



Thursday 4th November 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Please find a summary of findings from our “Settling in Survey” issued to all parents new to our school, this academic year,. The findings are based on a return of 55% of parents canvassed. Thank you to those who took the time to respond- we value your thoughts.

How would you describe the atmosphere of welcome you receive at the school?

Excellent	Very good	Adequate	Not good	Not sure
72%	28%	0%	0%	0%

Comments included:

Staff are always observed to be smiling.
My child is asked how they are today every morning.
Staff are helpful friendly and understanding.
It is nice to be welcomed by happy positive staff.
Teachers understand my child.
We always feel happy and calm on arrival.

Our response : Thank you- You are pretty good at being positive and up beat yourselves, we appreciate that, too even in the rain!

How friendly are the staff when meeting and returning the children to you?

Excellent	Very good	Adequate	Not good	Not sure
78%	17%	5%	0%	0%

Comments included:

A warm approach is evident.
We are kept informed – “your child has some light reading to complete in her reading bag today”
All the staff are so lovely.
Miss Wood is so positive- our child loves being in her class.
Mrs Murray is also lovely and has really helped our child to settle into breakfast club. (she will be pleased to hear this- thank you)
Staff are happy to communicate .
Children are welcomed, one at a time- the same at collection. We like that personal touch.
Mrs Smith and Mrs Lee know the children very well.

Our response : Thank you- it is reassuring to hear that staff in all settings have been mentioned.

How useful was the induction pack and how useful was the virtual induction via the website?

Excellent	Very good	Adequate	Not good	Not sure
33%	44%	11%	0%	11%

Comments included:

The website induction and online materials were thorough and detailed.

The virtual tour was exciting.

A calmness was evident from the materials shared.

We are not sure that we received an Induction Pack.

We had to search for everything on the website.

We have missed some information until it is too late- that may be our fault.

The virtual Induction covered the basics.

The virtual Home Meeting gave more content.

The website is great!

The gateway information would have been useful to have a little earlier.

Key information could have been clearer- eg topics of learning.

The virtual induction was as good as it could be- it cannot replace a physical visit (we agree)- but was the best it could be in the circumstances.

Our response : Thank you- Lockdown has taught us to rebrand our communications. You are right, there was not a physical pack, it was online information which required your input. We will continue to use this electronic method of sharing, moving forward, as it is environmentally less damaging, however we will change the term " Induction pack" to avoid confusion. Yes, we agree- Topics of learning could have been clearer- we awaited the official opening of the New Curriculum to share them. This has now been redressed on the **Our Learning** section of the website- under EYFS.

How happy is/are your child/ren to come to school?

Very happy	Happy	Nervous
55%	30%	15%

Comments included:

My child is very happy about the day- he sings and shares his prayers.

My child loves lunch and always seems excited. (The lunchtime staff will be delighted to read this)

My child is very happy but is sometimes nervous in the queue.

My child has settled really well, we feel- they are always happy to go to school.

We are pleased with the school.

My child loves school- he runs in without so much as a good bye or a wave.

My child is fine once in school- he would rather not come every day. (The staff say they can associate with this feeling! ☺).

My child is excited from the moment they wake up- this speaks volumes!

My child loves to come to school.

We have already seen progress.

My child loves routine, her peers and her learning- she have settled amazingly well.

Our response : Thank you- your responses are reassuringly accurate. Some run in, some chatter, some remain quiet. Some cannot wait for lunchtime! That's what makes the job so worthwhile for us- here at SMA- every day and every child being different. To those who ticked more than one option- thanks for your honesty. It often is a mixture, we agree.

How well have your child's needs been accommodated by school?

Excellent	Very good	Adequate	Not good	Not sure
67%	33%	0%	0%	0%

Comments included:

Good so far, from what I can tell at this early stage.

I feel I could approach staff if I had concerns and there would be no issue.

When I was worried, I received a very helpful email and communication was very effective.

Our response : Thank you.

How good has communication between you and school been, to date?

Excellent	Very good	Adequate	Not good	Not sure
56%	39%	5%	0%	0%

Comments included:

I am still getting used to the different ways in which differing schools communicate.

The school office have responded promptly to any emails I have sent.

Teachers are all approachable.

I receive a weekly newsletter.

The receptionists have always been more than helpful (great to hear!)

The schools facility is a great tool which supports home /school learning.

It would have been helpful to have received the logins for the class page earlier.

I have already received information regarding my child's progress- that is good.

Excellent weekly newsletter, messages and email.

Apart from the omission of a confirmation email me reminding me about Induction, everything else is wonderful.

Our response : Thank you. Your comments are useful.

Many thanks, once more.

C.M.O'Hara and the EYFS team.