



Care, Grow and Flourish
in God's Loving Hands

Parent Survey

March 2026

Qualitative responses

We received 67 responses to our parent survey.

94% of parents who responded to the survey, rated the school 7 or more out of 10.

Here is our school vision: 'Care, grow and flourish in God's loving hands.'

What is your child's experience of this at school? Does your child remember it? Do you have any comments about this vision statement? (Here is a sample of responses)

- *Our child continues to thrive in respect of St Mary's vision. We've seen this in his writing, which now more creative and also beautifully joined. Similarly with maths, he loves solving problems and stretching his skills to new levels, and feels well-challenged. His self-confidence and social skills continue to grow, and he loves engaging with all staff at St Mary's. They are so engaged with him, which helps him to feel valued and very cared for. From the moment he walks in and is greeted at the gate to the moment he leaves at the end of the day, it doesn't surprise me that my child is living this vision and growing into the secure and wonderfully rounded boy that he is.*
- *My children remember the school vision and often repeat it at home. At school, they see a happy environment, they feel safe and they miss the school when they are not there. It is a good sign for me as a parent the school give them the right fundamental to allow them to react fairly to the world around them.*
- *Feels fitting to the nurturing feeling of the school*
- *My children know this vision very well. It's on the walls of our home too from their creations at home. It's a powerful one.*
- *Our son has known the school motto since he started in Reception and will often say it at home. He understands it to mean that God is caring and helping to grow and flourish at school. We feel that he embodies the motto in being caring at school.*
- *St Mary's provides a fantastic, safe and exciting learning environment for our child. He knows the vision statement and it perfectly reflects his current experience at the school.*
- *Both my children often repeat the school vision at home and they truly understand the meaning of it, because they experience it every day at St.Mary's in the environment the teachers create.*

As a church school, daily collective worship is a valuable and special part of the day. Please comment on your child's experience of collective worship and our focus values e.g. what does your child say about collective worship/focus values/memory verse/prayers/hymns and songs?

(Here is a sample of responses):

- *Our child loves coming together for collective Worship. He really enjoys learning the signs to the memory verses and we often hear him at home humming or singing the songs from Worship. We love how focus values, such as kindness and friendship, are featured so strongly during Worship and linked to stories from the Bible. We were also thankful how the difficult subject of what is currently happening in the world was brought up with the children and thoughtfully reflected upon.*
- *They sing the songs at home and share what was spoken about in worship.*
- *He sings his memory verse all the time! Takes collective worship very seriously, and will always download the content to us over dinner at end of school day.*
- *He enjoys singing the hymns and learning about God. He often retells the 'story about God' from a collective worship and enjoys discussing it further with me. He sometimes has some big questions such as who made God? Which shows he really thinks about what he is experiencing in collective worship.*
- *My child struggles sensorially with collective worship as he's autistic, but he is always encouraged to attend when he can*
- *My child enjoys the collective worship and talks about it a lot at home. He proud himself anytime he has to read a bible verse at collective worship.*

- *The singing and accompanying sign language are huge highlights of worship for my children, and they often teach us the words/signs at home, which is so beautiful. They love going to St Mary's Church and the walk there/back through the park.*

Optional: We are very proud of whole school initiatives like our recent work on 'hope-anuary' and creative responses to 'when I think about the cross'. Please comment on the impact these have had on your child if you feel able to. (Here is a sample of responses):

- *It always feels like a very special thing to do in January, when we come together as a family to think about Hopeanuary. It's lovely to be given that opportunity, from school, to reflect on and spend time on certain areas of life, particularly those related to kindness, our world and nature*
- *These help my child to continue what he has learned or discussed at school, in his own environment- relating it to his life outside of school/ at home.*
- *These initiatives have helped my child think more about hope and faith, and she has shown interest when talking about them at home. She was proud to see her work being displayed around the school.*
- *My kids love doing this. It is a good reminder of being kind and thinking of people around us, remind us all of the power of kindness, love and friendship among other.*
- *Our daughter was very pleased to have helped inspire the 'think about the cross' project, was telling people about which was nice to see as she took ownership of her idea.*
- *We really enjoyed Hopeanuary and the 'when I think about the cross' homework assignments. It gave us opportunities at home to discuss what we are grateful and thankful for.*
- *My children were aware of these initiatives. When I shared the story of Easter with several of my children's' friends - they were all aware of the story and significance of this.*

Optional: If your child has a Special Educational Need or Disability, you are invited to comment on the quality of provision for your child: (Here is a sample of responses):

- *My son's AuADHD can be very challenging particularly at this point in relation to his emotional regulation and opposition. Provisions/accommodations made so far have been very supportive and Freddie really enjoys school which says everything.*
- *We are very happy with the provision during school and accommodations that he gets like riding bike, joining gym class, his tailored curriculum.*
- *Literacy gold has really helped our daughter's learning journey and is really appreciated.*

Areas for development regarding SEND provision:

- We will reach out to individual parents with questions or comments relating to SEND as any areas of development are specific to individuals.

Optional: If you have a child in Reception, how have they found the first term and a half? We welcome any feedback especially regarding settling in to school, the Y6 buddy system etc. (Here is a sample of responses):

- *That is a great way of introduce young children to the school system. The buddy system is an anchor for our little ones. The YR team do an excellent job in structuring their school days while the play approach is still used. My child never had any problem in settling in.*
- *The Y6 buddy system is wonderful, such a beautiful idea. My twins and my entire family absolutely the whole of YR team! All of them are such a credit to their profession. Please forever keep them for generations to come (!) as they are planting wonderful seeds for this world.*
- *They have found the settling in process fine. The Y6 buddy system is something that should never change. It is excellent. It helps both YR and Y6 children.*
- *Our child was happy from first day and it feels really inclusive. She has been valued and I see she is more independent and feels safe at school.*

- *My son struggled with settling but the staff have been excellent at guiding him.*

Optional: Please give us any thoughts or feedback about 'The Grove' After School Club which started in September:

What's working well:	Comments about further developments and improvements:
<p><i>Our son loves it, big thanks to the staff who run it; it's been such a valuable resource.</i></p> <p><i>We love it! Our child is so happy to attend-he loves being able to play Lego in a relaxed atmosphere. He sometimes tells me off if I pick him up too early. Particular shout out to Mrs Wright who has made him feel so comfortable. Also, it has made our lives as working parents much more manageable. Having an after-school club has made an already brilliant school perfect. We look forward to using it even more next year when our youngest joins reception.</i></p> <p><i>It is helpful for us as a family as we know our child is cared for in the school when we are at work</i></p> <p><i>This has been a great initiative and something we will start to use more often once my wife returns to work from maternity leave.</i></p> <p><i>Good initiative. Very much needed!</i></p> <p><i>We cannot express enough how much more our child prefers The Grove compared to his previous after school club! He absolutely loves the staff who run it and he says the food is brilliant. The variety of snacks and amount they get is fantastic. He loves the games they play and is really happy that they can go outside now the weather is warmer. He also loves getting to choose some songs to play. Thanks so much to Mrs Wright and Mrs King for making it fun!</i></p> <p><i>Essential for us as working parents! We know our child is safe at the Grove. Thank you starting this , it is a great help for families who are working.</i></p> <p><i>My son seems happy at The Grove After School Club, especially enjoying playing with Lego and spending time outside with friends.</i></p>	<p><i>Can we have a few more activities?</i></p> <p><i>I would be more inclined to use it if there were different time costs. For example, 30-minute pricing, but understand this could become very difficult to manage!</i></p> <p><i>Particularly for families with more than one child, the cost of the Grove compared to the other providers is likely to be a major deciding factor. I believe many families may choose to keep their children at other providers simply due to this price difference. In my opinion, if the prices were the same or slightly cheaper there would be a much larger uptake for the new Grove after-school club.</i></p>

Optional: Additional comments - Is there anything else you would like to tell or ask us?

What's working well:	Comments about further developments and improvements:
<p><i>Just Thank you! So glad we chose St Marys.</i></p> <p><i>This school has a heart. Its people are wonderful and the love for the kids is evident. Mrs Constantinou is an inspiration and a true leader and she genuinely cares for each and every kid. If every school in the world had such a leader, then there wouldn't be bad schools. My children love the school and its people, and so do we. A true second family.</i></p> <p><i>I have heard from a number of children how they really enjoyed the robotics session the school recently ran; these types of lessons are very important. Thanks to all the teachers and staff for all their hard work too.</i></p> <p><i>We are really happy with the school. We think all the staff are wonderful and our child speaks about all the staff very highly. His teacher has really got to know him well this year. We are pleased about the amount of home learning that he gets weekly. We are also so grateful for the school's support when [our family was going through a hard time] *. We feel very much part of the St Mary's family and couldn't have chosen a better school for our children. Thank you for all of your hard work.</i></p> <p><i>I want to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to all at St Mary's. While I don't know everything that needs to happen to run a school, I can see that a huge amount of time, effort and care goes in to making it work as effectively as it does. It's abundantly clear how dedicated, caring and passionate staff are about every child who walks in each day. We are so privileged to know our child is under their care and education.</i></p> <p><i>As always, big thanks to you and staff for everything you do. St Mary's is a wonderful place.</i></p> <p><i>We feel so blessed that both our children go to St.Mary's. The incredible leadership from Mrs</i></p>	<p><i>Not many clubs available for everyone like football club it is very limited anytime I want to book it says no place left ,I wish there is more clubs like basketball in summer term.</i></p> <p><i>More non-academic enrichment opportunities eg. School trips/drama clubs/yearly performance which includes all years, more focus on Art- all confidence building tools outside of the curriculum</i></p> <p><i>For more able students can they be taken out in a sub group to challenge their learning further?</i></p> <p><i>This generation will have to be aware of coding / AI and all that entails so any head start we could provide the children would be amazing.</i></p> <p><i>I understand funding and resource massively impacts the level of attention that can be given to all the children and this is under constant pressure. That said I feel there are situations that have not been addressed quickly enough</i></p> <p><i>In a time of increasing childhood obesity, feel like PE is a key pillar in encouraging healthy lifestyle. Could PE have more time in the curriculum? Pupils at other local schools have access to borough-wide sports programmes, including opportunities such as inter-school cricket tournaments or the mini-marathon.</i></p> <p><i>It would be great if we could order uniform all year round rather than having to wait for a window. It's hard to know when you will need something.</i></p> <p><i>How is bullying managed and dealt with?</i></p>

<p><i>Constantinou, the excellent, caring teaching and all the dedicated, nurturing wider support staff make this a truly special school.</i></p>	<p><i>Sports Day would benefit from a complete rethink.</i></p> <p><i>Does the new behaviour policy work? I think the house points system is a really positive idea and can be a great way to encourage and reinforce good behaviour across the school. It would be lovely to see it become a more consistent and visible part of school life, as this would help motivate the children and build excitement. Sharing house points more regularly with parents (for example in the newsletter) would also allow us to celebrate and reinforce positive behaviour at home. Introducing small incentives, such as occasional mystery rewards for a winning house could further encourage engagement and enthusiasm.</i></p>
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**rephrased to protect the identity of the family*

All of the above will go into strategic evaluations and where possible, will inform future planning and actions at St. Mary's School.

Take a look at the table on the next page to see how we have actioned the 2025 areas for development.

February 2025 areas for further development from parent survey	Action since February 2025
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>I would like to ask that you revise the process by which you allocate Y6 buddies to reception children.</i> • <i>We'd like more attention on ensuring children from different year groups get along.</i> • <i>More after school provision</i> • <i>Can we find out what children are mentioned for in Specials?</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have completely changed the way that Y6 and YR are match as part of our buddy system. • We have more staff on duty at all play and lunchtimes to support the children to engage positively with one another. • Introduced 'The Grove After School provision in September 2025. The school now has a full wraparound care offer alongside breakfast club. This is available for children in all classes. • Specials certificates now come home with a child who is mentioned. This explains the reason.

