

Parents & Carers Survey 2021

This year we have had our best ever yet response to our survey, with 115 responses– an all-time record! We very much appreciate the time that you spent and value all your views and feedback. We are very pleased with the high level of confidence you feel in all aspects of the school.

Thank you also to those of you who included additional comments or suggestions. These have been noted for further discussion, as we want to continue improving. In the meantime, thank you for your support and partnership in our shared aim of giving your child a safe, happy and effective education.

What will we do in response to your feedback?

My child is happy at this school	Agree or Strongly agree 99% (98%)
<p>Some comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meldreth Primary has had a great impact on her happiness• The school is the perfect size with a wonderful atmosphere both with pupils and staff• He's had a lovely childhood here• He absolutely loves school, he thinks the teachers are fab, as do I!	
<p>Our response:</p> <p>It is great to hear that our children have remained very happy at school this year despite all the pressures from the changes the pandemic has caused. Our priority is to ensure that their return is successful and to continue to ensure that our curriculum is as strong as ever in the current restrictions.</p> <p>We have carefully monitored pupil wellbeing this year, our pupils scored highly for the Wellbeing, Metacognition and COVID learning index, compared to over 62,000 pupils, and we have taken action to improve support for individual children when needed.</p>	

My child feels safe at school	Agree or Strongly agree 97% (98%)
<p>Some comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The school currently makes sure additional measures are in place to keep our child very safe during Covid restrictions. This has been managed very well from a child's perspective.• My child had a torrid 3 months at her previous school, but Meldreth Primary has completely turned her around, she loves going to school again.• Drop off & pick up arrangements are safe as everyone knows everyone so keeps an eye on who's there.	
<p>Our response:</p> <p>This year had been a difficult year for many pupils but especially for those with social, emotional and communication needs. We make reasonable adjustments for children with special educational needs, as outlined in the SEN Code of Practice. This could look like an inconsistent approach to our policy, but please be assured that our aim is always to ensure the safety and happiness of all pupils and to create an environment conducive to learning for all children. Your feedback helps us to monitor the support that we give to your child, whether or not they have additional needs.</p>	

This schools makes sure it's pupils are well behaved

Agree or Strongly agree

94% (96%)

Some comments:

- There is clear consistency across the school. Children are treated with respect and positivity which we feel leads to great behaviour.
- Comments I've heard about people misbehaving have been dealt with very effectively.
- I work at Melbourn Sports centre and when the pupils from Meldreth visited, they were always one of the best-behaved groups.

Our response:

Our monitoring of behaviour, shows consistent improvement. We regularly train all staff to ensure that we are all using the same supportive language when talking to children about their behaviour. Our three newly trained mental health first aiders in school, support children's individual needs; where their voices are heard and taken seriously.

We will continue to train our pupils as [peer mediators](#) and work with our [anti-bullying council](#) to promote anti-bullying messages across our school community ensuring that pupils are involved in any restorative conversations.

The school deals effectively with bullying

Agree, strongly agree or have no experience of this

94% (90%)

Some comments:

- Concerns are dealt with quickly and with sensitivity. Staff know individuals very well.
- Bullying at a low, consistent level is so difficult to recognise and deal with. What can any school do to completely get rid of it?
- More consistency in approach and resolution of issues would be useful
- This is so important.

Our response:

We are proud of the fact that reports of bullying is a rare occurrence, and when it does occur, parents respond positively to the actions we take. Our Positive Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy has been reviewed by staff and will be reviewed by Governors later this term. [Our policies](#) are published on our school website so that you can be clear of our expectations, rewards and sanctions.

We will continue to encourage children to share their concerns with older pupils or staff during the school day and not just at home. We ask that parents do contact school if you have concerns, not other parents, so that we are able to support individual children better.

The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year (and has provided a balanced range of home learning during school closure).

Agree or Strongly agree
99% (91%)

Some comments:

- Tapestry is fantastic. We receive amazingly detailed updates each week which reflects the breadth of curriculum covered. We have been so impressed by the quality of provision for home learning. This has been exceptional and very much kept my child engaged learning at home
- The resources and support given during the period of home learning has been fantastic. It has been such a help that the school has introduced virtual lessons. It has helped give structure to our day and has kept our child in touch with her teacher and class so we don't feel as isolated.
- The home learning has been excellent, particularly during this more recent lockdown. All staff are to be thanked for their continuous hard work.
- The home learning has been amazing. Online sessions are the correct length as fidgeting soon starts. Staff support has been great as the teacher informs me of the little wins and guides me on what we could be doing at home.

Our response:

In this exceptional year, it has been more important than ever that parents understand what children should be learning. Our [website curriculum pages](#) outline what your child will learn and how they will learn in each year group. The learning expectations for the year are published on [your child's class webpages](#). We will continue to introduce knowledge grids to add to our parent learning overviews for each topic the children are studying.

When I have raised concerns with the school they have been dealt with properly

Agree, strongly agree or have not raised any concerns
90% (90%)

Some comments:

- All staff go above and beyond to deal with any concerns quickly
- I feel more could and still can be done
- I have only had to raise one concern and, while assurances were given at the time, the ongoing feedback from my child is that there are is an ongoing concern for her of a repeated occurrence of the situation.

Our response:

We hope that you feel that staff have been more proactive this year in seeking to better understand your concerns and, when escalated to school leaders, in following up your concerns with a written record of any outcomes. If you have a concern, please see our website [here](#) for more information on how to raise this in school.

My child does well at this school and school has high expectations for my child

Agree or Strongly agree
95 (96%)

Some comments:

- We continue to be amazed at our child's development. He has built in a string foundation of learning from Puffin Class and been appropriately challenged in Year One. Individual feedback received during home learning has meant that he has been challenged to make further progress despite a change in learning provision.
- The school has done comparatively well during the third lockdown but learning has definitely suffered and more could be done to structure the students' day.
- My children do well. I hope school has high expectations for them. We have high expectations and, regardless of home-school or not, always plan on being involved and aware of what they are doing. I would hope that any extra support, either to keep them challenged in areas where they have kept on schedule and others may need a different level of support or, of course, in any areas that may be weaker I would hope they are supported to be brought up to the right level.
- Felt there has been the right balance of encouraging as much schoolwork being done as possible without pressure to do everything during these challenging times.

Our response

It has certainly been a challenge to pitch the amount of support and expectation during the national lockdowns this year. Although, we have continued our parent meetings, and termly reports, if you feel you would like more information on how your child is progressing, please do speak to your child's class teacher who will be happy to give you more information.

Ofsted agreed '*Teachers have high expectations of what pupils can achieve.*'

The school lets me know how my child is doing (and how I can support my child's home learning).

Agree or Strongly agree
95% (93%)

Some comments:

- Prompt and detailed feedback has been given during home learning. I have felt very well informed about how my child is doing, with the option of 1-1 conversations with staff if requested. I know from the feedback given how we can help our child with their next steps.
- I have received communication from teacher past and present letting me know things they are doing to help my child and things we can do at home, as well as things he is doing well. This isn't just something that happens at parents evenings
- There are too many different forms of communication from the school. As a parent who is working full time, I don't have the bandwidth to read them all.
- Good feedback from teacher during home learning and normal school time.

Our response

Our open door policy where all staff are happy to speak to you at any time has had to take a virtual nature this year for obvious safety reasons. It has certainly been hard to keep contact with our parents although we have established both Google Classroom and Tapestry to support with this and to allow you to contribute to assessment too.

We aim to provide many informal, and two formal opportunities for you to meet class teachers with a termly progress report. A comprehensive annual report in the summer term provides feedback against the expectations for your child's year group in each subject area.

The way we assess pupils is explained on our website and can be accessed [here](#).

The school supports my child's wider personal development (confidence, resilience and independence)

Agree or Strongly agree
98% (91%)

Some comments:

There is a strong ethos across the school to support my child's well-being, confidence, resilience and independence. We really enjoy Wellness Wednesday and very much appreciate the times during the week where we can explore learning opportunities which don't tie us to live teaching times at the moment.

Yes but with a class of 30 there are going to be limitations. Not at all the school's fault.

I cannot praise Meldreth Primary enough for the impact that the school has had on my child. I constantly recommend the school to other people, thanks for having us 😊

Our response

We provide opportunities for all children to experience their local community and wider world; giving our older children residential opportunities to develop their confidence, resilience and independence. Our youngest children also get this opportunity in our trainer swimming pool. All children get an opportunity to perform to and for their school through concerts, performances, sports competitions and visits to the local community. Children regularly present in assemblies and our school leaders and Junior Travel Ambassadors have presented to Governors, Local Councillors and our Member of Parliament. We always get positive responses from the public and other schools and businesses when our children have been to visit.

I would recommend this school to another parent

Agree or Strongly agree
100% (96%)

Finally, we would always welcome any further feedback you have about any aspect of school life. We are always very keen to hear from parents with suggestions for improvements in the way we are operating. Please feel free to catch us at school, to email us or to call if you have something to contribute.