



# Wombwell Park Street Primary School

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Chief Executive Officer of the ECM Trust: Mrs G Foster-Wilson

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Deputy Headteacher: Mrs L Longden

Assistant Headteacher(s): Miss C McGinnes and Mr A Fidment

School Business Manager: Mrs C Turner

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Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

## Parental Questionnaires OCTOBER 2023

I am writing to thank the 119 parents who took part in our most recent biannual questionnaire to parents in October 2023. This is the greatest number of parents we have EVER had respond to our questionnaires! THANK YOU!

As previously mentioned, we really value parental feedback at WPSPS as it helps us to make informed generalisations about what we do well as a school and of course the areas for improvement. It also helps us to celebrate specific families and how they feel about us, as well as focus on the families which might need more support or further discussions.

**I am sure you all know that we care deeply about the children of Park Street and we are always striving to be the best we can be for our children!**

Well done to **Team JD** parents this time, where **15 children's parents** answered the questionnaire – thank you!

Please find the headlines below:

- ✓ **98% of parents agree their child is happy in school; 57% of these strongly agree**  
(Vs 97% of parents agreed their child is happy at school, 72% of these strongly agreed Spring 2023)
- ✓ **98% of parents agree their child feels safe at school; 63% of these strongly agree**  
(Vs 100% of parents agreed their child feels safe at school, 78% of these strongly agreed Spring 2023)
- ✓ **100% of parents agree that staff encourage children to behave well; 60% of these strongly agree**  
(Vs 97% of parents agreed that staff encourage children to behave well, 72% of these strongly agreed Spring 2023)
- ✓ **81% of parents agree that the school deals with behaviour well; 51% of these strongly agree and 18% do not know which suggests they have no experience of this)**  
(Vs 83% of parents agreed that school deals with behaviour well, 54% of these strongly agreed (10% do not know which suggests they have no experience of this – which is good!) Spring 2023)
- ✓ **95% of parents agree that school makes parents aware of what their children are learning during the year; 50% of these strongly agree (2% do not know)**

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Wombwell Park Street Primary School is proud to be part of the



**Every Child Matters Academy Trust**  
*Children at the heart*

*(Vs 97% of parents agreed that school makes parents aware of what their children are learning during the year, 54% of these strongly agreed Spring 2023)*

- ✓ **95% of parents agree that there is a good range of subjects available (eg a broad and balanced curriculum); 59% of these strongly agree (5% of parents did not know)**  
*(Vs 95% of parents agreed there is a good range of subjects available (e.g., a broad and balanced curriculum), 65% of these strongly agreed; 3% did not know Spring 2023)*
- ✓ **96% of parents agree school has high expectations of their child; 55% of these strongly agree (4% of parents did not know)**  
*(Vs 94% of parents agreed school has high expectations of their child, 63% of these strongly agreed; 3% of parents did not know Spring 2023)*
- ✓ **94% of parents agree school lets parents know how their child is doing; 45% of these strongly agree (2% do not know)**  
*(Vs 97% of parents agreed school lets parents know how their child is doing, 52% of these strongly agreed Spring 2023)*
- ✓ **84% of parents agree that school provides good opportunities to learn from visits and visitors; 45% of these strongly agree (8% of parents did not know)**  
*(Vs 86% of parents agreed that school provides good opportunities to learn from visits and visitors, 62% of these strongly agreed; 8% did not know Spring 2023)*
- ✓ **94% of parents agree their child's needs are met and supported well; 54% of these strongly agree (3% of parents did not know)**  
*(Vs 96% of parents agreed their child's needs are met and supported well, 53% of these strongly agreed; 2% did not know Spring 2023)*
- ✓ **87% of parents agree that staff deal with issues quickly and effectively; 53% of these strongly agree (10% of parents did not know)**  
*(Vs 90% of parents agreed that staff deal with issues quickly and effectively, 56% of these strongly agreed; 6% did not know Spring 2023)*
- ✓ **99% of parents agree that school places a high emphasis on attendance and punctuality; 75% of these strongly agree (0.8% did not know)**  
*(Vs 100% of parents agreed that school places a high emphasis on attendance and punctuality, 70% of these strongly agreed Spring 2023)*
- ✓ **97% of parents would recommend this school to other parents!**  
*(Vs 97% of parents would recommend this school to other parents Spring 2023)*

Of the 3% of parents who would not recommend the school, this equates to three families. One parent was anonymous, so this is impossible to follow up. Another family have since confirmed they are happy with the support on offer and the third will be followed up individually with a meeting with parents, to plan a way forward and to get underneath what ideas they have for our school. If you feel disappointed with any aspect, we have an open-door policy to discuss matters at any stage of your child's learning journey.

It was, as always, incredibly warming to hear the wonderful, positive feedback which was given about our school and staff team. We have thoroughly enjoyed reading some of the kind, considerate and thankful messages. Such comments really do help staff morale and wellbeing, which I am sure you will agree that it is vital for this to be strong for any school to be able to move forward.

We are particularly pleased to read of how:

- you feel your child is happy in school
- you feel the staff team have high expectations of the children
- you feel that the staff team encourages children to behave well
- you feel we have a good range of subjects taught as our curriculum offer
- you continue to feel we are tenacious in our approach to managing attendance and punctuality.

Many more 'what we do well' comments can be found below – please take a look!

### What does the school do well?

Learning opportunities

My boy feels very happy at school

Staff are always happy and willing to help out at any time

They are really good at giving our children support when needed

All intentions are good for my child

I think that school is very friendly, learning with patience and passion for others

Highly supportive inside and outside of school

Celebrates all achievements - 100% encourage a child to "Be You"

We love the Newsletters that get sent out so we can talk to our son about what he is learning at nursery each week

Communication with parents; Keeping parents up to date with newsletters

Approachable, friendly staff

Community/ family feeling - everyone cares

Clubs to help working parents eg breakfast club

Acting on parental comments (now offering full time nursery places to help working parents)

Excellent staff, clean school with safety measures in place

Supports children in achieving their full academic potential

Keeping parents informed of events within school and dates to keep in mind

Great learning environment for my children

Great support from all the staff at school

Engaging children in diverse topics

Fantastic staff, beautiful environment and my daughter is very happy here

Offers individualised support for pupils undergoing difficulties

Such friendly and supportive staff who make the children feel cared for and involved

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*Children at the heart*

Good relationships with parents

Positive environment

Our daughter enjoys getting involved in themed days/activities and likes to dress up. The school is very good at arranging such days/events and good at fundraising

Strong emphasis on uniform and attendance

Very informative on standards and ongoing learning/achievements

It has a nice welcoming feel and approachable staff

The school does well in making sure my child has a calm and encouraging learning environment

Making sure all children are happy & enjoy school whilst also learning

I cannot praise Park Street enough for their dedication for treating children as people rather than numbers, my child especially has flourished under the care of Park Street. There have been endless efforts from school in getting my son the support he needs within SEN learning and making sure he reaches his full potential. His confidence has grown beyond what we could have imagined. They absolutely push children to the best of their ability but no more and not to the point where children feel behind or like they're not as good as other students which is incredible!

Great communication with parents, always approachable and my child really loves his class and friends

The school genuinely cares and tries to create an environment where children feel safe. There are after school activities and support for struggling families

Positivity is acknowledged in order to encourage children to grow

My son started nursery this September and his teachers have done an excellent job at settling him in. He comes home happy; he's learning so much and having fun at the same time. I'm really pleased with how he's progressing since he's started

Staff are always very friendly and approachable, not many headteachers in surrounding schools make themselves available (eg standing at the top of the drive) which I find very positive for if anyone had any issues. My daughter always looks forward to going to school and cannot praise her teachers and surrounding staff enough

Nursery always provides learning opportunities for my son and he comes home explaining what he does every day, staff are brilliant and have made him feel very welcomed and settled

Keeping kids safe and encouraging kids to read more

Allow children to express themselves

Runs smoothly

Everything!

Excellence communication via email

Lots of acknowledgement of children's achievements throughout each week

Listen to children's needs. My son was upset coming to school and it has been dealt with great

Park street is a wonderful school with amazing staff. All of my children have learnt such a vast amount during their time in school and I believe this is due to the fun and engaging way the curriculum is delivered. The school environment is welcoming and the communication between school and parents is always open and effective. We couldn't wish for a better school

From my personal experience the staff do help with problems my child has had and also follow up when needed

They push the children to achieve the best they can be

Teachers and staff are amazing

Having the morning and after school clubs means I can work so this is amazing for a working family

Safeguarding and keeping children safe and happy any problems have always been dealt with promptly

Deals with my child's specific health needs well and my child feels he can rely on his member of staff that has to care for him while in school

The number of rewards given for hitting expectations, eg Golden book, golden time, pizza hut for 100% attendance

Relationships with children

Empowers the children with weekly achievements giving them encouragement to do more

The incredible me approach. The strong relationships that staff have with their pupils. Team LL have made transitions into year 6 a positive one. My child is always well supported and cared for. Thank you for an amazing start to the year, we are very grateful for all you do for our child

Everything! Amazing approachability. There's always a senior member for staff around that are easy and friendly to talk to. Even getting access class teachers is so easy and friendly

Staff create a safe, happy and creative learning environment for my girls

They are dedicated to constantly improving and expanding the children's learning opportunities and going the extra mile where possible

Highly supportive inside and outside of school; celebrates all achievements 100% encourage a child to "Be You"

Feel the school goes over and above in all areas.

The areas which were identified as areas for us to focus on moving forward were as follows:

### Even better if...

More funding for mental and emotional wellbeing from outside partnerships

Open doors on time - it's freezing

If possible, it would be better if we did get more updates through the year to let us know how our children are doing in subjects, instead of having to wait for a parent's evenings

Have a SENDco that is purely just for SEND; further support for children with SEND; more updates on children with SEND

My daughter is upset she is always last due to her surname for various things at times

Lots of emails can be difficult to keep up with; Better communication through the consistent use of Seesaw through school

More, more, more, more, more, more, more and even more sports!; More football matches!; More school trips

Vary certain tasks per year group, ie timetable challenge has been the same for the last four years and the reading achievements cards don't change once the children hit ks2. A new incentive would motivate the children

I found it quite difficult to work out how to pay for morning and after school clubs via the government gateway account in order to take advantage of the 20% tax free childcare. I've since spoken to other parents who have not yet taken advantage of this, as they didn't know it was possible. Specific instructions should be sent out to parents of reception children when they start school. I found there is a lot of emphasis reminding those who are entitled to free school meals to apply, but no guidance for those entitled to the 20% tax free childcare

Larger range of 'after school activities'; look at other enrichment opportunities like short term clubs that support learning new languages, baking or science

Add more places to MAC and Kidz Club.

In response to some of the above suggestions and comments:

- **More funding for mental and emotional wellbeing from outside partnerships:** we are always researching good practice around mental health and wellbeing for the children of Park Street. Our Incredible Me! package is something a lot of other agencies and schools are interested in purchasing, so we feel we have a good package for the children and hopefully this may bring in some money for the school, for us to use further to benefit the children.
- **Children lining up:** lining up in register order is something we do to organise the children quickly and efficiently so as lining up does not impact on the pace of learning or of the day. We do try hard to limit the number of times that we ask the children to line up, but for things like crossing the road to and from the Courts at lunch and going in to Assembly, it is important for safeguarding reasons and time efficiency that the children do line up. Having routines like 'register order' normally has a positive impact on the children as they know what is expected. We will address this with the children, as children do not need to be upset by this, more so understand why this is the case.
- **More updates throughout the year and consistent use of Seesaw:** SLT are currently looking at ways in which Seesaw could be potentially used to inform you of class updates more regularly, to help with information being passed on, but we will also bear in mind the impact of even more communication on the mental health/wellbeing of staff.
- **Communication:** generally, parents are very positive about the communication from school to home. A few parents appear to want more and some want less. On the whole, we feel that we communicate well and work really hard at this. We will continue to think of even better ways in which this can be done.
- **Sporting opportunities and trips:** as you know this is something we are working really hard on at Park Street and there are SO MANY MORE opportunities for visits and visitors (including sports trips etc) than there have been in previous years and prior to COVID. We will continue to work hard on this offer as we know how much this enriches your children's school journey. As always, trips and events do cost money and while many families are being hit hard by the cost-of-living crisis, we try to keep a balanced approach. It also has to be something that the school budget can support.



- **Vary certain tasks eg Times Table Race and Reading awards:** at Park Street we enjoy consistency when things work. The Times Table challenge is well embedded and has a positive impact on pupil progress, when completed. We have added things to this eg Times Table Rockstars, to further enrich and will continue to look at different ways of working. The Reading cards are no longer an award at Park Street, last summer term we launched 'Starbooks' (please refer to prior letters and weekly celebration letters to parents).
- **SEND updates:** Mr Fidment is the SENDCo in school. However, as those of you who work in a school will know, as a class teacher, he teaches the majority of the time. All teachers have areas of responsibility as part of their role and under Teaching Standards. For example, Mrs Allen is a teacher and she is also our History lead; Miss Fury is a teacher and is also Science Lead. Mr Fidment is a teacher in class, and is our SEND Lead. This is a large area of responsibility and a large role in school that carries many duties. As such he has an Assistant Headship for this role. Similarly, Mrs Longden is a teacher in class and the Deputy Headteacher in school with leadership responsibilities for Pupil Premium and the Wider Curriculum. Unfortunately, our school budget does not allow for us to have a full time, non-teaching SENDCo. The SENDCo role is a strategic role. If your child has SEND needs, your child's class teacher and the support staff in class should always be your first port of call as these are the staff who know your child the best, write their plans and assess against their small steps each week. Mr Fidment's role is to monitor the effectiveness of this support, not to always provide it.
- **20% tax free childcare:** this is something we will look in to further and communicate with parents.
- **Open doors on time:** absolutely, doors should always be opened on time, we will remind staff of the importance of this and SLT will monitor this for you.
- **After school clubs:** we are always open to more after school clubs and encourage this amongst staff. Again, this has to be balanced against the budget in terms of staff costs as we don't get any funding for such clubs. This is something we shall look in to further.
- **More spaces in MAC and Kidz Club:** our MAC provision currently has 32 places in a morning and Kidz Club has 24 after school. These numbers are set to the current possible staffing ratios. We are aware that these clubs are quite full at the moment and are reviewing ways in which spaces could be increased. However, again this has to be balanced off against the budget and staffing costs.

As previously mentioned, thank you very much for taking the time to complete the questionnaire honestly and thank you also to those parents who have disclosed their child's names as this helps us to be able to identify parents with whom we may want to discuss matters further, to ensure optimum results for our families and children.

We will continue to endeavour to work on our 'even better if' actions!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs C Lawson  
Headteacher