

## Greenway Parent/Carer Survey 2014/15

### The Headlines

Thanks to all 264 parents/carers who completed the annual school survey in March 2015!

That's an amazing 75% return rate, which OFSTED would call 'a large majority'. Because so many of you had your say, the findings are accepted as reliable and as representing the views of Greenway's parents and carers to a very high degree of confidence.

### Top 3 Survey Results



Parents/carers voted leadership and management as the most positive theme in the survey, with many commenting on how that 'trickles down' through the whole school



Almost all parents/carers think their child feels safe at school with many comments about the kind, thoughtful and nurturing environment in which children can stretch themselves safely



258 of you (97.7%) think that Greenway encourages and expects excellent behaviour. A positive ethos, strong morals, firm boundaries and the effective teaching of good behaviour were all mentioned

### Top 3 Comments



87 parents/carers left comments in praise of Greenway's approach to pastoral care, with comments about the positive, inclusive, caring environment given by all staff



75 parents/carers left comments about the high quality, pitch, stretch, welcome, approachability, professionalism and enthusiasm of Greenway's teachers and teaching assistants



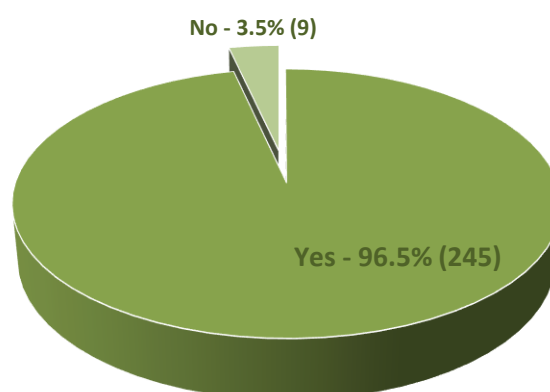
62 parents/carers said that Greenway could be strengthened even further by more and higher quality sport in lessons; by more sports extra-curricular clubs; and with team and inter-school competitions

## Summary of Data Responses

Statement	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Overall 😊 or 😞	Don't know
1. My child is happy at school	56.8% (155)	40.3% (110)	2.6% (7)	0%	97.0% 😊	0.4% (1)
2. My child feels safe at school	68.9% (188)	28.9% (79)	1.5% (4)	0%	97.8% 😊	0.7% (2)
3. My child is encouraged to work hard and do their best	57.1% (156)	38.1% (104)	1.1% (3)	0.4% (1)	95.2% 😊	3.2% (9)
4. Greenway understand and responds to my child's needs	46.2% (126)	45.8% (125)	3.7% (10)	0.4% (1)	91.9% 😊	4.3% (11)
5. My child is encouraged to recognise and value the different skills and attributes of his/her classmates	46.5% (127)	38.8% (106)	0.7% (2)	0%	85.6% 😊	13.9% (38)
6. I think that my child is taught well at school	50.6% (135)	44.7% (119)	0.8% (2)	0.4% (1)	95.5% 😊	3.4% (9)
7. My child is making good progress	40.2% (107)	48.9% (130)	4.5% (12)	0%	89.1% 😊	6.4% (17)
8. My child's classroom environment encourages, supports and celebrates learning	45.1% (120)	50.8% (135)	0.4% (1)	0%	95.9% 😊	3.8% (10)
9. The teacher's comments on my child's work helps them to see what they have done well and what they can do next to improve further	43.6% (116)	42.9% (114)	4.1% (11)	0%	86.5% 😊	9.4% (25)
10. My child receives appropriate homework for his/her age	35.6% (92)	49.6% (132)	8.7% (23)	1.5% (4)	84.2% 😊	5.6% (15)
11. Greenway helps me support my child's learning, including their homework (through curriculum sessions, website, instructions home, etc.)	48.5% (128)	45.8% (121)	2.7% (7)	0.4% (1)	94.3% 😊	2.7% (7)
12. Greenway communicates with me effectively about my child's progress	26.1% (69)	59.9% (158)	9.9% (26)	1.5% (4)	86.0% 😊	2.7% (7)
13. Greenway communicates with me effectively about	49.2% (130)	48.5% (128)	1.9% (5)	0%	97.7% 😊	0.4% (1)

Statement	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Overall 😊 or 😞	Don't know
<b>school life, events and activities</b>						
14. Greenway responds well to any concerns that I raise	42.4% (112)	48.9% (129)	2.7% (7)	0.4% (1)	<b>91.3%</b> 😊	5.7% (15)
15. Greenway encourages and expects excellent behaviour	56.8% (150)	40.9% (108)	1.1% (3)	0%	<b>97.7%</b> 😊	1.1% (3)
16. Greenway responds effectively to instances of inappropriate behaviour	35.6% (93)	41.8% (109)	6.1% (16)	0%	<b>77.4%</b> 😊	16.5% (43)
17. My child is encouraged to lead a fit and healthy lifestyle	41.8% (109)	51.3% (134)	4.6% (12)	0%	<b>93.1%</b> 😊	2.3% (6)
18. Greenway helps my child to feel good about their own achievements (in class and/or outside school)	50.6% (132)	44.8% (117)	0.8% (2)	0%	<b>95.4%</b> 😊	3.8% (10)
19. I think that the school is well led and managed	65.1% (170)	33.8% (88)	0.8% (2)	0%	<b>98.6%</b> 😊	0.4% (1)
20. Greenway makes sure that my child is well prepared for the next step in their education (e.g. changing year group or class, taking on responsibilities, or changing schools)	44.1% (115)	45.6% (119)	1.5% (4)	0%	<b>89.7%</b> 😊	8.8% (23)

**21. I would recommend Greenway to another family**



*This is a very rewarding outcome that fits well with the overwhelmingly positive parent/carer responses recorded throughout the survey.*

## Governors' Response to the Survey Results – Question by Question

<b>1. My child is happy at school</b>	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	<b>Overall</b> ☺ or ☹	Don't know
	56.8% (155)	40.3% (110)	2.6% (7)	0%	<b>97.0%</b> ☺	0.4% (1)

**Our Response:** We are particularly delighted with this response! Governors believe that the best learning environment is provided for children when they feel happy and safe. We will continue to support Greenway in working hard to deliver this for every single pupil so that parents/carers will continue to feel that their children are happy at this school.

<b>2. My child feels safe at school</b>	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	<b>Overall</b> ☺ or ☹	Don't know
	68.9% (188)	28.9% (79)	1.5% (4)	0%	<b>97.8%</b> ☺	0.7% (2)

**Our Response:** As with happiness, Governors consider that a child's sense of safety is critical to providing the best learning environment, so we will always strive for a 100% positive response here. It is, though, rewarding to see that parents'/carers' view is so positive and that they are aware of the work that school does to make children feel that they can conduct and extend themselves, as well as take risks, safely.

<b>3. My child is encouraged to work hard and do their best</b>	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	<b>Overall</b> ☺ or ☹	Don't know
	57.1% (156)	38.1% (104)	1.1% (3)	0.4% (1)	<b>95.2%</b> ☺	3.2% (9)

**Our Response:** During this school year we have worked with staff and pupils to consider Greenway's recognition and reward system as part of our review of the school's Behaviour Policy. As a result we are confident that effort and achievement are regularly and consistently celebrated by and with your children in a way which motivates them to try their best. We are pleased that so many of you agree!

<b>4. Greenway understands and responds to my child's needs</b>	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	<b>Overall</b> ☺ or ☹	Don't know
	46.2% (126)	45.8% (125)	3.7% (10)	0.4% (1)	<b>91.9%</b> ☺	4.3% (11)

**Our Response:** Members of staff have been delighted with the many parent/carer comments that we have shared with them about the extent to which you think that they identify, value and work with your children as individuals. We will continue to support them in maintaining this priority, ensuring close liaison between staff, parents/carers and the Inclusion Coordinator (INCo) Mrs Danni Roe to support every child's needs.

<b>5. My child is encouraged to recognise and value the different skills and attributes of his/her classmates</b>	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	<b>Overall</b> ☺ or ☹	Don't know
	46.5% (127)	38.8% (106)	0.7% (2)	0%	<b>85.6%</b> ☺	13.9% (38)

**Our Response:** Supported by SEAL (Social & Emotional Aspects of Learning) assemblies, PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic education) lessons and at many other opportunities throughout the school day, Governors will continue to support Greenway in helping your children to value themselves and others as unique individuals, exploring how we are all different and how we can support one another to maximise everyone's potential. Recognising that there were a relatively high number (13.9% or 38 parents/carers) of 'don't know' responses to this question, school will also review the 'family activities pack' that accompanies the SEAL programme, and continue to send information home where it might be helpful to you.

<b>6. I think that my child is taught well at school</b>	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	<b>Overall</b> ☺ or ☹	Don't know
	50.6% (135)	44.7% (119)	0.8% (2)	0.4% (1)	<b>95.5%</b> ☺	3.4% (9)

**Our Response:** As identified in the School Plan, Greenway always strives for continuous improvement in the quality of teaching and learning. Rigorous processes are in place for the recruitment of quality staff, and school works hard to support every teacher and teaching assistant so that they are as effective in their roles as they can be. We are pleased that so many parents/carers recognise these efforts and are grateful for the many very positive comments about the quality of teaching and teaching staff.

<b>7. My child is making good progress</b>	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	<b>Overall</b> ☺ or ☹	Don't know
	40.2% (107)	48.9% (130)	4.5% (12)	0%	<b>89.1%</b> ☺	6.4% (17)

**Our Response:** Progress made by every child at Greenway is the subject of Pupil Progress Meetings that take place between the teacher, Head teacher/Deputy Head and INCo every half term. Monitoring all children in this inclusive way has proved highly effective in helping Greenway to respond to individual needs and to ensure that no child can 'slip under the radar' irrespective of their level of attainment or progress. We will continue to make sure that this happens for every child.

<b>8. My child's classroom environment encourages, supports and celebrates learning</b>	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	<b>Overall</b> ☺ or ☹	Don't know
	45.1% (120)	50.8% (135)	0.4% (1)	0%	<b>95.9%</b> ☺	3.8% (10)

**Our Response:** Governors are pleased to see such a positive response from parents/carers and to receive some very complimentary comments about the school environment. Greenway aims to provide a variety of opportunities for parents/carers to view their child's classroom (e.g. child shows parent and Welcome to your Class) throughout the year. We regularly update the school website and celebrate the many learning opportunities that enrich the children's curriculum. Please keep looking!

<b>9. The teacher's comments on my child's work helps them to see what they have done well and what they can do next to improve further</b>	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	<b>Overall</b> ☺ or ☹	Don't know
	43.6% (116)	42.9% (114)	4.1% (11)	0%	<b>86.5%</b> ☺	9.4% (25)

**Our Response:** Understanding that marking is critical to supporting strong progress for pupils, we will continue to keep marking under review. However, we know from their feedback that your children are now, more rapidly than ever, able to correct, edit and learn from the 'green for growth' marks while also gaining confidence from the 'tickled pink' marks. The children have also responded positively to the 'purple polishing' where they 'polish' and edit their work to make even further improvements.

<b>10. My child receives appropriate homework for his/her age</b>	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	<b>Overall</b> ☺ or ☹	Don't know
	35.6% (92)	49.6% (132)	8.7% (23)	1.5% (4)	<b>84.2%</b> ☺	5.6% (15)

**Our Response:** Homework, as ever, splits opinion, with some parents/carers wanting more/harder homework while others want less/easier work to be sent home. We were though, pleased that most parents/carers think Greenway sets appropriate homework that is consistently handed out and well thought-through.

<b>11.Greenway helps me support my child's learning, including their homework (through curriculum sessions, website, instructions home, etc.)</b>	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	<b>Overall</b> ☺ or ☹	Don't know
	48.5% (128)	45.8% (121)	2.7% (7)	0.4% (1)	<b>94.3%</b> ☺	2.7% (7)

**Our Response:** This year school provided curriculum evenings on Read Write Inc, Maths and on Launching our Behaviour Policy and supporting parents in promoting positive behaviour at home (led by Dacorum Education Support Centre, DESC) all of which were very well attended and positively praised. Information from those sessions is now also on the website. Further curriculum sessions are planned for next year and we will continue to support school in making these as accessible as possible, so that even more parents/carers feel able to support their children's learning at home. Greenway's new annual report format also supports this approach by including suggestions for ways to support your child's learning at home.

<b>12.Greenway communicates with me effectively about my child's progress</b>	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	<b>Overall</b> ☺ or ☹	Don't know
	26.1% (69)	59.9% (158)	9.9% (26)	1.5% (4)	<b>86.0%</b> ☺	2.7% (7)

**Our Response:** While continuing to draw a positive response from a very large majority of parents/carers, we acknowledge that this question also drew the largest negative response (11.4% or 30 parents/carers) in the survey. However, the report to Governors on parent/carer feedback from last year's (end of year) annual reports identified a significant amount of praise for the 'comprehensive', 'constructive', 'informative' and 'individually tailored' content, with some of you even expressing concern that reports were 'too long' and creating 'too great a workload' for teachers. A review of the annual reports has now taken place and the new format was shared with Parent Forum ahead of general release. We will also ensure that 2-way communication continues to be encouraged, to find ways in which school can improve performance even further in this area.

<b>13.Greenway communicates with me effectively about school life, events and activities</b>	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	<b>Overall</b> ☺ or ☹	Don't know
	49.4% (130)	48.5% (128)	1.9% (5)	0%	<b>97.7%</b> ☺	0.4% (1)

**Our Response:** We are pleased to note the very positive response here, and will continue to support school in working to provide timely and comprehensive information to parents/carers. In particular, Greenway has made significant progress with regularly updating the website with news and photographs, and the School Newsletter routinely covers news on key themes (like sports). We will also continue to work with school on targeting texts and emails, but note that opinion on whether these are appropriate now (in terms of too many or too few) is entirely divided. As a Governing Body we also regularly keep you informed with updates about our work, as does the GSA.

<b>14.Greenway responds well to any concerns that I raise</b>	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	<b>Overall</b> ☺ or ☹	Don't know
	42.4% (112)	48.9% (129)	2.7% (7)	0.4% (1)	<b>91.3%</b> ☺	5.7% (15)

**Our Response:** Governors are pleased that a very large majority of parents/carers gave a positive response to this statement. We will continue to support school in striving to ensure that concerns raised are always dealt with quickly, appropriately and in a way that keeps the interests of children at its heart.

<b>15.Greenway encourages and expects excellent behaviour</b>	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	<b>Overall</b> ☺ or ☹	Don't know
	56.8% (150)	40.9% (108)	1.1% (3)	0%	<b>97.7%</b> ☺	1.1% (3)

**Our Response:** It is very reassuring to have such an overwhelmingly positive response to this question. The new Behaviour Policy was formally launched to staff during an INSET day in September and then to parents/carers, with an evening on how to support your children with regards to behaviour held in November. As with all policies, the Behaviour Policy is regularly reviewed by school and the Governing Body to make sure that it remains effective. Amendments (such as the introduction of 'level letters') have been approved this year to make sure that Greenway has the tools it needs to continue to prioritise positive pupil behaviour.

<b>16.Greenway responds effectively to instances of inappropriate behaviour</b>	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	<b>Overall</b> ☺ or ☹	Don't know
	35.6% (93)	41.8% (109)	6.1% (16)	0%	<b>77.4%</b> ☺	16.5% (43)

**Our Response:** School considers the consistent and fair application of the Behaviour Policy to be paramount to delivering outstanding pupil behaviour and so was pleased to see that the comparable statement in the Pupil Survey drew a 98.7% positive response. However, as raised at the policy launch evening, school is also keen for its parents/carers to understand and share the same practices and aims. The Governing Body will therefore continue to support school's efforts to be clear about the steps that are taken in response to inappropriate behaviour and the effectiveness of these in promoting improved positive behaviour.

<b>17.My child is encouraged to lead a fit and healthy lifestyle</b>	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	<b>Overall</b> ☺ or ☹	Don't know
	41.8% (109)	51.3% (134)	4.6% (12)	0%	<b>93.1%</b> ☺	2.3% (6)

**Our Response:** Through the curriculum, during assemblies, in clubs, and with the approach that Greenway takes to school meals including packed lunches, pupils are encouraged to adopt a healthy lifestyle. It is rewarding to note that a very large majority of parents/carers agree that this happens already. School will continue to help children understand why a healthy lifestyle is so important and what it means for them.

<b>18.Greenway helps my child to feel good about their own achievements (in class and/or outside school)</b>	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	<b>Overall</b> ☺ or ☹	Don't know
	50.6% (132)	44.8% (117)	0.8% (2)	0%	<b>95.4%</b> ☺	3.8% (10)

**Our Response:** Staff work hard to ensure that attainment and effort are routinely acknowledged and praised so that children can feel justly proud of their achievements and can motivate themselves and others to work hard and try their best. We are pleased that most parents/carers agree that this happens at Greenway and are grateful for your ongoing support, particularly in encouraging your child to let their teacher(s) know about achievements outside of school.

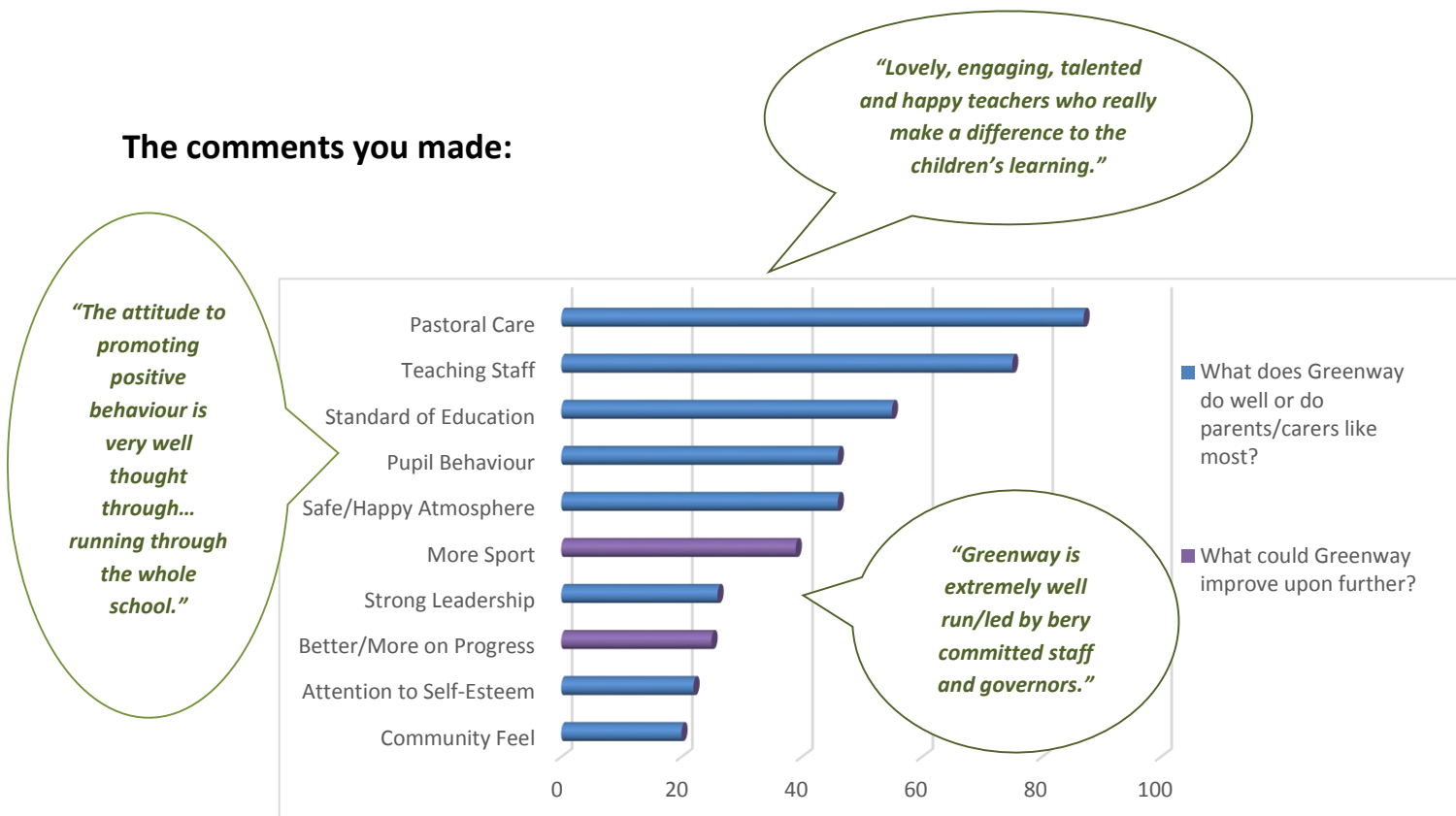
<b>19.I think that the school is well led and managed</b>	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	<b>Overall</b> ☺ or ☹	Don't know
	65.1% (170)	33.8% (88)	0.8% (2)	0%	<b>98.6%</b> ☺	0.4% (1)

**Our Response:** We are delighted to see that the vast majority of parents/carers believe that the school is well led and managed. Governors believe that this is critical if the whole Greenway team is to deliver an outstanding education for your children and so we will continue to strive for excellence in leadership and management.

<b>20.Greenway makes sure that my child is well prepared for the next step in their education (e.g. changing year group or class, taking on responsibilities, or changing schools)</b>	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	<b>Overall</b> 😊 or ☹️	Don't know
	44.1% (115)	45.6% (119)	1.5% (4)	0%	<b>89.7%</b> 😊	8.8% (23)

**Our Response:** *We believe that, through Greenway's transition programme, this school is particularly good at supporting children in the next steps of their education. It is therefore pleasing to note that most of you agree. School will continue to support children in this way, while seeking to engage with the very small (but notable) minority of parents/carers who said that they did not know how or whether this happened.*

### The comments you made:



**What parents/carers thought Greenway did particularly well or what you like most about the school...** A total of 165 parents/carers left unprompted detailed comments. Many covered more than one theme. You can see the top themes (those with 20 or more comments) on the chart above.

**Things that parents/carers think we could improve upon at Greenway...** A total of 151 parents/carers left unprompted detailed comments here. Most of these covered single issues only. Every theme has been reviewed by the Governing Body, including the Head and Deputy Head. The two themes which were mentioned 25 times or more are shown in purple on the chart above.



## Top Comments

**Pastoral care** – including kindness, nurturing, treatment of children as individuals and one-on-one or whole family support from teachers, TAs, the Head and Deputy Head – pastoral care was the most popular theme in comments left by parents and carers, with 87 different quotes.

**Teaching staff** – the quality, pitch, stretch, welcome, enthusiasm, approachability and professionalism from teachers and teaching assistants was the subject of 75 sets of comments.

**Standard of Education** – 55 comments praised the standard of education including the level of expectation, engaging themes, well-structured days, fun lessons and a broad curriculum.

**Pupil Behaviour & Safe/Happy Atmosphere** – tied with 46 comments each, covering the firm boundary setting and the teaching of ethos, manners and morals, and covering the positive environment in which children can stretch themselves and try new things without worry.

**Sport** – while a number of parents/carers (and many children) praised the school for improvements in PE and sport this year, 39 still called for more PE/sport; more team sports; more inter-school events and a wider range/greater scope to enable the engagement of all children in competition.

**Our Response** – *We are very grateful for the overwhelming number of positive comments about Greenway, which we have shared with staff. We will also work with school to further develop sporting opportunities and are delighted that the school has been able to secure a Sports Apprentice to assist with the delivery of sport in 2015/16.*