what ways would you like to see the school develop over the next three to five years? (a selection have been included below that cover the main points raised):	
More trips	<p><i>These are all things that we review regularly and are always looking out for new opportunities and ways they can be developed. As previously mentioned we do have to consider any costs that are involved and, therefore, sometimes we are unable to undertake certain activities. However, we always try to look for alternatives for example, rather than go to the Titanic Museum we arranged for a workshop to come into school. We try to ensure throughout the curriculum, and particularly during our theme weeks or special events, that we hold workshops, or invite musicians and authors etc into school. We agree that we need to continue to ensure that we enhance the children's learning with experiences such as these, as they are really important.</i></p>
More activities engaging with the wider community, trips and excursions etc.	
More after school clubs	
More sports activities	
More outdoor learning	
After school activities, interactive science workshops etc. inviting local artists to do workshops with children.	
Not sure. Perhaps invite local artists, musicians, authors... in to offer workshops and different learning experiences.	
Build a parking space for parents	<p><i>This would be lovely but I am not sure where this would be able to go on our compact site!</i></p>
More ebooks access, digital skills, safe use of media and web	<p><i>We are part of the Portsmouth Digital Strategy and are working on this at the moment – this will be a significant focus over the next few years. It is important that the balance is right for all children, parents and staff.</i></p>
Good Use of technology whilst also encouraging face to face interaction. It's important to have a balance.	
Diversity addressed and more conversations	<p><i>We believe that Court Lane is a very inclusive school and we pride ourselves on this. If there is something it particular that you believe needs to be addressed then please let us know as we will definitely consider anything that can help us improve in this area.</i></p>
New study approaches and identify and support students in their ability.	<p><i>We agree that this is very important. Our staff are involved in many different professional development opportunities to ensure we keep up to date and reflect on the methods we use to support our children and the content of our curriculum.</i></p>
It would be nice for the general curriculum to change and focus a little more on current affairs for the children. I feel sometimes the curriculum is stuck in the dark ages.	
It would be greatly appreciated if they can learn some foreign languages in infant school.	<p><i>At the moment we only have this available as an after school club.</i></p>
I think the infants is great and keep doing what you are already doing.	<p><i>Thank you so much our staff work very hard to ensure that we support all the children in our school and that we look not only at the academic but also consider personal and social development. We will continue to do this to the best of our ability.</i></p>
Continue doing what you are doing	
There is a lot to love about the school, but to keep building on all the good stuff really!	
Maintain its high standard	
I only wish the school continues to support my child the best way possible, on her learning development.	
Thank you for always looking after my daughter and ensuring she is happy and positive at school	
The school is maintaining excellent standard of learning and development of kids	

We would like to thank all the parents for the support they give the school and for allowing us to support their children.

Thank you for responding to our survey.

If you have any queries or concerns, or any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher or contact the school on 023 92378890.