

Dear Parents

At the parents' evening in January parents were invited to fill out a questionnaire based on the one that Ofsted use and designed to help us to improve the school. I was reassured by the overwhelmingly positive response that parents gave to the questions and I thought that you would like to see the outcomes of the survey which I have reproduced on the next page.

It is clear from the responses that parents are generally very happy with the school. It was particularly pleasing to see that **100% of respondents thought that their child was happy, safe, well taught, well looked after and made good progress**. In many cases, the questions that were not answered as 100% positive were because of one or two responses in the 'disagree' category.

Despite this positive response there are some things for us to work on. It is clear to me that too many parents are dissatisfied with the amount of homework that their child receives, particularly in Years 8 and 9 (total of six parents giving a negative response). We also need to work on how well we give parents information on their child's progress.

To address this issue I have already spoken to staff about the survey results and asked them to make sure that all students are receiving regular, high quality homework of an amount appropriate to their age. Vice Principals and Subject Leaders are working closely with their staff to ensure that this is delivered by checking books, checking planning and regularly observing lessons. We are also looking again at our reporting procedure to ensure that parents are better informed on student progress and I hope to be able to give parents live online access to their child's assessments by the end of the year.

We are also currently looking at an online solution that will give parents better access to the homework that is being set as well as giving them access to other important information. This package will hopefully address another issue that came about through parent comments by allowing them to make parents' evening appointments more easily. We will be trialling this software with certain parents and students at the start of term 4 and if you would like to be part of that trial please let us know.

We have had a number of negative comments about Academic Review Days with many parents telling us that they would be better informed by receiving information through a subject focused parents' evening. We are therefore **cancelling the Academic Review Day on 6<sup>th</sup> March** and replacing it with parents' evenings with subject teachers in term 5 for Years 10 and 11 (before exams) and in term 6 for Years 7-9. These evenings will be an hour longer than the one you recently attended to address the issue of parents feeling they did not get enough time with teachers.

I am hoping that these changes will provide a positive response to the few issues that have been raised. We will continue to carry out questionnaires to try to further improve aspects of the school and I hope that you will find the time to complete them.

I thank you for your time in reading this letter and for completing our questionnaires. If there is anything else we can do to make your child's education even better please let us know.

Yours sincerely

Carl Roberts  
Principal

**Key Stage Three Parent Questionnaire Summary  
January 2012**

| <b>Question</b>                                                                                                 | <b>Strongly Agree</b> | <b>Agree</b> | <b>Disagree</b>   | <b>Strongly Disagree</b> | <b>Positive response</b> | <b>Negative response</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| My child is happy at this school                                                                                | 72.1%                 | 27.9%        | 0.0%              | 0.0%                     | 100.0%                   | 0.0%                     |
| My child feels safe at this school                                                                              | 61.4%                 | 38.5%        | 0.0%              | 0.0%                     | 100.0%                   | 0.0%                     |
| My child makes good progress at this school                                                                     | 54.5%                 | 45.5%        | 0.0%              | 0.0%                     | 100.0%                   | 0.0%                     |
| My child is well looked after at this school                                                                    | 55.8%                 | 44.2%        | 0.0%              | 0.0%                     | 100.0%                   | 0.0%                     |
| My child is taught well at this school                                                                          | 58.1%                 | 41.9%        | 0.0%              | 0.0%                     | 100.0%                   | 0.0%                     |
| My child receives appropriate homework for their age                                                            | 37.5%                 | 47.5%        | 12.5%             | 2.5%                     | 85.0%                    | 15.0%                    |
| The school ensures the pupils are well behaved                                                                  | 43.2%                 | 50.0%        | 4.5%              | 2.3%                     | 93.2%                    | 6.8%                     |
| The school deals effectively with bullying                                                                      | 52.8%                 | 41.7%        | 5.6%              | 0.0%                     | 94.4%                    | 5.6%                     |
| The school is well led and managed                                                                              | 59.5%                 | 38.1%        | 2.4%              | 0.0%                     | 97.6%                    | 2.4%                     |
| The school responds well to any concern I raise                                                                 | 59.5%                 | 33.3%        | 7.1%              | 0.0%                     | 92.9%                    | 7.1%                     |
| I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress                                        | 48.8%                 | 39.5%        | 11.6%             | 0.0%                     | 88.4%                    | 11.6%                    |
| I would recommend this school to another parent                                                                 | 62.8%                 | 34.9%        | 2.3%              | 0.0%                     | 97.7%                    | 2.3%                     |
|                                                                                                                 |                       |              |                   |                          |                          |                          |
|                                                                                                                 | <b>Yes</b>            | <b>No</b>    | <b>Either way</b> | <b>No Answer</b>         |                          |                          |
| Would you have preferred to fill in this questionnaire on a secure website and submit it directly to the school | 0.2%                  | 54.5%        | 9.1%              | 18.2%                    |                          |                          |



|                                                                                                                 | <b>Strongly Agree</b> | <b>Agree</b> | <b>Disagree</b>   | <b>Strongly Disagree</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| My child is happy at this school                                                                                | 72.1%                 | 27.9%        | 0.0%              | 0.0%                     |
| My child feels safe at this school                                                                              | 61.4%                 | 39.5%        | 0.0%              | 0.0%                     |
| My child makes good progress at this school                                                                     | 54.5%                 | 45.5%        | 0.0%              | 0.0%                     |
| My child is well looked after at this school                                                                    | 55.8%                 | 44.2%        | 0.0%              | 0.0%                     |
| My child is taught well at this school                                                                          | 58.1%                 | 41.9%        | 0.0%              | 0.0%                     |
| My child receives appropriate homework for their age                                                            | 37.5%                 | 47.5%        | 12.5%             | 2.5%                     |
| The school ensures the pupils are well behaved                                                                  | 43.2%                 | 50.0%        | 4.5%              | 2.3%                     |
| The school deals effectively with bullying                                                                      | 52.8%                 | 41.7%        | 5.6%              | 0.0%                     |
| The school is well led and managed                                                                              | 59.5%                 | 38.1%        | 2.4%              | 0.0%                     |
| The school responds well to any concern I raise                                                                 | 59.5%                 | 33.3%        | 7.1%              | 0.0%                     |
| The school provides valuable information from the school about my child's progress                              | 48.8%                 | 39.5%        | 11.6%             | 0.0%                     |
| I would recommend this school to another parent                                                                 | 62.8%                 | 34.9%        | 2.3%              | 0.0%                     |
|                                                                                                                 |                       |              |                   |                          |
|                                                                                                                 | <b>Yes</b>            | <b>No</b>    | <b>Either way</b> | <b>No Answer</b>         |
| You have preferred to fill in this questionnaire on a secure website, and then submit it directly to the school | 0.2%                  | 54.5%        | 9.1%              | 18.2%                    |