



**St Mary's
Church of England**
Voluntary Aided
Primary School

Parent Survey

January 2022

Summary of Qualitative Responses

Here is our school vision: At St. Mary's, inspired by Christian values, we are EXCITED about our learning, PROUD of our achievements, DETERMINED to be the best we can be and CARING for all of God's creation. How do you think this works in your child's experience of school?

Sample quotes: what's going well

He has always been taught to be caring and kind, he is proud of everything he achieves and always with a big smile on his face. Having those values at school helps him be the best he can be

XXX is always very excited to go to school is always happy to see her friends and teachers, she's caring and loving with all her peers. The school values have definitely helped her grow.

My daughter is definitely more caring towards homeless people, less fortunate than us and definitely appreciates things more

The growth we have seen in both of our children while at St Mary's is really reassuring. They are enthusiastic about going into school and when they come home they enjoy sharing their learning experiences and achievements, such as favourite lessons from the day or receiving house points for something.

Our children really enjoy nature-related themes at school. The children are taught about a wide range of topics that have generated some really interesting conversations at home. For example, our eldest wanted to share his knowledge of Windrush recently, which linked to other learning he'd done around Black History topics. These conversations are preparing him well for the key matters occurring in society today.

Both children are excited about the work they are doing at school, the teachers are engaging and supportive and celebrate their achievements. This goes beyond lessons and includes behaviours and understanding the importance of being caring and supportive of each other.

All the staff have taken time to really get to know the children.

Sample quotes: what could be even better

St Mary's could do more to challenge the children so they're prepared for secondary school. I'd like them to do more to spot when children are either struggling or coasting in their learning (anon)

More could be done to include children who are quieter and less forthcoming in being excited and proud of their learning and achievements.

I would like to see the school pick up creation care as more of a priority as we come out of the pandemic, as you did before.

As a church school, collective worship is a valuable and special part of the day. Please comment on your child's experience of collective worship e.g. what does your child say about collective worship?

Sample quotes: what's going well

Likes to retell the stories he hears in worship and makes amusing links to his and everyday life.

My child will always tell me about worship, the story and the message. We go to church every week and worship helps my child understand and embed what they have learnt at Sunday school.

My child likes it when the learning is brought to life by a current day example, for instance last year during the European cup my child enjoyed the real life examples around this event.

He really enjoys worship, and in particular the whole school assemblies with music.

My child is really interested in all religions and often does his own research on questions he has. He talks about topics discussed during worship which have made an impression with him.

I think worship is a fundamental part of delivering the ethos as the children tell me about bible stories they have listened to as well as the special mentions. Obviously they prefer it in person rather than on screen but understand it cannot be helped.

Worship on Harvest was very thought-provoking and had us talking that evening about homelessness in our area. There's a real sense that the school are community-focussed, and this can often branch out to global issues that again get them engaged with important themes.

He loves it and is an added blessing to the worship we have at church and home, we really appreciate worship and the Christian foundations the school is providing

Sample quotes: what could be even better

Has found online worship more challenging to engage with. Misses being with the other classes for that shared time.

They seem less engaged with virtual worship

He says it's too long and doesn't understand some of it

General additional comments about what's going well:

The school seems to genuinely care about the children's wellbeing as a whole, not just their education. I have been grateful to be a part of the community.

We are so happy with our son's progress, he has amazing support, we couldn't be more grateful

I am so grateful for the support my child gets, particularly under the current circumstances. Seeing him walk into school with a smile on his face each morning is such a blessing.

Thank you for all your hard work. The last two years have been very challenging for us all and you have done a lot to help us and our children.

Thank you for the care taken with [my child's] allergy...we are so reassured with how professionally and seriously it is taken by the school.

There is clearly a lot of work going on to ensure the school can run smoothly and in a relatively normal way. Our children have felt safe and happy throughout, and their teachers and TAs have supported them tremendously well.

We really couldn't hope for a better school for our children. The team at St. Mary's work incredibly hard and create a successful, nurturing and positive environment for learning.

General additional comments about what's could be even better:	Our response:
<p><i>Where parents made additional comments, they were generally in relation to the Covid measures we have had to have in place at school.</i></p>	<p><i>As explained in recent newsletters, the senior leadership team and the governing body will be reviewing the measures currently in place. Things that will be considered, include arrangements for:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Collective worship</i>• <i>Lunchtime</i>• <i>Start and end of day</i>• <i>Trips</i>• <i>After school activities</i>

Where comments are and specific to individual parents and carers, the senior leadership team will be making contact to address these directly.