

Milton Primary Academy

Parent Questionnaire for the
academic year 2018 - 2019



Thank you to all of our parents who took the time to complete the questionnaire in the summer term. Please find below a summary of the findings and our response to the improvement points raised and how we plan to address these.

		Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
1	My child enjoys attending the academy	65%	31%	4%	
2	My child feels safe at the academy	69%	29%	2%	
3	The academy ensures it safeguards all of its pupils	63%	33%	4%	
4	My child makes good progress at the academy	63%	32.5%	2.25%	2.25%
5	I am well informed about my child's progress	47%	51%	2%	
6	My child is well taught at this academy	67%	33%		
7	My child receives appropriate homework for their age	49%	49%	2%	
8	The academy helps my child to have a healthy lifestyle – healthy snacks, providing water stations, healthy lunches, after school sports clubs, PE lessons, visitors in school promoting sports	54%	44%	2%	
9	The academy makes sure that my child is well prepared for the future (for example, changing year group, transitions to new schools, raising aspirations, Compass for Life Y5 & Y6, roles and responsibilities – academy parliament, prefects, eco-council)	57%	37%	6%	
10	The academy meets my child's particular needs well	65%	33%	2%	
11	The academy makes sure its pupils are well behaved	44%	47%	8%	
12	The academy promotes the British Values and builds links within the community	60%	38%	2%	
13	The academy is well led and managed (Governance, Senior Leaders, Assistant Heads, Phase Leaders, SENCO)	47%	47%	6%	
14	If I have a concern, I know what to do.	49%	49%	2%	
15	My concerns are acknowledged and the academy communicates their response	47%	47%	6%	
16	Would you recommend this academy to another parent? (state yes or no)	Yes – 94%		No – 6%	
	<p>What do we do well?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent craft days with the children. Really enjoyable watching and being a part of my child's learning at school. • I feel that my child is extremely safe at this academy. I like the regular updates via text, email and Facebook. We always know what is going on. Thank you so much for the Mother's Day event, I loved coming to the academy. My daughter is always so proud. • Help and support children and their family when needed. • I have been very happy with my child's teachers. • The academy in my opinion is academically outstanding and the service you are giving to parents is so helpful. • Making learning fun, encouraging children to always try their best. 				

- The office admin is good.
- Staff communication is polite and responsive.
- Well organised academy. I love all the activities for all children and parents.
- Provide exciting opportunities e.g. trips and The XFactor.
- Staff are kind and very approachable.
- Lovely learning environments.
- This is the first time that my child has had difficulties with her peers. My concerns were heard and dealt with immediately. My daughter is encouraged to achieve her best and where she is exceeding expectations, this is supported well.
- Brilliant teachers who try hard to teach the best they can. My child always feels safe at school and enjoys her day.
- I love the science days and afternoon tea with the children.
- Events are always good and you can see the effort put into them. Mother's Day tea party was organised well.
- The academy encourages the children to explore and develop non-academic areas like sport and drama so that when they leave Year 6 they understand a little more about who they are and they have built enough confidence to face high school.
- My child has shown a particular interest in maths & reading. This has been encouraged and she has not been held back.
- Very traditional loving academy with great values. Encourages children's different personalities & natures.
- Great staff, very committed and hard working. Very pleased and will always recommend.
- Sports and fundraising days.
- Children have lots of fun in Nursery. The staff are so nurturing and approachable.
- Create fun days for the parents/children. Set good homework that is age appropriate.
- The teachers I have met are really nice and good with pupils. My child loved going to Nursery and is excited to start Reception.
- Brought out my child's confidence brilliantly.
- Safety of the children is brilliant.

This is what you said you would like to be improved.	Our response to your comments:
<p><i>Better organisation of events for parents such as Christmas plays etc..</i></p> <p><i>More notice on trips/events/parties/parent days etc. Sometimes only receiving letters 1-2 weeks before an event it is difficult to book time off work with late notice.</i></p>	<p>We list events on the 'key events' document sent out in September, so that parents can plan ahead for the whole year and we add the dates to the monthly newsletters as reminders. We send letters and limit the amount of tickets to ensure that events are carefully planned and everyone can have a seat, due to our small hall. Letters state times and organisation of where to come in and exit.</p> <p>Events planned by class teachers e.g. trips and showcases of learning where possible we ask them to send letter two weeks prior to the event allowing parents sufficient time and notice to plan. However, on occasions we may be offered visits, trips or experiences at short notice and would never turn down this opportunity for the children.</p> <p>We will endeavour to reinforce this with staff and to try our best to communicate with parents in a timely manner.</p>

<i>Doors being opened late</i>	We do our utmost to open the doors at 8:50am and the majority of time we do. We apologise if we are ever a couple of minutes late.
<i>Improve bullying policy so parents do not have to take matters into their own hands.</i>	We would welcome a conversation about this comment, as all instances of bullying are dealt with in detail and reported to Governors. We are always happy to work with parents and we would never advise parents taking matters into their own hands. If you ever have any worries about your child being bullied we urge you to speak to a member of staff. Bullying will not be tolerated at Milton Primary Academy. Education around bullying happens throughout the academic year.
<i>Promote pride in doing well academically.</i> <i>More praise for children that are always good and always do well.</i>	We have had our best set of data this year and we are very proud of the children's successes. You will have seen the Headline Data whereby we celebrated achievement and attainment across the whole academy. We celebrate academic achievement every day in lessons, but also through star learner achievement, times tables rockstars certificates and displaying work around the academy. Many Facebook posts are based on day to day learning too. It is important that children develop a motivation to succeed which means they are intrinsically motivated to want to do the best regardless of a reward. Being able to aim for a remarkable day certificate over a half-term recognises those children who always follow the academy rules and go above and beyond in every area of learning.
<i>Year group splits – more notice and letter to go home in an envelope.</i>	When year groups are split this is due to multiple reasons not just behaviour or academic levels. Where possible we do not mix classes; however sometimes this is necessary. If we choose to mix classes this is with the best interests of all pupils and the decision is not taken lightly. Many hours go into ensuring that the classes are mixed to get the best out of every pupil academically and pastorally. As parents, we would ask you to support us with this and to remember the mix is only for lesson time - break time and lunch time all children will be allowed to play together.
<i>Meals could be healthier, always pizza and nuggets on special days. Better combinations and more varied.</i>	Academy meals meet a healthy schools food standard and menu criteria, with reduced salt and sugar.
<i>Constant ask for money</i>	We would welcome a conversation about this. Through the news and press many parents may have seen how schools budgets are tightening and fund-raising helps us to enhance our curriculum for all children.
<i>Bigger hall</i>	The hall is too small for a two-form entry school, we made two lengthy bids to the Department for Education for an extension over the last couple of years. We will hopefully be submitting a third bid this year.
<i>More snacks and water</i>	Children are allowed a healthy snack mid-morning before lunchtime. KS1 have a further break in the afternoon where they can have a healthy snack. Water bottles are allowed in classrooms and are kept at the back of the room. Children can access these throughout every lesson at suitable times. There are water stations based in every area of the academy for children to refill their water bottles. There is free fruit available for all early years and KS1 children every day.
<i>Handing a child over without a password</i>	We take safeguarding extremely seriously. On a day-to-day basis, our staff go above and beyond to keep the children at Milton Primary Academy safe. If you ever see this happen (as one parent has brought to our attention), please do come and see a member of the senior leadership team immediately as safeguarding children is everyone's responsibility including that of parents and you have a duty of care to all children like we do as staff. We have addressed this and reinforced our policy and procedures with staff.

<i>Inset days moved from October to the Summer</i>	We will consider this point at the next Governor meeting. Thank you for your suggestion.
<i>More PE sessions</i>	Every year group receives two hours of PE teaching every week. All children complete the daily mile each day and from September, we will have PE sessions taking place during 3 lunchtimes every week. We have a wide variety of clubs taking place before and after-school – all sporting clubs will be free of charge.
<i>More challenge with phonics and reading</i>	<p>This year 86% of pupils achieved the expected standard in phonics in Y1, meaning Milton achieved higher than the national standard. We have a thorough and strategic method to teaching phonics and we have a lot of expertise in this area.</p> <p>Accelerated reader introduced in Summer last academic year allows the child to be challenged within their own level of reading. Before they are allowed to change their reading book they have to complete a quiz to demonstrate they have a good understanding of the text. Before we broke up for the summer we have invested a further £4000 on books for children to read and enjoy.</p> <p>Across the academy we foster a real love of reading and we are continuously seeking ways to improve this further; therefore we will discuss your point raised at a leadership meeting.</p>
<i>At times students are waiting a long time for the minority of the teachers who are late to open the door at roughly the right time.</i>	<p>It is good to recognise that you have identified this as only being on an occasion.</p> <p>Teachers do their utmost to get all children out for home time in a timely manner. Occasionally something may happen at the end of this day which delays the class teacher by a couple of minutes e.g. a child who can't find their lunch box, a child who is poorly, a child who needs the toilet at the end of the day, a child who is upset, a safeguarding disclosure these are just a couple of examples.</p> <p>We are thankful to parents for understanding and appreciating what a busy time the end of the day is.</p>
<i>Maybe add additional days to school plays so that less parents in total attend each day meaning that the option is there for separated families to have two tickets per parent so that each parent does not have to attend alone when the child wants others to watch too.</i>	<p>We understand your frustration. However, we can only work with what we have. Our academy hall is too small for a two-form entry school and as we explained above, we are putting a lot of effort in to submitting bids to try to get an extension.</p> <p>As a leadership team we have worked together with the class teachers to decide how many times an event can be performed is feasible for both the academy, but more importantly the children.</p> <p>We try our utmost to ensure the procedures in place are fair. Children whose parents are together are only entitled to two tickets, which is the same for children whose parents are separated. Children whose parents are together could argue the same that they can only attend on separate days and do not want to attend alone.</p> <p>We wish we could resolve this issue for all parents and offer as many tickets to families as you would like, but unfortunately, we do not have the space to accommodate this.</p>

<i>Sheltered outdoor waiting area for parents</i>	In the near future, the bike storage units will be moved to the fence alongside the main playground. This will mean they are more accessible and better positioned for parents when collecting children in bad weather.
<i>If the year is to be split, more notice given to pupils and parents and send letters home in a sealed envelope so parents are able to talk to their child instead of coming out of school crying.</i>	Thank you for this suggestion. The decision to split a class is taken very seriously. Many members of the Milton team support with this process to ensure every child's best interests are considered. If we need to do this again in the future we will certainly put the letters into envelopes allowing parents time with their child to discuss the change.

