

Response to parent questionnaire:

Communication with parents about their child's progress in school.

January 2019

Strongly agree	Agree	Don't know	Disagree	Strongly disagree
<p>My child is making good progress</p> <p>Our response: It's great to know the vast majority of parents believe that their child is making good progress at St Andrew's Primary School. Our staff are very driven towards ensuring this continues.</p>		<p>You said:</p>		

<p>The school communicates with me effectively about my child's progress</p> <p>Our response: Although the vast majority of parents feel that we communicate well about progress, it is clear that some parents don't feel the same way. We will look into other ways to provide information about progress throughout the year.</p>	<p>You said:</p>
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<p>Parents evenings are informative</p> <p>Our response: Parents evenings are the best way to gain information about a child's progress, areas for improvement and seek advice about how to help at home. Unfortunately, only 70%-80% of parents attend these meeting, so this could explain why some parents don't know if they are informative. I would encourage all parents to attend parents' evenings. If you cannot attend the times offered, please call the office to make a time that is more convenient for you.</p>	<p>You said:</p>
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I understand what my child's areas for development are

Our response:

In our end of term assessment sheets, we have included a ranking feature that shows parents how well their child is doing in terms of attitudes to learning; such as attendance, taking part in lessons or behaviour. At parent's evenings, teachers will discuss, with parents, specific areas of learning for improvement.

You said:



I have received information (verbal or written) about how to support my child at home

Our response:

Class Dojo is an excellent tool for parents to use to ask teachers how they can support their child at home. I would encourage parents to ask the question! We offer workshops on phonics and SATs tests and "Watch me learn" lessons, where parents can come and find out how they can mirror what teachers do at school, at home.

You said:

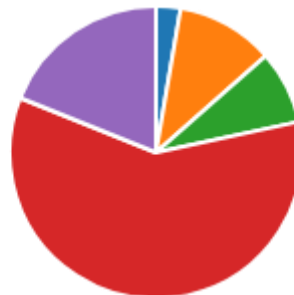


I understand how much progress my child is making from their starting points

Our response:

Progress from starting points means, how your child is achieving compared to their last end of key stage assessment. So, a Year 5 child would compare their attainment to their KS1 SAT test or a Year 2 child would compare theirs to their end of Early Years Good Level of Development score. We will introduce a new section on our end of term assessment sheets and end of year reports that shows parents how children compare now to their previous end of key stage starting points.

You said:



I find the end of term assessment update letter very useful

Our response:
It looks like we've got this right. Perhaps the parents who chose "don't know" are reception parents who won't have any experience of these letters yet.

You said:



I find the end of year school report very useful

Our response: It looks like we've got this right too and reception parents will get their first end of year reports, this coming July.

You said:



We also asked parents for suggestions or concerns you may have regarding understanding your child's progress

You said:

The figures of attendance should be giving to the teacher before they do the report and judge on their belief rather than figures

Our response:

Our SIMs attendance system is very accurate and records all absences, lates and medical appointments. Teachers must use this accurate data to judge attendance.

It would be handy to know what topics they're studying each term so that parents can look for ways to contribute additional learning on the subject

We are currently in the process of evaluating and improving our curriculum and, as part of this work, we are hoping to update the school website with a curriculum calendar so that parents can see, at any time, to see what their child will be learning at any given time. We will let you know when that goes live. In the meantime, teachers post photos and text about what the children are learning on a regular basis on Class Dojo.

The developing + etc are very confusing and hard to understand

We agree! Over the course of this year we are changing how we "level" children and aim to take away the + element of assessment, making it simpler to understand. From the end of the year, all children in KS1 and KS2 will be either emerging, developing or secure.

To be informed when concerns are raised, not by finding out at end of term by report that they are below where they should be, this is leaving it too late for both parent and pupil to address concerns

We communicate with parents half termly. Every half term there is a parents' evening where teachers will raise any concerns and then a parent assessment letter goes out at the end of each full term, which will also identify

	<p>any concerns. This means that parents are kept informed every 6 to 7 weeks on their child's progress. If there are any dramatic or unexplained dips in a child's behaviour or academic work, then teachers or the Head teacher will arrange a meeting with parents in the interim to communicate these concerns.</p>
<p>No concerns.... but would be great if they started getting spellings to do as well as homework.</p>	<p>It's great to hear you have no concerns and that you want to do more at home to support your child. Some classes have spellings, it depends on the particular needs of each cohort. We are having a big push with spellings in class and have introduced spelling and phonic after school intervention groups to help boost in these areas. If you would like some spellings to practise at home, then please message your child's class teacher on Class Dojo – I am certain they will hand out some appropriate words for you to practise at home.</p>