

Rokesly Infant and Nursery School

Responses to Parent and Carer Questionnaire Autumn 2019



At Rokesly, we welcome feedback on what parents feel we do well, or not so well, as a school. We consider carefully all feedback, whether positive or negative, and we try to review our policies and practices accordingly to improve outcomes and experiences for your children.

This year we asked specific questions in the Infant and Junior schools to find out more about your experiences of inclusion in our school community. We have tried to capture a range of comments to illustrate the responses we received and talk about changes and improvements we are making.

Statement	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither agree or disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
1 I feel welcome at the school	107	31			
<p>Teachers and staff are approachable Nice that Grant welcomes people every morning All the staff are friendly</p> <p>This response is really positive and we are glad that you feel our staff are welcoming and approachable</p>					
2 I enjoy meeting and talking to different parents and carers at drop-off and after school	84	39	13	2	
<p>I rarely pick up No space to chat in the nursery It can be a bit cliquy – I think that depending on which nursery your child went to can determine friendship groups for both children and parents Lovely people Our son is in Year 2 so always rushing! Friendly school with real sense of community Everyone has been friendly and helpful and other parents are lovely Can be a bit fraught at pick-up times!</p> <p>The responses here are generally positive, but it's clear that some parents who work often don't have opportunities to stop and chat. Understandably, it can be hard for new parents to join friendship groups formed at nurseries. We are working with the PSA to create more social events for parents in the school year to ensure everyone feels included. We are always open to new ideas for events that can bring parents together.</p>					
3 The school promotes and celebrates a range of cultures including my own	73	47	16	2	
<p>Very inclusive – I like that you celebrate multiple festivals both religious and secular Don't really know It is getting better – More books about black children and think about black parents being in assembly Seems like an inclusive environment My child comes home with knowledge of different cultures Could do more for minorities We are from Jewish background so great to see all religions celebrated</p> <p>This year both Rokesly Infant and Junior schools share a school improvement priority to improve outcomes for our BME children. One of the ways we have been working to improve outcomes for children is by engaging with their parents and families. We have worked with a group of black parents to share views and ideas and hear about their experiences in school. As well as celebrating religious and cultural festivals through the school year, parents also generously give their time and expertise in classes and assemblies. School Memories week was really successful in engaging parents who came in to work with the children and share personal experiences from different cultures.</p>					
4 I feel welcome at all school events and activities	101	33	3	1	
<p>It's lovely that each class/year is involved in organising events and makes everyone feel more involved in school Tea and biscuits were nice at the volunteers meeting We are always well informed of events I do, but I know others who don't. Too much focused on money Learn lots about the activities</p> <p>It's great to see the overwhelmingly positive response to school events. The PSA is made up of parents who work really hard to raise funds for both schools. We have been working with the PSA to create a range of fundraising and social events for parents during the school year to ensure everyone feels included. We introduced a Big Get Together Summer picnic with the PSA in Priory Park last year which was a huge success and will be repeated. Our annual International Evening was also popular. The PSA have introduced regular coffee mornings in addition to evening meetings, where parents are always welcome to share their views and ideas.</p>					
5 The curriculum reflects the diversity within the school community	79	35	22	2	
<p>Could do greater BME representation It is reflective of range of cultures Various topics and religions covered. My child loved learning about Katherine Johnson because 'she is brown, like me' More involvement with minorities</p> <p>In the infants we are revising our school curriculum to ensure that the work we do and the resources we use reflect our diverse community and we are glad to see that work recognised in your responses. We have changed some of the books we use to better reflect our children and ensure they feel represented. We know we still have work to do and will continue to ask you for your advice and support.</p>					

6 I feel I am able to support my child with their learning at home	95	37	4	1	1
<p>Teacher has been amazing at helping us with a problem that I came to her with Good. I know what to do Not sufficient homework to reflect that We try our best to do homework with him Regular workshops helpful Reading record book is helpful Any quality time we spend is for non-academic activities Would be good to know more about what is done at school so we can do complimentary activities at home The curriculum booklets and workshops are excellent Reading is communicated clearly and regularly</p> <p>It's great to see a positive response to this question. Our workshops are always really well attended and it's clear that you are actively engaged in your child's learning with us.</p>					
7 My child has access to a pc/laptop/tablet at home to help with their learning	101	30	3	3	1
<p>There is a laptop and tablet available We discourage the use of electronic equipment at home i-pad I have work laptop but have not yet invested in a home laptop Not on their own – used with parental support With limited time allowed to use my phone I have a tablet but don't let my child use it for learning</p> <p>Your responses will help us to plan our communication with you and how homework is managed in the Junior school.</p>					
8 What is your racial or ethnic identity? BME – 26 WB – 72 WO – 16 TUR – 5 No response – 19	9 Is English your first language?			Yes 116	No 22
We asked these questions so we could better understand how parents from different backgrounds and those that speak English as an additional language feel about their experiences in school. This will help us make decisions about how we plan and resource our curriculum, organise events and include everyone from the Rokesly community.					
NURSERY and RECEPTION PARENTS ONLY – arrangements for my child to settle in to their new class were good	50	4			

What do you like most about Rokesly school?
<p>Friendly and welcoming Inclusivity The diversity The accessibility of the team Welcoming, security, friendly Reception teachers seem very nurturing and welcoming to parents and children The homely vibe That it's the school that not only I went to, but my father too. So it's 3 generations Very supportive Caring I like meeting parents and making new friends Environment, space, people, teachers Excellent trips Drop-offs and pick-ups are easy. My child has settled well into nursery life Range of activities It's vibrant and the children are very proud of their school Everyone has time for you It feels like a family Great communication with parents That you adapt and adjust to the students' needs We love Rokesly</p> <p>This is just a small selection of your responses which are generous, encouraging and positive. It is a pleasure to share your comments with the staff and a real confirmation of the values we all hold dear at Rokesly.</p>
What would you like us to do better at school?
<p>15 of 74 comments said there was nothing we could do better – Thank you!</p> <p>COMMUNICATION / ESPECIALLY FOR WORKING PARENTS 21 of 74 comments Better options for working parents to go on school activities / book days off work in advance More notice for events Use the website more interactively More notice when you need the kids to dress up, bring things in etc. Love that more information is online via classlist – really helps More regular comments in reading book Classlist is not good – a more intuitive news board would work better Notice boards at collection points More feedback at pick-up time Why don't you use the same parents evening sign up as the junior school? From the range of comments here it's clear that different parents find some forms of communication more useful than others. We use Newsletters, Half-termly curriculum letters, class notice boards, texts, Classlist, communications from volunteer class reps and the School Website. We will continue to use a range of methods. This term we are trialling a weekly information sheet for Reception parents and updates on class website pages. Scopay is the system we use for parents evening sign up and all payments from nursery onwards. Every Infant parent has an account.</p> <p>CURRICULUM RANGE 7 of 74 comments More maths and more sports Focus on social/emotional areas More imagination and creativity More music lessons Bring relevant inspirations into the classroom from outside (up to date/current) Teach about mindfulness and relaxation More choice for after school clubs (gymnastics, ballet etc.) Parents in Year 1 and 2 will know how we are changing how maths is taught in school after attending our workshops. The information is available on the Y1 and Y2 class pages. Our curriculum is being reviewed this year and new curriculum maps will be available on the website very soon.</p> <p>PLAYGROUND 6 of 74 comments Playground equipment Open up the green space Less concrete Softer outdoor environment This term we are working with the PSA to organise fundraising activities to improve the Reception and Nursery outdoor areas. Like you, we are looking forward to our grass area being open for use after half term!</p>

DIVERSITY / REPRESENTATION 5 of 74 comments

Introduce African/Caribbean books for home reading [Hire more men \(I know this is a recruitment difficulty\)](#)
Diversity [More reading books that reflect diversity in the school community](#)

We have improved our selection of books in school to make sure every child at Rokesly feels represented. This work will continue, and suggestions of excellent books we can use are very welcome.

WORKSHOPS 4 of 74 comments

More parent workshops [More access to curriculum for parents so we can keep track of what they are learning, how to help them with homework and getting on with other people etc.](#) [More support for curriculum work](#)

Information about our popular workshops and some resources to help you support your child's learning are available on the class pages of the school website.

SCHOOL UNIFORM 3 of 74

We should have a school uniform [Potentially partial school uniform \(Rokesly t-shirt/sweatshirt\)](#) [School uniform?](#)

We have no plans to introduce uniform. Many parents choose Rokesly as it is a non-uniform school. Rokesly t-shirts are popular as they make getting ready for school easier and are perfect for play, work and getting messy!

OTHER individual comments

[Frequency of reading book changes](#) [Use Tapestry feedback system](#) [More homework](#)
[Clearer information about what after school arrangements are available](#) [Better green protection of perimeter](#)

[Extra-curricular activities that are easier to access](#) [More events for parents – discipline/child's behaviour](#)

[How do you support child mental health?](#) [School dinner choices could be better](#) [More parent socials!](#)

There are some great suggestions here, and some that we are already looking to improve.

We are planning improvements to our green perimeter – especially for the Junior playground.

Information about breakfast, after school and other clubs is available in the Parents and Community tab of the website.

We are investigating a Tapestry-style system for Early Years children to improve on special books.

The Governors plan a parent event each year on different subjects, and would welcome your ideas.

The School menu changes each season and again, feedback on our menu (available on the website) is welcome.

I'm afraid that you will have to arrange more parent socials yourselves – just make sure everyone gets an invite!

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the survey.

Your views are always welcome and treated seriously and action is taken where we believe we can improve outcomes and experiences for your children.

Return slip. **We always welcome your views/comments:**

Re: Parent Survey Feedback

Child's name: _____

Class: _____