

Horsley Primary School Governing Body - Summer Term 2021 update



Dear parents and carers,

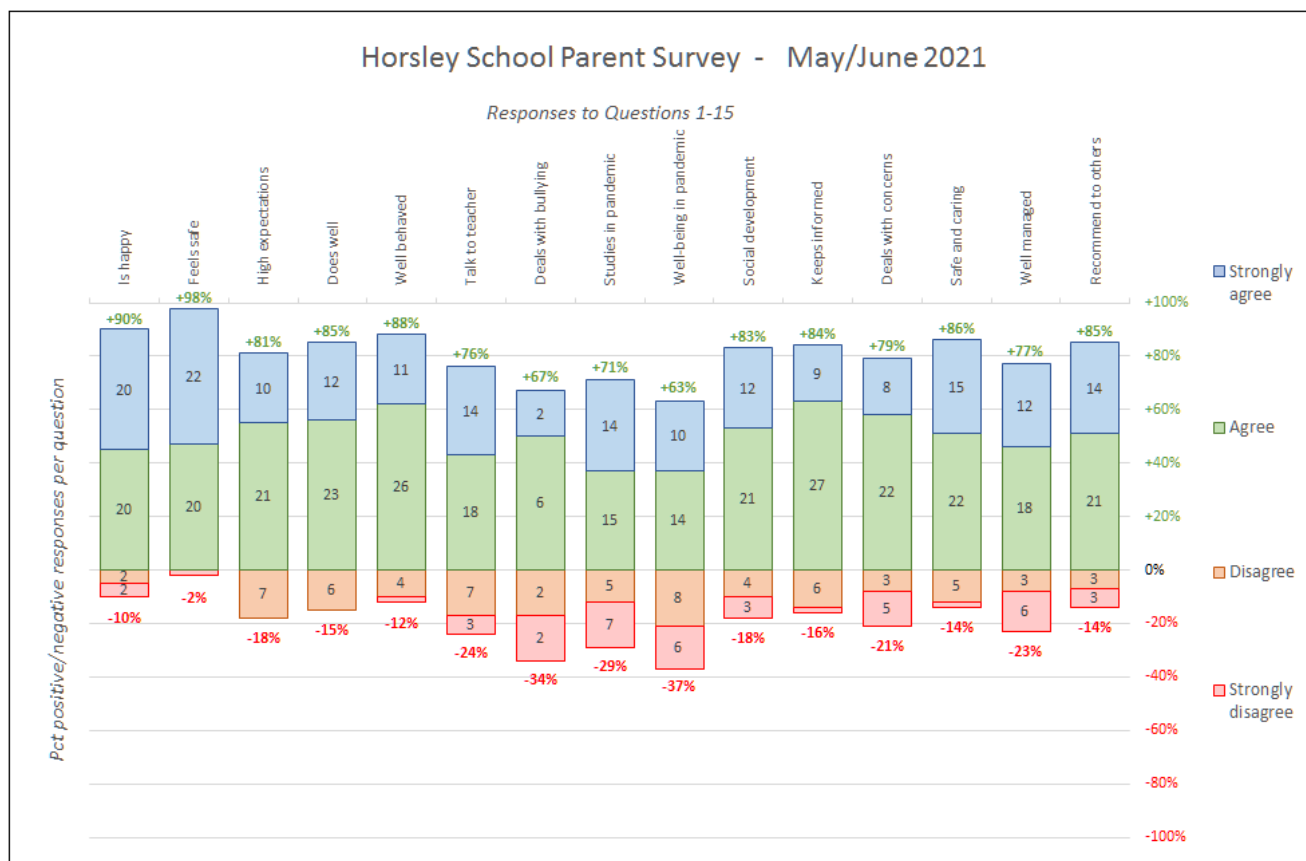
Thank you for your responses to the recent parent survey. The responses help to build a picture of what the school is doing well and what it may need to reflect on and improve.

It also helps to monitor that the school is meeting the needs of its children and families and your help with this is really appreciated. The results are very pleasing overall – bearing in mind that this a snapshot in time and one that follows a long period of COVID 19 pandemic and disruption to education.

You will find below a summary of the 44 responses received out of a potential population of 75 families.

Horsley School – Parent Survey May/June 2021					
ALL RESPONSES	Strongly agree	Agree	Total positives	Disagree	Strongly disagree
1. My child is happy at Horsley School.	+45%	+45%	90%	-5%	-5%
2. My child feels safe at Horsley School.	+51%	+47%	98%	0%	-2%
3. Horsley School has high expectations for my child.	+26%	+55%	81%	-18%	0%
4. My child does well at Horsley School.	+29%	+56%	85%	-15%	0%
5. Horsley School makes sure its pupils are well behaved.	+26%	+62%	88%	-10%	-2%
6. My child feels able to talk to their class teacher if they are worried about something or have a problem.	+33%	+43%	76%	-17%	-7%
7. If my child has been bullied in the last 12 months, the school has dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively.	+17%	+50%	67%*	-17%	-17%
8. I feel the school supported my child's academic studies during the COVID 19 pandemic.	+34%	+37%	71%	-12%	-17%
9. I feel the school supported my child's well-being during the COVID 19 pandemic.	+26%	+37%	63%	-21%	-16%
10. I feel that Horsley School helps with my child's social development as well as their academic achievements.	+30%	+53%	83%	-10%	-8%
11. The school lets me know how my child is doing.	+21%	+63%	84%	-14%	-2%
12. When I have raised concerns with school they have been dealt with properly.	+21%	+58%	79%	-8%	-13%
13. I feel that the school provides a safe, caring and nurturing environment overall for my child.	+35%	+51%	86%	-12%	-2%
14. Horsley School is well led and managed.	+31%	+46%	77%	-8%	-15%
15. I would recommend Horsley School to another family.	+34%	+51%	85%	-7%	-7%
*Please note results for this question (question 7) is based on only 12 responses					

It might also be helpful to see this represented in the graph below:



The role of the governors

Governors are not involved in the operational matters of the school, we have a strategic role to:

- Ensure there is clarity in the vision, ethos and direction of the school.
- Hold senior school leaders to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the effective and efficient performance management of its staff.
- Oversee the financial performance of the school and make sure its money is well spent.

How do we do this? - during this academic year we have monitored the school by holding:

- 6 Full Governing Body meetings and this includes scrutiny of the Headteacher's reports, the school's action plan and progress against the items identified on this.
- We also have governors with a subject area responsibility. They have discussed and monitored their subject with the school subject lead and reported back to full governors on the subject areas of Maths, Special Educational Needs and/or Disability (SEND), Science, Humanities, Modern Foreign Languages, Reading Catch-Up, Religious Education and remote learning.
- 6 Finance and Resources meetings that scrutinise staffing, the completion of performance management, the 3-year budget plan and regular presentation of the school accounts. health & safety matters including continued involvement in reviewing the school's COVID 19 risk assessment.
- Work is delegated (on behalf of the governing body) to committees in the areas of Curriculum & Standards which has met 3 times and looked more closely at children's progress and attainment, SEND provision, remote working, the school action plan and subject monitoring in more detail.
- The Community & Values committee have met 3 times and examined the religious education teaching and school values provision, along with the results of pupil well-being surveys, the parent survey and an annual staff survey.

- There is a '3 in 1' liaison group that have met 3 times which includes some governors, some of the parochial parish council and a representative from the parish council to help co-ordinate the school's use and the 'community' surrounding the church/'3 in 1' building.
- We have also recently set up a marketing group ensure a regular flow of numbers of children to the school and to find even more ways to celebrate the fantastic things that go on at school. You will soon be able to look at regular 'snippets' on a school facebook page.

With the COVID 19 pandemic that has dominated this year nearly all of this has had to continue as remote working, although there have been some face-to-face visits. Despite this, it has still been an effective way to monitor and challenge what has both been going on in school and in the remote working the school has had to do too.

What else have governors been going during 2021?

Some of the other work of the governors has included:

Safeguarding - The safeguarding governor attended a staff meeting to give a different angle on Safeguarding matters, Whistleblowing and Early Help.

Policy Reviews - The governors have helped with the regular cycle of policy reviews and ratified policies relating to Behaviour, Anti-bullying, Health & Safety, several HR related policies, Safeguarding, Relationships and Sex Education, Finance, Attendance, Admissions and Data Protection and a few more.

Interviews - The chair of governors has been involved in the interview for the part-time teacher for Badgers and the 3 new teaching assistants for September 2021.

Training – The new parent governor this year attended 'New to School Governance' training.

Improvements to safety and new developments - The application to the Diocese Board of Education to repair the lighting on the path to the church from school and the driveway was made, and this has been successful! This will be done during the summer holidays. There was work by governors leading up to this in the specification and costings to support this, and work with school to develop a Premises Development Plan that had to go with the application. This laid out the future care of the premises and possible future developments.

There has also been on-going involvement with the church and community to try to achieve a better solution for the path and driveway - a topographical survey has now been done which was necessary to apply for a faculty (Diocese permission) and the design work is currently being costed.

A quick reminder who are the current governors: There are 12 governors and one Associate Member

Foundation Governors
Mags Ratford – Chair of Governors, EYFS lead governor, Maths lead governor, Governor Induction and Deputy Safeguard Governor, all committees and '3 in 1' liaison group
Mike Vaughan – Vice Chair of Governors, chair of Finance and Resources committee, Health & Safety lead governor
Mark Carden – Finance and Resources committee, English lead governor, '3 in 1' liaison group
Reverend Caroline Bland – Ex officio Governor, Communities and Values committee , Religious Education lead, '3 in 1' liaison group
Kathy Lee – chair of Communities and Values committee, Science lead governor, Well-being governor, '3 in 1' liaison group
Steve Huggett – Curriculum and Standards committee, Special Education Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND) and Pupil Premium governor, co Humanities governor
Dan Robinson – Finance and Resources committee, Sports governor, co Humanities governor
Staff Governors
Gary Price – Headteacher, all committees and '3 in 1' liaison group

Pete Feldon – Assistant Headteacher, Communities and Values committee
Parent Governors
Julia Finlow – Chair of Curriculum and Standards committee, PSHE lead governor
Catherine Beard – Remote learning, Modern Foreign languages governor, marketing group lead
Local Authority Governor
Jo Moore – Safeguarding governor, Art and Music governor
Associate Member
David Savage - '3 in 1' liaison group and marketing group

Finally, yet most importantly on behalf of the governing body, I would like to thank everyone at school for their hard work and total dedication to children's education and well-being, and to the children and their parents, through the hard times it has been for everyone this year.

A thank you to the governors too, whose work goes on behind the scenes as outlined here, to monitor and challenge the school, carry its statutory duties and responsibilities and to give its support the school too.

Horsley School is and continues to be an amazing place, with amazing people – children, teachers, staff, parents, school leaders and governors!

Very best wishes for the summer break and holidays.

Mags,
 Chair of Governors
 On behalf of the Horsley School Governing Body