



# HARDY MILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Hardy Mill Road, Harwood, Bolton BL2 4EF

Head teacher: Mrs J Briggs

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Friday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2021

## Feedback from the parental questionnaire –Summer 2021

Firstly, on behalf of the governing board, thank you to everyone who took the time to complete this questionnaire. We had an excellent response of 118. Most questions asked were overwhelmingly positive and we thank you for your positive feedback.

	Number of responses (%)				
	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know
My child is happy at school	55 (46.6%)	60 (50.8%)	3 (2.5%)	-	-
My child feels safe at school	76 (64.4%)	40 (33.9%)	2 (1.7%)	-	-
The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved	53 (44.9%)	62 (52.5%)	-	-	3 (2.5%)
There is a good range of subjects available to my child at this school.	43 (36.4%)	71 (60.2%)	1 (0.8%)	-	3 (2.5%)
	<b>Yes</b>		<b>No</b>		
I would recommend this school to another parent	112 (94.9%)		6 (5.1%)		

We received 9 responses from parents with children who have special educational needs:

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
My child has special educational needs and the school gives them the support they need to succeed	5 out of 9 responses	2 out of 9 responses	1 out of 9 responses	-	1 out of 9 responses



There were a small number of questions where the response was less positive which the leadership team and governors have looked at in depth. These areas have been detailed below:

	Number of responses (%)					
	My child has NOT been bullied	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
<b>My child has been bullied and the school dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively</b>	100 (84.7%)	-	4 (3.3%)	6 (5.1%)	-	8 (6.7%)
<p>All staff at Hardy Mill know that bullying can happen at any time and in any school including ours. We are committed to keeping all our children safe and equipping them with the right strategies to deal with bullies if and when they meet them in life. We continue to achieve this by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• holding an annual Anti-Bullying Day where we focus on a particular aspect of bullying and strategies to keep our children safe;</li> <li>• keeping detailed records of behaviour incidents to monitor for patterns;</li> <li>• and working with both the victim and perpetrator and their families to resolve any bullying that has been identified</li> </ul> <p><b>What we will do to improve this further:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete a review of our Anti-Bullying Policy with staff, school council and governors.</li> <li>• Once reviewed, share the new policy with parents and post it on the school website.</li> <li>• Revisit the policy with the children in class to ensure that they know what to do if they are being bullied.</li> </ul> <p>Anyone who is concerned about their child being bullied should contact their child's class teacher by email or by telephoning the school office so that we can support your child in resolving the situation. If after support from class teacher you think that your concern remains unresolved, please contact Mrs Briggs directly so she can arrange to meet with you to reach a satisfactory resolution for your child.</p>						

	Number of responses (%)				
	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
<b>The school has high expectations for my child.</b>	38 (32.2%)	68 (57.6%)	5 (4.2%)	-	7 (5.9%)
<p>Most parents agree that school has high expectations for their child/ren which we are really pleased about. Our staff work tirelessly to provide your child with a quality education that has the highest expectations. We did note that 7 of our parents responded that they didn't know. We are very conscious that over the last year, we have been unable to welcome you into school for class assemblies, events and productions so you have not had the opportunity to see for yourself much of the amazing learning that your children do. As restrictions ease and school moves back towards an open door policy, we hope that our high expectations for your child will be apparent for you all to see.</p>					



	Number of responses (%)					
	I have NOT raised any concerns	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
<b>When I have raised concerns with the school, they have been dealt with properly.</b>	60 (84.7%)	22 (18.6%)	27 (22.9%)	4 (3.4%)	-	5 (4.2%)

Of those responses that have raised a concern with school, most parents have agreed that concerns have been dealt with properly. At Hardy Mill Primary, we are committed to working in partnership with our parents and will always endeavour to address concerns quickly and decisively.

**What to do if you need to raise a concern:**

In the first instance, we would always encourage you to share your concern with your child's class teacher as most concerns raised can be quickly resolved. This can be done by either by emailing them or phoning the school office. All class teachers email addresses are accessible on the class pages of the school website. Emails will be responded to between the hours of 9.00am and 4.00pm.

More serious concerns should be raised with the head teacher. This can be done by either popping into the main office before or after school, phoning the office to arrange a meeting with Mrs Briggs or by emailing her directly. Her email address is available on the school website on the Head teacher's Welcome page in the About Us section. Emails will be responded to between the hours of 9.00am and 4.00pm.

If you ever feel that your concern has not been addressed satisfactorily, please refer to the school's complaints policy. This is available to download on the school website in School Information – Policies section or a paper copy can be requested from the school office.

	Number of responses (%)				
	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
<b>The school supports my child's wider personal development</b>	26 (22%)	69 (58.5%)	8 (6.8%)	-	15 (12.7%)

At Hardy Mill we ensure that wider personal development is at the core of our curriculum to ensure that our children are the resilient learners that they need to be and are to ensure that they are well prepared for the world that they live in. Some of the many ways we achieve this are through:

- online safety lessons;
- children having access to fully trained Mental Health First Aiders;
- teaching children in the Early Years how to brush their teeth well;
- teaching Early Years children how to ride a bike through the Balanceability programme;
- the introduction of the Commando Joe character building programme across the whole school where children work in teams to complete missions;
- providing all of Key Stage 2 with the opportunity to learn how to play a musical instrument;
- providing children with drama lessons each week to develop their communication skills and emotional literacy;
- a planned programme of assembly themes that provide children with opportunities to broaden their understanding of: British Values; Hardy Mill School values; other cultures and religions and current events both locally and globally;



- asking the children from Year 2 upwards to complete an annual questionnaire so that leaders can address any areas identified by the children for improvement.

**What we are doing to improve this further:**

This term we have introduced the Jigsaw programme into our school curriculum to enhance our Personal social and Health education and to meet the new requirements for Relationships education. This programme is taught weekly and includes a mindfulness approach. Each year, all our children from Nursery to Year 6, will learn about:

- Being Me in My World
- Celebrating Difference
- Dreams and Goals
- Healthy Me
- Relationships
- Changing Me

More information about the Jigsaw programme and what your child will be learning can be found in the Curriculum section of the school website.

COVID has disrupted and prevented many of our community based events that the children are able to participate in or contribute to and we look forward to reintroducing these over the coming year.

## Planning forward

We also asked you to support us with planning forward and your responses have been very useful in helping us shape provision going forward.

	Number of responses (%)		
	Agree	Disagree	Don't mind
<b>Continuing with active wear for PE days</b>	110 (93.2%)	2 (1.7%)	6 (5.1%)

The staff and I are also overwhelmingly in favour of this change. From September, we will introduce an active wear uniform for PE days. Further information about what the children need to wear on their PE days will be sent out shortly.

	Number of responses (%)		
	Agree	Disagree	Don't mind
<b>Continuing with virtual parents' meetings</b>	59 (50%)	32 (27.1%)	27 (22.9%)

The attendance at parents' meeting in Autumn term was extremely high and staff were able to give parents a longer consultation slot that they would normally be offered in our after school face-to-face meetings. As almost three quarters of the responses made agreed with this change or did not mind, we intend to keep virtual parents' meetings as our primary offer with a smaller offer of face-to-face meetings when safe to do so. We do realise that as parents that you enjoy seeing your children's work in school so propose to include a visit to class following class assemblies once we are able to do these again.



	Number of responses (%)		
	Agree	Disagree	Don't mind
<b>Continuing with paperless communication wherever possible</b>	110 (93.2%)	1 (0.8%)	7 (5.9%)
We will continue to use ParentApp and email as our primary means of communication going forward which will help the environment albeit in a small way. Of course on occasion it will still be necessary to send home paper communications e.g. school reports.			

We also asked you to tell us of any other changes we have made that you would like to remain or that you would like removed when the guidance allows. Suggestions where there was more than 1 response are listed below.

**Positive changes you told us you would like to remain:**

1. Staggered starts and finishes to the day – 9 responses
2. The Showbie learning platform – 5 responses
3. Bug Club – 4 responses

**Our view:**

1. Staggered starts and finishes does have its benefits. However, the loss of time for some children when they are picked up with siblings and the need for the parental drop off zone to be closed on health and safety grounds to facilitate it are the consequences of such a change that we will not continue with once the guidance allows.
2. Both staff and children like our Learning platform, Showbie. We are keeping this within our provision to continue to share weekly homework activities and learning.
3. Bug Club has been well received by children and parents. However, as some of you said, online reading is no substitute for real books. Therefore, home reading will be predominantly real books with Bug Club as an additional resource for some of our avid readers.

**Changes you would like to see when the guidance allows:**

1. Lunchboxes and small bags to be allowed – 14 responses
2. The parental drop off zone to be reopened – 15 responses
3. Staggered starts and finishes to the day removed – 10 responses
4. Playgrounds to be opened up again without class dividers – 9 responses
5. Face masks no longer needed to worn at drop off and pick up times – 7 responses
6. Year 6 to be able to walk to and from school unaccompanied – 5 responses
7. Clubs to be reinstated – 2 responses

**Our view:**

1. Lunchboxes have now been reintroduced for those families on packed lunches who wish to use them.
2. We agree. Once the guidance no longer asks for staggered starts and finishes, we will reopen the parental drop-off zone to alleviate traffic on the surrounding roads.



3. We agree. The loss of time for some children when they are picked up with siblings and the need for the parental drop off zone to be closed on health and safety grounds to facilitate the staggered starts and finishes are not ideal and will be removed when the guidance allows.
4. We agree. We want our children to be able to play with children beyond their class bubble. In Autumn term, we did have larger phase bubbles for the playgrounds but this resulted in larger numbers than a class of 30 being asked to isolate when a positive case was identified. Therefore, given that Bolton has a steep rise in the number of cases of the new variant, we will continue with class bubbles on the playground to avoid any children being asked to isolate unnecessarily in the event of a positive case. This will be continually reviewed in line with the local data from Public Health.
5. We agree. Bolton Public Health have advised Bolton schools to keep face masks for the immediate future as cases in the borough are the highest in the country. We will continue to review this and remove this expectation when safe to do so.
6. We agree. After the half term break, Year 6 children will be able to walk to and from school as part of their preparations for starting secondary school. Consent from parents will be required for this change. Further information regarding this change will be sent out to Year 6 parents directly.
7. We agree. We will be starting the reintroduction of clubs and activities after the half term break. Premier Sports will be offering two after school clubs to Year 3 and 4, Year 5 and 6 will be going swimming and Key Stage 1 classes will be having an animal experience in school. Further information will be sent out soon. We hope that this first step will see us moving back to our full extra-curricular provision in the autumn term.

I hope that you have found this feedback informative. Your views and comments are vital to our ongoing school self-evaluation and improvement and your support as parents/carers are always appreciated.

Jo Briggs  
(On behalf of the Governing Board of Hardy Mill Primary)

May 2021

