



Dear Parents,

Head Teacher: Katharine Weston

Feedback on the Parent/Child Questionnaire 2013

Following extensive analysis we are now in a position to share with you the results of the Parent/Child Questionnaire for 2013. Thank you to all those parents and children who completed the survey and also to Parent Forum members for encouraging such a high response rate. All comments made by respondents have been shared with the Head, Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and Governing Body and careful consideration has been given to all matters raised.

Conducting a survey is not a requirement for any school. However, at Greenway the Governing Body chooses to seek your feedback across a wide range of questions and statements and accepts that your response is both confidential and voluntary. We were therefore delighted to see that so many parents endorsed the process by completing the survey and providing comment. Because the return rate was so high, we can be confident that the views expressed in the survey are representative of the parent body.

For parents wishing to read this year's report, a copy is attached to this mail. For parents wishing to read just the highlights, please see the High Level Summary below.

High Level Summary of Findings

Governors were delighted with the particularly high response rate to this year's parent/child questionnaire (269 parent responses or 75% overall), and also with the wealth of feedback, that will help ongoing work to build on the success of the 2011 'outstanding' Ofsted rating. All Heads and Governing Bodies in the town are working extensively with the Local Authority to support a smooth transition from a 3 to 2 tier school system from 2013 (and from 2014 for Greenway). However, while considerable time and energy is required to get this right, the Governing Body is determined that their focus will not be distracted from the ambitious aims within the School Plan for ever higher standards of attainment and progress for our children.

Overall Rating

The school continues to be highly regarded by almost all parent respondents, 98% of whom rate it excellent or good. For most, it's the overall feel of the school, the quality of the staff and the happiness of the children that particularly stand out. Our children also tell us they are happy to be at Greenway and in particular they like their teachers, friendships, playtime, theme days and visits. Some possible areas for improvement emerge from a very small minority of parent respondents; namely the variety within the curriculum and amongst extra-curricular activities, and the request for greater clarity in the provision of feedback to parents.

Leadership & Management of the School

Parents continue to value and think highly of Mrs Weston and to acknowledge her accessibility. Mrs Stace's contribution is also recognised. Almost all parent respondents (99%) agree the school is well led and managed. Parents continue to

value the contribution the Governing Body makes to the success of the school although a small minority of respondents (20%) would like Governors to be more visible and/or accessible.

Pupil Achievement & Progress

Most parents believe that their child is doing well at school, with 96% of respondents agreeing or strongly agreeing that their child is making good progress and with 90% agreeing or strongly agreeing that they understand how well their child is doing. Narrative feedback identifies that some parents would still like to see better communication about achievement and progress. Last year's issues relating to inconsistent setting of homework have been addressed, with some parents specifically noting the improvements that have been made around consistency of homework setting and marking, and around clarity of instructions. Children report feeling supported and encouraged in their work.

Parental Engagement

Parents are happy with the opportunities available to engage with the school, and particularly welcome the Parent Forum as a means to do this. A very large majority of respondents (91%) feel comfortable approaching the school and most who have done so (81%) feel that the school responds satisfactorily. The channels of communication used by the school are all valued to a high degree and all are used by a majority of parents. Curriculum evenings are seen positively (98%) by almost all of those who attend and further workshops or information in key curriculum areas are likely to be received with enthusiasm.

Behaviour & Safety

Parents are confident that their children are safe in school and are treated fairly. The physical environment is felt to support learning and play well. The children's responses show that although a small minority (up to 29% depending on age, classroom or playground) feel that their fellow pupils only sometimes behave well or never behave well, this does not impact negatively on their experience with most (229 children or 94%) enjoying being at Greenway all or most of the time.

What Does The Governing Body Do With Feedback From This Survey?

The Governing Body seeks feedback to the questionnaire as both a monitoring device for the existing School Plan as well as a mechanism by which parent and pupil 'voice' can be included in the school's planning process moving forward. The school's Senior Leadership Team and Governing Body has reviewed the report and discussed recommendations in considering the School Plan for 2013-14 which will be finalised at our next Governing Body Strategy Meeting early in September. A summary of the School Plan will be found on the school website under the Ofsted tab on the School page in the Autumn Term. It is against the School Plan that the Governing Body monitors and discusses the school's performance each half term, and reports its progress. Minutes of all those meetings are available from the school office on request.

Yours sincerely,

Katharine Weston, Head Teacher,
Elizabeth O'Reilly & Lorna Ginn, Co-Chair of Governors.



Living the Olympic and Paralympic Values

email: head@greenway.herts.sch.uk

www.greenway.herts.sch.uk