

Results of Parent Evaluations July 12

(158 replies + 11 Nursery Comment sheets)

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
My child likes school.	74%	25%			1%
My child is well supported on entry to the school, between classes and on transfer to middle school.	70%	27%			3%
My child is making good progress at school.	74%	26%			
Teaching is highly effective.	77%	23%			
The school helps me to support my child's learning.	70%	29%			1%
My child is safe at school.	81%	18%			1%
Staff expect my child to work hard and to do his/her best.	79%	21%			
The school takes account of my suggestions and concerns.	50%	42%	1%	1%	6%
The school helps my child to become more mature and take on responsibility.	73%	27%			
There is a good range of curricular opportunities including trips and visits.	70%	28%	2%		
Staff treat children fairly and with respect.	66%	30%	3%		1%
Overall, I am happy with my child's experience at school.	77%	23%			

Commentary

Thank you for returning your Evaluation forms last term. We are thrilled to learn that nearly 100% of parents 'agree' or 'strongly agree' with all the statements about pupil learning, progress and enjoyment. It is pleasing to report that nearly three quarters of you 'strongly agree' with everything! This is extremely rewarding as the whole staff work very hard to meet the needs of all of our children with your support.

We are aware that the lowest, whilst not negative responses, appear to be about how we communicate our responses to your suggestions. We do not actually receive many and would urge parents to use the Parents' Concerns box outside the Main Entrance. With such a large school, we carefully listen but it is not always easy to reply to each one of you and some of the suggestions are unmanageable with large numbers of children!

However, there are regular responses on Newsletters eg the introduction of languages, Transition programmes, PE Projects and Key Stage 2 visits to Chantry, Diary Dates, Parents' Coffee Mornings, 'Meeting your New Teacher,' Pupil Invites to Class, new ideas about Learning Together (Homework) and the upcoming Website. We will endeavour to continue to respond to Parents' suggestions and in particular, to be more overt about communicating that we **have listened and listed our improvement actions!**

The couple of parents who disagreed with the range of curriculum provision qualified their responses by stating that there were few trips in Reception. The Forest Schools Programme is vast and the children enjoy problem solving but we perhaps need to use the local Morpeth environment more for short trips for our smaller children and the Senior Management have taken this on board. However, you will understand, it is very difficult in a school with so many working parents to find the higher number of available CRB checked volunteers that are required for Health and Safety ratios with younger children and this clearly limits our adventures outdoors!

All staff treat children fairly and with respect and we were astounded by a couple of responses. However, parents have to understand that in order to improve behaviour, we have to teach tolerance through reward programmes. On the other hand, when consequences are required, it has also to be accepted that we always 'follow through' and occasionally pupils will miss trips and events. I am sure this is not well received by the few children involved and their parents alike but policies have to be in place for us all to learn effectively together. To this end, we are inviting you to a Reading and Top Tips workshop on Monday October 1st when there will be an opportunity for you to receive our Behaviour Policy and contribute to its update.

You will be delighted to read a range of the many hundreds of supportive comments as follows:

Comments (from reverse of form)

Yr 4 62% rate child's enjoyment as excellent, 36% very good, 2% not indicated

‘Brilliant school altogether!’

‘___ has had a fantastic experience at Goosehill and made memories he will keep forever.’

‘Thank you to individual teachers for efforts with a range of clubs.’

‘___ is always full of enthusiasm about school.’

‘Year 4 has been a great year, lots of progress and fun, excellent teacher, interesting subjects, good support.’

‘___ has had a good balance of subjects and projects over the years which have enabled him to develop and mature at his own rate.’

‘Brilliant school altogether. Wanted to go to school even when ill!’

‘My child loves the musical productions and clubs at this tremendous school.’

‘Miss Reay’s approach to keeping children safe and healthy.’

‘In child’s words, everything we did helped us learn. Thank you for providing a fantastic learning environment.’

‘Fun environment in which to learn. Goosehill has been an amazing great experience for my son. He has made endless advancements, both educational and emotional.’

‘We love being involved with Goosehill. It is a very special school which enables children to reach their potential and have aspirations for the future. It has a good value base which teaches children to be responsible members of the community.’

‘School is a safe learning environment for her.’

‘My child has enjoyed all the many sporting activities that the school provides. Goosehill is an outstanding school.’

I am extremely happy with the ‘transition’ work that has been implemented, well prepared for Newminster. Thank you to all staff for making ___ ‘primary’ school years fun, exciting and challenging. Morpeth First School has definitely given her the best start in her school life.’

‘Goosehill is a friendly school – very welcoming!’

‘The support and overall quality of the Roundabout Club is a big part of the experience.’

‘You nurture the whole child.’

‘Thank you so much for making ___’s first school experience so great. He improved year on year and I’m sure he will continue to do so thanks to his wonderful start – made memories he will keep for ever.’

‘All round fun and interesting and broad choice of activities. Bamburgh trip was spot on. Thank you to individual teachers for efforts with clubs.’

‘Yr 4 Excellent teacher, interesting subjects, lots of progress and fun!’

Yr 3 80% rate children's enjoyment as excellent, 13% very good, 7% satisfactory

'Absolutely safe and healthy.'

'Taken safety to next level with installation of gates.'

'Staff give praise, encouragement and always positive. They encourage and support friendships and teamwork. Independence is promoted and confidence gained. Can't praise staff and thank staff enough. Headteacher, Miss Reay, will always go 'that extra mile' to support our children and their families.'

'___ looks forward to lessons. The teachers have managed to make the learning fun. Next target forms are very useful.'

'Success is rewarded and children are always encouraged to push themselves more. Good balance of challenge.'

'Stimulated, supported, lovely friends and very impressed with teachers this year.'

'My child has enjoyed the trips and all the exciting activities arranged this term.'

'Always looks forward to school and often discusses his learning.'

'___ is always very enthusiastic about school. He loves to go to learn and see his friends. He has particularly enjoyed this year and the topics covered. The subjects have really grabbed his attention.'

'Both within lessons and extracurricular activities, she has loved every minute at school. She is kept interested and motivated. She is confident with all the staff who care for her and help her progress. Thank you so much to an excellent Mr Jefferson, Mrs White –maths, Mrs Fuller –choir who have helped her progress in everything. Thank you Miss Reay for all of the amazing organization to make all of the activities run to enhance the children's learning and enjoyment. Her year has been amazing and flawless due to the staff.'

'Positive encouragement from teachers. Pupils learn to be thoughtful and to help their friends. I like the balance between discipline and the positive way the children are encouraged to do well. Very supportive teaching staff in this year who work very hard and very well at bringing out the best in the children.'

'She loves the broad range of the curriculum. Thank you for giving her such an interesting and exciting time in school and making learning so enjoyable'

'Excellent enjoyment because my child says 'I love doing it!''

'Loves his school so that says a lot.'

'___ is always enthusiastic about the topics he is doing at school and always wants to go.'

'Loves being part of the Goosehill team and is very proud of her school. My child has progressed well this year, particularly in areas she was struggling with. I put this down to the excellent teachers who have been very helpful.'

'Definitely safe. Intercom system is most reassuring.'

Yr 2 80% rate children's enjoyment as excellent, 17% very good, 3% satisfactory

'She has enjoyed each lesson, in her words 'each lesson is a surprise and I enjoy how different they are.' Knowing the school gate policy is in place is a relief. This is ____ first year at Goosehill and she has developed so well in this space of time. I wish she had been with you from Reception. This is the best school of five!'

'Always happy to go to school. Enjoys the fun, exciting projects. Lots of extracurricular activities to participate in. We are extremely happy with 'everything' about Morpeth First School.'

'Wide range of curricular topics, some of which child chosen. Children work at their own level and are encouraged to reach their own potential. Lessons are challenging and extend upon children's learning.'

'He always wants to go to school which is the most important reason for his enjoyment. Very happy with safety now the gates are locked and visitors have to be allowed in. Excellent staff. Thank you.'

'He liked doing the work! Learning more complicated experiences and progressing well. School is very secure. They keep children healthy by supplying them with daily fruit and healthy choice menu for school lunch.'

'She is challenged and enjoys learning. She enjoys all the different activities and classes that she can do and would like to do more. I have been very impressed at the amount of activities that the school has undertaken over the last few months. All of this takes a lot of planning and we are grateful to the school and staff for giving our daughter the opportunity to try a variety of activities and the different sports sessions that have been arranged.'

'Enjoyment of lessons, wide range of curricular activities on offer and the various projects throughout the year.'

'The standard of teaching is very high. I am very happy with the school.'

'My child really enjoys school and sees it as a positive environment for both social and educational curriculum learning. No suggestions – school is excellent.'

'Loves school. Goosehill is a splendid school an all staff are very dedicated and helpful.'

'____ has really had an excellent year in Mrs Brennan's class and we are very happy with her progress.'

'He always enjoyed going to school every day and talks animatedly and enthusiastically about school.'

'He goes to school every day with a big smile on his face.'

'I am very impressed with how engaged and challenged ____ has been in Class 5.'

Yr 1 75% rate child's enjoyment as excellent and 25% as very good.

'Because she gets to do fun stuff and hard work (her own words!)'

'She really enjoys all the interesting ways subjects are taught, through stories and practical experiments and lessons. She enjoys the school lunches. I really appreciate the positive comments about her progress, it spurs her on to try hard and be good when she knows it's recognised.'

'Miss Taylor is a credit to the team! She has worked wonders!'

'__ is happy, enjoys going to school and talks positively about things she has learnt.'

'I love school!'

'__ loves attending school. She is always keen to discuss the things she has learnt at school.'

'Very healthy. I love the school menu.'

'__ comes home every day and asks if she is going to school tomorrow. Always excited when I say yes. Keep up the great work! I have a close friend who is an OFSTED inspector and when I talk about her enjoyment of school she always seems impressed. Well done and thank you.'

'I initially put 'very good' then my son insisted 'excellent' was more accurate!'

'She really loves coming to school every day, that comment says it all! What a marvellous school!'

'Yes, very safe, the school does not allow my child to leave the classroom at the end of the day unless someone is there to pick her up.'

'Excellent teachers.'

'Thank you on behalf of myself and my daughter for a lovely school year.'

'The school has a wide range of extracurricular activities which are also a great enhancement to my children's enjoyment at school.'

'When I asked my child if she enjoyed school, her reply was 'I love it!' She is always happy going to school and enjoys talking about her day. Goosehill is an outstanding school.'

Recep 77% rate child's enjoyment as excellent and 23% as very good.

'Thank you for making ___' first year at school so enjoyable and successful.'

'___ loves school and has settled into school life quickly and with ease. Thank you for looking after her and making school life fun and enjoyable!'

'Always full of information about 'things I have done at school today!''

'My child absolutely loves school. I am very happy with school. My eldest child thrived and my youngest is off to a great start.'

'Keeness to attend school and willingness to talk about his days at school and the fun he has had.'

'The curriculum is varied and enjoyable. He loves coming to school. Carry on as you are, the whole structure of the curriculum is delivered very effectively by great teachers and all the support staff.'

'Varied curriculum and teaching methods with excellent use of outside agencies and trips.'

'He feels proud of his achievements and feels his good efforts are valued and rewarded. I am thrilled with how his eating has improved in terms of variety, quantity and eagerness to try new foods. A lovely school where my child is happy, progressing and feeling valued. Thank you.'

'Very caring, insightful teacher, quick to resolve problems. Veryy grateful for an excellent school.'

'Never once complained about going to school and looks forward to it. Thank you.'

'He goes to school every day with a big smile in his face.'

'My child has school dinners and there seems to be a good variety of meals and vegetables always included. I have no concerns re safety.'

'My concerns aired have been taken seriously by staff who appear professional, including assistants.'

'He has developed from being quite reserved to being more confident and outgoing. Excellent school meals. This year was very positive for my child. He has integrated well and is very proud of his school.'

'Enjoys school because she likes all the new activities, playground facilities and outdoor trips.'

' Yes very safe, safeguarding very important and taken seriously.'

' Good progress with Literacy which makes my child happy with success. Interesting subject matter linked to children's current interests.'

'___ is in a stimulating and safe environment at school. Faces make for a happy learning environment. We appreciate all efforts made to keep children safe with secure gates and efforts to encourage safe parking and are grateful for lovely school dinners and plenty of outdoor time. We appreciate all of the efforts made by all staff to make Goosehill such a lovely place to learn. The enthusiasm and dedication of staff from head down are clear. Thank you.'

'She speaks very highly of all of her teachers and enjoys her interaction with them. Our daughter is incredibly happy at school which I believe has been due to the wonderful ethos of staff and pupils.'

Nursery 82% rate child's enjoyment as excellent and 18% as very good.

‘He always looks forward to coming to Nursery. I have been very impressed with Goosehill and the dedication of the staff. We are very much looking forward to the coming years at the school.’

‘I am very satisfied that the school keeps my daughter safe and healthy. She is offered healthy food at snack time and is actively encouraged to go outdoors each day to exercise. The gate entry system ensures all children are kept safe inside school.’

‘Great variety of activities, special trips and activities outside of nursery. The end of a lovely era!’

‘___ has been very happy at Goosehill nursery. The teachers are very approachable and deal with any issues immediately. They are an asset to the school.’

‘___ has been provided with a stimulating environment and has greatly enjoyed all the activities. She has felt comfortable with her teachers and supported. I am confident to leave my child in the safe hands of your nursery. We have greatly appreciated the written communication. Overall a fabulous nursery experience.’

‘Since day one ___ has gone to school happy and eager to learn thanks to all the interesting activities on offer at Goosehill and as a parent that has been a huge relief. I know she is in the best possible care at school thanks to her wonderful teachers. I would like to say a massive ‘thank you’ to Mrs Fogerty and Mrs Healy for bringing ___ on so much and for being such hard working dedicated carers.’

‘___ can't wait every day to get to school and has even asked us at a weekend if he can go to school, so he obviously enjoys going very much. The school tries extremely hard and has implemented a high standard safety policy.’

‘___ has loved coming to Nursery and gets very upset if he has to miss a session. He has made great friends and learnt lots.’

He is always happy going into school and often is almost running when we are crossing the road. He is stimulated, feels safe and comfortable with those around him. We have loved watching his development during his time with you. It has been an absolute pleasure working with you all.’

‘I never imagined she would leave Nursery with some ability to read.’

From 169 returns we only had the following issues from a few parents:

Suggestions/Concerns	School Commentary	School Actions
<p><u>1. Perception that we do not respond to suggestions/concerns</u></p>	<p>We do not receive many suggestions. In 2011/12 there were only two – wishes for more PE and a Website, both addressed with Yr 3 and 4 visiting Chantry and website about to be launched.</p>	<p>2012/13 Immediately communicate analysis of Parent Evaluations and consequent Action Plan. Invitations to join parent Groups, particularly LPPA (Leading Parent Partnership Award) for views. Newsletters to indicate Responses to parents’ suggestions. Introduce a range of voting systems.</p>
<p><u>2. More Trips</u></p>	<p>Most responses said that we offered a wide range. It is a balancing act as some parents are concerned about cost.</p>	<p>Increase local trips in Nursery/Reception eg to Library/garden centre. Aim to ensure one per year grp per term.</p>
<p><u>3. ParentPay Dinner prices and menu constantly online.</u></p>	<p>ParentPay was set up in response to Parent request. There are only two menus per year – summer + winter.</p>	<p>There have been a few technical problems with the provider but we will explore the ICT capability to permanently display both price and menu.</p>
<p><u>4. Healthier Lunches, no Sweet stalls</u></p>	<p>Please note opposite view of many parents’ comments above.</p>	<p>Reissue invitation to join SNAG group with cook. (School Nutrition Action Group) FoG have agreed to cease sweet stalls but continue with the summer Cake stalls.</p>
<p><u>5. Lack of PE</u></p>	<p>Three weeks of Olympics PE daily in summer term. Range of sporting clubs outstanding, leaflet last year from PE Coordinator detailing 2 hour NC delivery, Collapsed Projects, annual Altogether Active programme and clubs</p>	<p>Challenge perception of ‘No field, No PE!’ 2012/13 Yr 3 and 4 weekly PE lessons at Chantry. Specialist skills training.</p>

<p><u>6. Notice of Diary Dates for working parents</u></p>	<p>Used to give dates a half term ahead. For curriculum Opportunities it is not always possible as we rely on others.</p>	<p>Endeavour to communicate Event dates for full term. (See this term)</p>
<p><u>7. Diary Clash of Parents' Events with Newminster/KEVI</u></p>		<p>Liaison at Mini Partnership or via the Office Managers.</p>
<p><u>8. Offer MFL (modern foreign language)</u></p>	<p>French taught 30-45 minutes per week in class through singing rhymes and vocabulary. German, Italian, Spanish clubs offered to KS2. More provision than in most First Schools!</p>	<p>Continue delivery. Make provision overt by sharing French learning in Parents' Assemblies.</p>
<p><u>9. Prevent Parent Parking On Double Yellow Lines</u></p>	<p>Continual newsletter items, Safety weeks, communication with police and Civil Enforcement Dept.</p>	<p>Contact Civil Enforcement Local officers again. Encourage them to send Letters to parents to urge them NOT to place their children in danger for the sake of convenience.</p>
<p><u>10. Increase Readers and Feedback</u></p>	<p>Continual balance between Teaching, guided reading grps and individual reading and class sizes of 30.</p>	<p>Policy aim to hear each child once per week except in Event Weeks. Inform parents of progress in Guided Reading grps via Reading Comment books. Send out Guidance for Parent Comments and invitation to Reading Workshops Oct 1st</p>
<p><u>11. Friends of Goosehill to inform parents on allocation of funds</u></p>	<p>Usually have Dream List to work towards. With new Office holders last year school forgot to give this on paper but £5,000 deposited last Nov was spent on updating Reading Scheme in Early Years and KS1, guided reading books KS2, cameras, ICT.</p>	<p>Dream List for monies 11/12 Issued to FoG, Sep 18th and attached.</p>

<p><u>12. Homework</u> <u>Request for none in Holidays and make it more fun!</u></p>	<p>Again, a difficult balance as some cohorts of parents request lots and others want none. We adhered to DFE guidelines in the past. We have always told parents of younger children to stop after 15 minutes. It is concerning for the school and children's self esteem when some take time and care in its production and wish to share it and others are upset that they cannot 'Show and Tell.'</p>	<p>Homework is not now compulsory and we have decided to follow our strapline and emphasise the advantages of Learning Together so parents and children can develop and extend their learning outside of the school. All year groups are exploring methods of fun learning. We will also extend homework via Nortle. We hope parents realize the progress value of supporting their children with reading, spelling and tables.</p>
<p><u>13. Behaviour</u> <u>One request not to be strict with consequences that we expect the children to behave too independently and maturely for their age and the other to 'follow through' with playground 'bullying' and firmer consequences!</u></p>	<p>School has always followed a consistent Behaviour and Bullying Policy with a list of Consequences for unacceptable behaviour. We all have different views about behaviour and tolerance but every child is treated in the same manner when their behaviour disturbs others and prevents them from learning or endangers them. There are various stages of misdemeanour and associated consequences.</p>	<p>Invitation on Monday October 1st at 6pm to review the school's Behaviour Policy, help to understand its purpose, determine what bullying is and to update it. This may be difficult as everyone has different expectations but we invite all of our parents to be involved and share in the discussion process.</p>
<p><u>14. Communications- wish for email and telephone feedback</u></p>	<p>Parents must realize that with 350 pupils and 12 teachers, it would be impossible to answer emails and give daily telephone information via teachers. The numbers of children prevent such a personalized service!</p>	<p>However, we endeavour to communicate with you via very detailed newsletters (one parent wished they were more concise!!), coloured sheets of diary dates, Parent assemblies, Parent Coffee Mornings, Curriculum Expectation Meetings and Workshops where we can address whole year groups or classes efficiently.</p>

Parent Invitations

School Nutrition Action Group

I would like to be a member of the SNAG group to consider the menus and nutrition of the school lunches.

Parent's Name _____ Signed _____

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Leading Parent Partnership Award

I would like to be a member of this Parent Policy Group.

Parent's Name _____ Signed _____

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Parent Workshop Reading/Behaviour Policy

I will be attending the above Workshop on Monday October 1st at 6pm.

Parent's Name _____ Signed _____