



Smallwood CE Primary Academy  
Parents' and Carers' Survey 2022

- This document presents the results of our latest Annual Survey of Parent/Carer Views. The Survey was carried out in March 2022.
- This survey, along with other feedback, will help to shape the ongoing development of the school.
  - Thank you to all parents who completed our survey.

***"The school is small enough to 'care.' Joshua is treated as a person and not just a pupil."***

***"It's our second family."***

***"Each child is loved and cared for."***

***"I'm really pleased the classes will no longer be split so I feel my biggest concern is being addressed."***

***"A small nurturing environment with a caring family ethos."***

## 1. Overall Results of the Survey

\*81 families completed the Survey.

<b>1. My child is happy at this school.</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>Don't Know</b>	<b>Total % in agreement</b>
	<b>61 = 75.3%</b>	<b>19 = 23.4%</b>	<b>1 = 1.2%</b>			<b>98.8%</b>

<b>2. My child feels safe at this school.</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>Don't Know</b>	<b>Total % in agreement</b>
	<b>71 = 87.7%</b>	<b>10 = 12.3%</b>				<b>100%</b>

<b>3. My child is well looked after at this school.</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>Don't Know</b>	<b>Total % in agreement</b>
	<b>69 = 85.2%</b>	<b>12 = 14.8%</b>				<b>100%</b>

<b>4. The school promotes strong Christian values and ethos.</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>Don't Know</b>	<b>Total % in agreement</b>

	53= 65.4%	27= 33.3%			1= 1.2%	98.8%
5. The school is welcoming to parents, carers and visitors.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know	Total % in agreement
	74= 91.4%	7= 8.6%				100%

6. The school helps the children to be caring and kind.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know	Total % in agreement
	72= 88.9%	9= 11.1%				100%

7. The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know	Total % in agreement
	65= 80.2%	14= 17.3%	1= 1.2%		1= 1.2%	97.6%

8. The school deals effectively with bullying.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know	Total % in agreement
	46= 56.8%	13= 16.0%	2= 2.5%		20= 24.7%	72.8%

It is worth noting that only 1% of all parents disagree with this, which means that - potentially - 97.5% agree! The reason the 'Agree' figure is 72.8% is because

our newer families simply don't know enough about the measures we take to promote an Ant-Bullying message, and the tangible and effective activities and strategies in place to ensure that the children understand how important it is to be kind and caring, and what to do if there is any sign of bullying.

9. The school responds well to any concerns I raise.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know	Total % in agreement
	54= 66.7%	21= 26.0%	1= 1.2%		5= 6.2%	92.7%

10. The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know	Total % in agreement
	51= 63.0%	28= 34.6%	2= 2.5%			97.6%

11. There is a good range of subjects available to my child at	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know	Total % in agreement

<b>this school.</b>						
	<b>65= 80.2%</b>	<b>16=19.8%</b>				<b>100%</b>

<b>12. The school has high expectations for my child.</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>Don't Know</b>	<b>Total % in agreement</b>
	<b>57=70.4%</b>	<b>20= 24.7%</b>			<b>4= 4.9%</b>	<b>95.1%</b>

<b>13. The school lets me know how my child is doing.</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>Don't Know</b>	<b>Total % in agreement</b>
	<b>52= 64.2%</b>	<b>28= 34.6%</b>	<b>1= 1.2%</b>			<b>98.8%</b>

<b>14. This school is well led and managed.</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>Don't Know</b>	<b>Total % in agreement</b>
	<b>71= 87.7%</b>	<b>10= 12.3%</b>				<b>100%</b>

<b>15. My child can take part in clubs and</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>Don't Know</b>	<b>Total % in agreement</b>

<b>activities at this school.</b>						
	<b>61= 75.3%</b>	<b>15= 18.5%</b>	<b>1= 1.2%</b>		<b>4= 4.9%</b>	<b>95%</b>

<b>16. Would you recommend this school to another parent?</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>Don't Know</b>	<b>Total % in agreement</b>
	<b>71= 87.7%</b>	<b>10= 12.3%</b>				<b>100%</b>

## 2. Parent & Carer responses to the question: 'Why did you choose Smallwood Academy for your child/ children?'

\*There were many common themes for why Parents/ Carers choose the school and these can be seen below.

\*Some responses mentioned more than one reason therefore the total surpasses 81.

<b>Reason for choosing the school</b>	<b>Number of times mentioned by Parents/ Carers</b>
Small class sizes	16
Strong leadership/ New Leadership	6
Sibling at the school	9
Location/ catchment area	21
Academic excellence/ quality of teaching	6
Reputation	27
Christian Values	7
Friendly/ supportive/ kind staff	12
Community/ family feel	27
Ethos/ Values	15
Extra-curricular activities (including forest schools)	3

**3. Parent & Carer responses to the question: 'What would you like to see Smallwood developing next?'**

<b>Comment from Parent/ Carer</b>	<b>Our Response</b>
Greater development in sport participation/ competitions across school/ with other schools	Now that we are coming out of enhanced Covid-19 restrictions, we will take our teams to participate in the Congleton Partnership leagues and tournaments.
To aspire to be outstanding	This is definitely our direction of travel!
To continue to develop its character as a village/ Christian school and not lose its distinctive character	Our faith and beliefs permeate everything that we do at Smallwood and is evident in how we interact with each other, how we behave and our overarching philosophy. We are always looking at ways to enhance this and is one of our school priorities this year.
Some basic cookery skills	This is part of our DT curriculum but we can look at other ways of doing this.
More sports involvement	Now that we are coming out of enhanced Covid-19 restrictions, we will take our teams to participate in the Congleton Partnership leagues and tournaments. We've enhanced our partnership with ASM this year and invested in staff training and equipment.
The 7 <sup>th</sup> classroom	This has been approved by the board of directors and will be in place from September 2022.
Art club/ art and creativity	We are always looking at how we can improved our extra-curricular provision so we will look at how we can facilitate this.
More written homework	We have discussed homework as part of a Parents' Council meeting and everyone's feedback has been invaluable. We will look at our homework policy and make changes based on the feedback received.

Improved communication/ embracing technology to improve teacher/ parent communication	We are always conscious that feedback needs to be effective and efficient. We communicate in many different ways: email, newsletter, text, phone, letters. We have developed a Communication strategy to help you to know what
To improve pedestrian access around the local school area to aid being able to walk safely for drop/off pick up	We agree with this. Unfortunately, this would come under the Highways department for Cheshire East but there is nothing stopping us from approaching them to see if there is any possibility of a footpath. This is one of the main reasons we have reverted to all children coming into school through the one gate in the morning and in keeping the on-way system at home time working in a clockwise direction.
More whole school mixing/ working together	Now that we are coming out of enhanced Covid-19 restrictions, this will be more possible. Children are already now mixing at lunchtimes and coming together for whole-school occasions such as daily Worship.
More opportunities for enterprise/ STEM work to support children in later life	Now that we are coming out of enhanced Covid-19 restrictions, we will look at this. We are aiming to return to the Enterprise challenge that Year 6 would have done after their SATs in May, car wash and working with Barclays and their Money Skills workshops. Year 6 already have their enterprise of keeping the hens and selling the eggs.
More education on sustainability/ farm to fork	This is part of our curriculum, and with a revamp of our curriculum ready for September, will feature even more. We have also joined an Ethical Farming project through the Diocese and will be working with Dundee University to create a learning pack for schools.
Wider offering of extra-curricular activities	We are currently offering a wide- range of clubs, running 12 clubs each week.
Nothing/ don't change too much/ more of the same	Thank you!
Improved outdoor facilities	This is definitely something that we are looking at - we would like to enhance the



	red-brick area, put some low-level trim-trail activities in place and put an all-weather surface down for more playtime space.
Less shouting when disciplining children	We are sorry about this as we have, as a whole staff, participated in the Emotion Coaching approach across school. We are also
Further challenge for more able pupils	Thank you -we are hoping, now that you are able to come into school and see the work that we are doing, that you will begin to see again how we challenge our children of all abilities.
Car parking is an issue	We really do appreciate that car parking can be an issue. However, we are very lucky to have the use of the Village Hall car park; many schools only have on-street parking in the area around school. Mr Lewis sits on the Village Hall committee in order to ensure that we have good working relationships with the village and its community and school now take the bookings for the Village Hall as a way of showing our appreciation for the FREE use of the car park.
A calendar for events such as forest school and church services	Please see our website!
More buddy time	Now that we are coming out of enhanced Covid-19 restrictions, this will be more possible. Children are already now mixing at lunchtimes and coming together for whole-school occasions such as daily Worship.
More variety of tasks for homework	We have discussed homework as part of a Parents' Council meeting and everyone's feedback has been invaluable. We will look at our homework policy and make changes based on the feedback received.

#### **4. Parent & Carer responses to the question: 'What do you especially value about Smallwood?'**

\*There were many common themes for what Parents/ Carers value about the school and these can be seen below.

\*Some responses mentioned more than one reason therefore the total surpasses 81.

<b>What do you especially value about Smallwood?</b>	<b>Number of times mentioned by parents/ carers</b>
Friendly and welcoming community	20
Small and personal	13
Family orientated	13
Approachable/ caring/ supportive staff	21
Children treated as individuals / inclusive	4
Varied curriculum	4
Strong/ effective leadership by the Head	4
High standard of teaching & learning	6
How kind and caring behaviour is promoted	1
Part of the local community	15
Its strong values	3
Nurturing and professional approach	4
Positive relationships between staff and children	1
Excellent communication	2
Christian values	3

### **5. Parent & Carer responses to the question: 'How you can tell that Smallwood is a Christian School?'**

\*There were many common themes for how Parents/ Carers can tell that Smallwood is a Christian school and these can be seen below.

\*Some responses mentioned more than one reason and others didn't provide an answer.

<b>How can you tell that Smallwood is a Christian school?</b>	<b>Number of times mentioned by parents/ carers</b>
Celebrate the key dates in the Christian calendar across the year	21
Singing of songs	4
Signage around school / school emblem / displays/ website	4
The children understand key Christian values/ encouraged to display these in their behaviour	15
Strong links with the local church/ visits from vicar	13
Regular assemblies/ worships/ prayer/ celebrations	12
Children come home excited about church/ talk about their learning.	8

***"The school is a big part of the local village which is great."***

***"We especially value the fact that all children are treated as individuals, are part of the Smallwood family and thrive in the school's care."***

***"Both children come home and talk about what they learn about each Christian event- they really enjoy all this learning!"***

***"It has an openness about it. A sense that people are worth spending time with."***

***"My child insists on 'grace' at home."***