

Living, loving and learning together, with our eyes focused on Jesus.

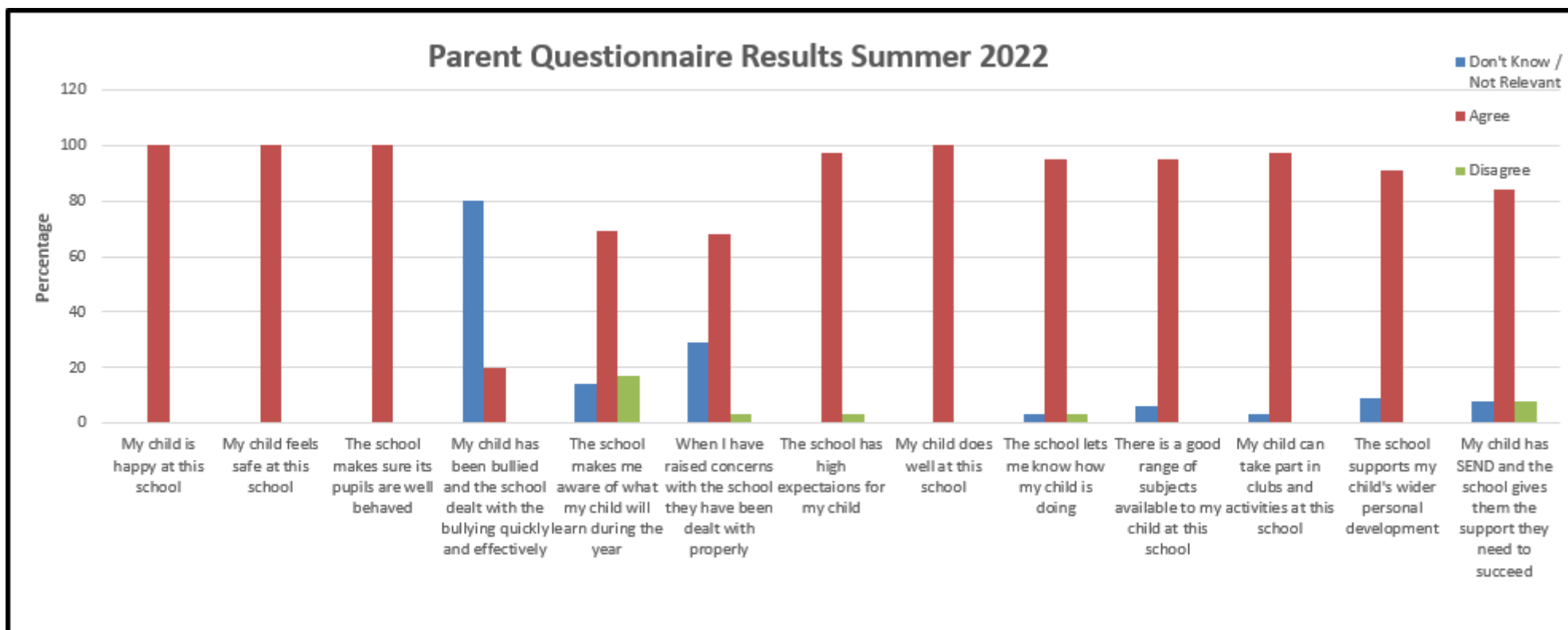
## **Parental Questionnaire Responses - Summer 2022**

**'The Convention applies to everyone: whatever their race, religion or abilities,  
whatever they think or say, whatever type of family they come from.'**

*Article 2 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child*

**'The best interests of the child must be a top priority in all things that affect them.'**

*Article 3 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child*



Total number of replies: 35

Total number of children responses apply to: 47

November 2022

Dear Parents & Carers,

Thank you for the responses to the questionnaires sent out at the end of last term. You have helped us decide upon the direction to take to help your children gain the most from their time with us. I hope you find the information as useful as we have and hopefully the responses to the comments will answer some queries. If you do have any further questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Many thanks,

Louise Keenan

### **What do you really like about St Joseph's?**

- ✓ I really like the catholic ethos & the care & attention that the teachers give the pupils
- ✓ I like how it is a small friendly school.
- ✓ Small friendly school
- ✓ The home feeling
- ✓ I think the small school helps to bring together the students as a whole and not just within their year groups.
- ✓ Small school which makes it more friendly
- ✓ I like that's its a family school, small and everyone knows everyone
  
- ✓ The SEND support is excellent and has really supported the girl's. You care and support is enabling them to embrace school and achieve a love of learning. You have done everything you can to ensure that they receive the very best learning experience and outcomes and made them feel a valued member of the school community.
- ✓ I love how the teachers work with my child to help with his additional needs and they make sure the correct things are in place for him to keep him settled and doing well
  
- ✓ Small school so my child has more teacher time and because of this has learned more
- ✓ St Joseph's is a lovely school with a small number of pupils. The school has a lovely community feel and has strong catholic values
  
- ✓ Lovely school with lovely staff.
- ✓ The teachers
- ✓ Really nice teachers.
- ✓ Most of the staff are friendly and nice.
- ✓ Fab teachers
- ✓ Teachers are really well
- ✓ The caring, nurturing and supportive attitude of staff. All the children know each other and it is a genuinely supportive environment in which they can grow and develop.
- ✓ The school has lovely teachers and they get to know every child that attends the school. The headteacher gets to know the children too which is lovely. It's a lovely little school.
- ✓ The teachers have every individual child's best interests at heart and treat each child equally, they

are all very approachable and friendly. My child has such a lovely relationship with Miss X and Mrs X

- ✓ .I like that this school is like a family everyone knows each other, the staff are very friendly and approachable and go out of their way to do what is achievable given the current circumstances and restrictions/boundaries they have.
- ✓ The staff as they are fantastic with the children
- ✓ Family feel to it - small and the teachers know all the names of the children even ones they don't teach directly.
- ✓ The fantastic teaching staff
- ✓ The staff have a fantastic bond with the children and genuinely care about every one of them.
- ✓ We love the staff and the fact it's a small close knit school
  
- ✓ There's always someone to talk to about concerns or anything in general. All teachers and staff are extremely helpful and approachable. From my experience so far they are always on hand to guide and help with anything.
- ✓ Friendly atmosphere and supportive staff
  
- ✓ It feels like a family and children are encouraged to support and look after one another. School has a lovely feel about it and my daughter loves it ans has really gained in confidence. We feel lucky to be part of such a lovely school community.
  
- ✓ The school helped my kids settle in pretty quick and has been instrumental in their development. The school work closely with me as a parent and I get informed every step of the way. The school see the strength in my kids rather than focus more on their weakness but help in these areas. St. Joseph's is one of the best decisions I have made for my kids.
  
- ✓ The broader aspects of social responsibility, to each in school and outside school.
  
- ✓ everything

### **What would you like to see changed at St Joseph's?**

- Better communication & not last minute arrangements as parents have work to consider.
- Better communications as they are sometimes confusing and not at all timely
- Communication can sometimes be last minute about events etc. Communication with parents needs to be better thought out for example we got 3 very different messages regarding what children should wear at the end of term. Messages need to be thought out before sent out as it can be very confusing .
- Communication and wrap around care for working parents. At the moment aside from the termly news

letters communication is terrible. Working parents are unable to make plans as we receive no notice for changes, events or wrap around care. We are never informed directly if things are needed and the bridge between school and parents is heavily relied upon by the children.

- Communication could be slightly improved
- Better communication of weekly events activities
- Better communication
- Better communication and not messages sent the day before an event is happening.
  - Yes, we agree! Communication has been very difficult this last year. To help, this year we have brought in a Monthly Update with advanced dates and a Weekly Calendar to give you the finer details about what's happening in each class. I hope you've found these useful so far this term.
- It would be really good for working parents to see the later after school club return to 5.30 finish .
- I chose the school on the basis there was wrap around care for people working a 9-5 standard hours job.
  - Wrap around care would be spectacular. Unfortunately, we are unable to run this owing to reduced numbers and increased costs. Should this change we will run this service once again.
- Not your fault but perhaps more modern facilities / equipment such as the interactive whiteboards you are fundraising for.
  - Yes please!
- I would like to see what my child is learning each term and what topics are being covered.
- Updates on child's progress and what they are learning
- Possible more direction of how my child can be at expected level of achievement and regular updates of what we can do to improve and progress
  - A termly meeting is currently offered. The curriculum is being shared online. I will ensure the link is added into the Monthly Update for you.
  - As always, two of the most simple and best ways to help your child is to read with them and to practise their multiplication tables.
- Wider meal range
  - We now have new caterers that offer 9 different meals each day 😊
- Coming out on time
  - The school day finishes at 3:30pm. We do our best to have children out as soon after this as possible.

- Small school pet for the children to engage and look after in the holidays weekends etc
  - This is not something we will be pursuing at this time, however, thank you for the suggestion. 😊
- More engagement from parents.
  - The PTA is active and would love more volunteers. As a parent you are automatically a member of this important and hard-working group.
- More opportunities for parents to attend assemblies, masses, etc
  - We'll do what we can!
- It would be nice if the children had more school discos.
  - The PTA have been organising these, spread throughout the year.
- Maybe try and add some sports teams. A football team would be a great addition and will help the children bond out of school
- I think more sporting activities should be covered and children given the opportunity to participate in out of school competitions/activities.
- A competitive sports team.
  - Unfortunately, we do not have capacity to run a football team.
  - We take part in regular sporting events through the School Sports Partnership. Some are more competitive than others and they are usually labelled as Festivals, rather than Competitions.
- The possibility of eco club starting
- Opportunity for families and pupils to grow things in the little garden
  - Eco Club runs in school.
  - A regular volunteer to host a monthly after school gardening club would be welcomed.
- Can't think of anything
- Nothing
- Nothing
- Nothing
- Nothing
- Nothing really it's good the way it is.
- Nothing - just keep being the amazing school you are!
  - Thank you!

**Remember to follow us on Twitter  
@STJ\_UshawMoor to see your children learning.**