

Parent survey 2023

Dear parents,

Thank you to everyone who completed the parent survey in July. We had 122 responses in total. Overall, the feedback that you have provided to us was overwhelmingly positive with many, many comments about the strong community ethos of the school. Our aim has always been to educate the whole child providing them with a broad and rich curriculum and it is wonderful to read that so many of you feel we are doing a good job! The many positive comments and praise for our dedicated and hardworking staff across the school were also much appreciated. We have, of course, shared your comments with the whole team.

Please find below the percentages for each question, with the number of responses for the question in brackets.

Question	Yes	No	Universal Free School Meals – Reception, Year 1 and Year 2
1. Does your child receive Free School Meals? (121)	6%	36%	58%
2. Do any of your children have SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities)?	Yes 24%	No 76%	
3. If your child has SEND, please answer the following question, if this is not applicable then proceed to the next question. "My child has SEND, and the school gives them the support they need to succeed." (27)	Agree 76%	Disagree 10%	Neither agree or disagree 14%
4. My child is / my children are happy at William Patten (121)	Agree 99%	Disagree 1%	
5. My child feels safe at William Patten (122)	Agree 98%	Disagree 1%	Don't know 1%
6. William Patten makes sure its pupils are well behaved. (122)	Agree 94%	Disagree 6%	Neither agree or disagree 6%
7. My child has been bullied and the school dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively. (106)	No concern or complaint raised 70%	Agree 26%	Disagree 4%
8. The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year etc (121)	Agree 97%	Neither agree / disagree 3%	
9. When I have raised concerns with the school, they have been dealt with properly (119) <i>(The feedback on this question was that the response criteria was slightly ambiguous and needs to be clearer next time, with no concern being an option)</i>	Agree 73%	Neither agree or disagree 24%	Disagree 3%
10. The school has high expectations for my child (122) <i>(The feedback on this question was also that the response criteria was slightly ambiguous and needs to be clearer next time, with no concern being an option)</i>	Agree 77%	Neither agree or disagree 22%	Disagree 1%
11. My child is doing well at school (122)	Agree 94%	Neither agree or disagree 5%	Disagree 1%

12. The school lets me know how my child is doing (122)	Agree	Neither agree or disagree	Disagree	
	92%	7%	1%	
13. There is a good range of subjects at this school (122)	Agree	Neither agree or disagree	Disagree	
	94%	4%	2%	
14. My child can take part in clubs and activities at this school (122)	Agree	Neither agree or disagree		
	95%	5%		
15. The school supports my child's wider personal development (122)	Agree	Neither agree or disagree	Disagree	Don't know
	90%	4%	1%	5%
17. I like our school and I would recommend this to school to other parents.(122)	Yes	No		
	98%	2%		

General comments

What do we do well	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be honest, just about everything. Love WP! Thank you! Nurturing, safe and fun environment - my kids love coming to school! Great role models from all adults I encounter. The care, warmth and support given to the children. Give the children an emotionally open environment where they feel safe to speak the truth and ask honest questions without embarrassment. The level of care goes above and beyond. The atmosphere of the school is one of happiness and celebration, of support and positivity. It's the school I wish I could have attended as a child. It's a really inclusive, welcoming school. I love how they focus on different cultures from around the world, be that in offering special lunches or featuring a different language each month. Also I love how they help children with their personal, social and emotional development using initiatives like zones of regulation and offering quiet spaces for children to calm down and relax Such a lovely community and thinking about our kids happiness is always the school's priority Overall, phonics has been taught so well by Maria and my son is able to spell, read and write now! Providing a warm, safe and nurturing environment at the same time as having high expectations for academic performance and behaviour. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amazing teachers, compassionate and a Headteacher who really cares about the work, the school and mainly her pupils. Karen acts fast when there are issues, is sensitive and supportive. The way many of the staff (teaching & office) seem to know just about all the children There is a great kindness demonstrated by all staff, teaching and non-teaching. The leadership seems very sensible and pragmatic. The school has a wonderful atmosphere; the teachers are supportive and always looking for imaginative ways to enhance the children's learning. Events like WBD, Hispanic Day, special lunches. Motivation of good behaviour via the dojo system and Headteacher Tea Parties Extra-curricular activities like chess and fencing, music lessons and orchestra are a huge strength. The thoughtfulness and variety of the wider experience - raised beds one per class on the roof, ping pong table, school fairs - are immensely enriching Our son definitely leans towards creative subjects and he is well catered for, without being made to feel like the more STEM-based subjects are boring or "not for him". He has loved getting to know children in other years with the peer reading projects and he has strengthened friendships within his own year group this year.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • William Patten does brilliantly at focusing on the whole child experience, turning out well rounded, caring children who are very capable. I don't think the academic is overemphasised at the school, in a very good way for their age. The children are given the time to come into their own in due course. • You teach the children to be tolerant, kind and open minded which to me is the most important thing in a school • Making children and families feel welcome, inspired, safe, happy and eager to learn. • The curriculum is wide and broad; my child loves all the various topics covered as well as the special weeks. I have been impressed that my Reception child showed an understanding of Windrush. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting high expectations for my son and helping him achieve to the best of his ability • My child is very happy at this school and that is what really matters. She enjoys her lessons, has friends, is recognised for any achievements and milestones, staff are warm and welcoming and my daughter's teacher is really lovely. • The arts are well covered • Pastoral care, celebrating languages and cultures. • My daughter says she loves the selection of books to read. We (parents) think the sense of community and nurturing is a real strength. We feel privileged and blessed that both our daughters were at WP as it's given them such a good foundation for life. My eldest still misses WP and describes the WP community as being like part of a big family.
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Please suggest one thing that we could change or introduce, that could improve our school's offer and provision.

Feedback was along similar themes, so please find the comments and the school response.

Music	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It would be great if kids could learn a music instrument as part of their curriculum. • Opportunities to learn a musical instrument (perhaps through after school clubs, e.g. guitar, drums) • Can we have more music please? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each class from Nursery – Year 6 has a music lesson with Elaine our specialist music teacher each week. KS1 and KS2 have a singing assembly each week too. We offer tuition in brass, violins, wind and keyboard in KS2, as well as steel pans in Years 5 and 6. • We also have the WP orchestra, the Year 5 band, the Year 6 band and a number of projects taking place over the year. • Year 6 will be developing their keyboard skills with a focus on Indian music in a pilot project from the Arts Council. • Year 5 will have two separate projects. One class will participate in an '<i>Intergenerational Music Making</i>' project. Within this, the children take part in a 6-week community music hub between our school and St. Ann's care home. • The other Year 5 class will take part in one of the '<i>LSO Discovery</i>' projects and visit the Barbican for a performance. • Year 4 will have the opportunity to work on their own Opera using guidance and material from ENO (English National Opera). This will be in the Spring Term. • Year 3 will be learning ukulele this year as a whole year group. • Year 2 will have the opportunity to work with Justin, our Drumming Peri Teacher, and learn Djembe in small groups throughout the year. This will be on Tuesday afternoons. • Year 1 will be learning the Glockenspiels in their music lesson. • Reception will take part in the Round chapel concert as part of <i>Hackney Music Festival</i>, in Summer Term. • KS2 Choir will be doing two external performances this year. The first will be at the O2 with '<i>Young Voices</i>' and the second will be the Round Chapel for '<i>Hackney Music Festival</i>'. • We are incorporating one of our parent's projects into our music curriculum. It's BBC Ten Pieces which is led by

	<p>Ellara Wakely and makes classical music more accessible to children. The lessons are written by Rachel Leech who led LSO workshops, so some will be familiar.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All music tuition groups, choir and the Year 5 and 6 bands will be performing in two concerts in January and June. <p>So a lot is going on in Music this year!</p>
<p>Sport / PE</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More competition in sports. Sports Day felt a mess this year. The amount of sporting activity (going to local events etc) seems to lag behind other schools. I think that the sports provision could be improved. Whilst I acknowledge the difficulty in providing this due to location and school grounds, I do not feel that it is taken seriously and children miss out on opportunities as a result of having had no grounding in basic sports. 	<p>We have not done as much sport as previously and we also felt Sports Day was not as well organised this year. We notified the provider of our concerns and will be looking at who runs it for next year in terms of organisation and activities.</p> <p>Brian, the football coach, has worked hard to ensure we take part in matches against local schools.</p> <p>This year we are taking part in the Young Hackney Boys' Football League and Barclays Girls' Football League.</p> <p>We won the Hackney Keysteps Gymnastics competition last year and hope to do so again this year too.</p> <p>We are participating in the Hackney Cycling League and will be doing Bike Around the Borough.</p> <p>We will also be doing the Hackney Half Marathon with running club.</p> <p>We are also looking at starting the Daily (or in the beginning the weekly!) Mile.</p>
<p>After school clubs / wraparound provision</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More capacity for after school clubs Would love French club I would love an after school homework club maybe run by the older years. I struggle to keep up with the homework with my schedule let alone my kids. More opportunities for clubs and activities for children across the school to participate in together It would be helpful if the breakfast club could be more flexible. So that if a parent is stuck of a morning and needed to book in, as long as there is space at breakfast club that could be done. 	<p>We have 32 clubs in total for children in Years 1 – 6. We offer clubs before school and at lunch, as we have limited space after school. Two halls are used for JAG as well as the playgrounds and classrooms are used by teachers preparing for the next day.</p> <p>We are looking at providing a homework club, which would run on a Friday and we are also trying to set up a Flamenco club and Turkish club for our Turkish children.</p> <p>We also like the idea of cross age clubs and will be looking at that in the next few weeks. A great idea!</p> <p>Breakfast Club already runs like this, so if parents need an emergency place, we always to accommodate. We need at least a days' notice if possible.</p>
<p>Communications</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I would love for the communication from the school to be more streamlined. It makes my head spin. There is the website, SMS alerts, Emails, Google classroom, Pattern Pages, Early Years Comms, SIMS and more. It is all really well meant but it is stressful and confusing to be on the receiving end of. Perhaps introduce an online system for school club and absence request Giving more notice to parents for events/activities where they are involved, such as school trips and shows. 	<p>We are now using Arbor, a new information system for school and for parents.</p> <p>There is an online portal to sign into, but it is also in an app form, which we will be encouraging parents to download and use, as we intend to send all communications through the app and therefore reduce the amount of texts, letters, emails we send. The app should help streamline communications as you will receive notifications on your phone.</p> <p>Information about Arbor will be sent home this week.</p> <p>A great idea! We will also be introducing online forms for parents for absence request, club requests and hopefully this will make life easier with no printer needed and we will also be using less paper.</p> <p>We try to give a much notice as possible for events and activities, as we understand that it is difficult to organise time off to attend or accompany classes. Sometimes we are offered last minute events and we do take them up and this might mean that we cannot give as much notice as we would like.</p>
<p>Productions /</p>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please introduce productions! It would be wonderful to see EYFS, end of KS1 and end of KS2 shows where the children get the opportunity to perform. Drama is invaluable and to have the opportunity to speak/act in front of an audience would be great confidence-building for our kids. 	<p>We will be having two lots of musical concerts this year, one set of concerts in January and one in June. We also have gymnastic and dance performances.</p> <p>At Christmas, we have had the EYFS / KS1 and KS2 singing concerts for the past few years, but we are looking at combining singing and performing, as it is a particular skill to have. It also means that the children will do more.</p> <p>We know how much the children love performing and sharing what they have learnt and how much parents enjoy events like this, so we are looking at different ways to share more of the work the children do.</p> <p>We are also looking at an International Evening revival!</p> <p>More details to follow!</p>
<p>Mixing children up</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mix the classes more - either mix the classes every year or mix them up for activities, some lessons and trips within each year Spilt the classes each year 	<p>This is interesting, as we have also been talking about this.</p> <p>We introduced more mixed age activities on special events like World Book Day, with Reading Buddies and it was incredibly popular with the children. Year 5 were also mixed for the LSO project.</p> <p>We are looking at introducing more mixed age clubs, as outlined above.</p> <p>Some schools mix their classes throughout, for example at the end of Reception, Year 2 and Year 4.</p> <p>If we make any changes we will make sure we give enough notice to parents and of course the children, as it would be a very new experience for them. I will ask Sian to take it to School Council to see what the children think of the idea initially.</p>
<p>Trips</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More school trips and perhaps to more interesting places. 	<p>Trips, workshops and projects have always been and continue to be a very important part of the school's curriculum offer. We did not go on many trips last year, for a number of reasons.</p> <p>This year the expectation for each class is that they go on a trip at least once per half term, with the exception on EYFS. Many trips have been booked already and parents will see that in the Meet Your Teacher meetings and throughout the year.</p> <p>We also have a super Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) project taking place throughout the year too, with every year group participating.</p>
<p>Parent meetings</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet with the teacher more frequently for a general progress update 	<p>We have changed the timings of Parents' Evenings this year to enable teachers to give parents more relevant information at the relevant time.</p> <p>In October, (Tuesday 10th and Thursday 12th), we will have two meetings to share how the children have settled in.</p> <p>The next Parents' Evening will take place in January (Thursday 11th, Tuesday 16th and Thursday 18th). This will enable teachers to share the assessments from the end of the Autumn term and focus on targets and what parents can do to support their child at home</p> <p>The final Parents' Evening will take place in April (Tuesday 23rd, Thursday 25th and Tuesday 30th) with the same rationale as the January meetings, with teachers sharing the end of Spring term assessments.</p> <p>We will be sending home the assessments that children have done in English and Maths at the meeting in January and April.</p>

Thank you, once again, for your valuable feedback on our Parent Survey. Feedback is always welcome and so if you have any comments, thoughts and ideas, you don't have to wait for the next survey! We can be contacted by phone and email and of course, the Senior Leadership Team (Karen, Craig, Sian, Maria and Elmara) are in the playground at the start and end of each day.