

Essex County Council

Sheering Church of England
Primary School

The Street, Sheering, Bishop's Stortford, Herts. CM22 7LU

Headteacher: Mrs LJ Brittain

Telephone: 01279 734210

Email: admin@sheering.essex.sch.uk

Website: www.sheeringschool.org.uk



Tuesday 1st March 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for taking the time to complete the Parent questionnaire recently. We had 63 responses (58%) from right across the school. Your comments form an important part of our school self-evaluation and I would like to share the results with you. Please note, 1 response=1.6% so percentages have been rounded up and therefore may not add up to 100. I have combined the 'strongly agree' and 'agree' figures to create the percentage in red, in the first column.

		Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree or disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
1	My child enjoys coming to school	95%	43	17	1 2%	1 2%
2	The school is welcoming and there are opportunities to get involved	100%	38	25		
3	The school keeps my child safe	96%	44	17	2 3%	
4	The school communicates with me effectively about my child's progress	85%	34	20	7 11%	2 3%
5	My child is making progress at this school	94%	42	17	3 5%	1 2%
6	The teaching is good at this school	95%	44	16	2 3%	1 2%
7	The school understands and responds to my child's needs	90%	35	22	4 6%	2 3%
8	The school communicates with me effectively about how to support my child's learning	88%	34	22	6 9%	1 2%
9	My child is encouraged to work hard and do their best	98%	40	22	1 2%	
10	There is a wide range of extra-curricular activities for my child to take part in	82%	28	24	7 11%	4 6%
11	The school helps my child to lead a healthy lifestyle	82%	25	27	9 14%	2 3%
12	The school deals effectively with unacceptable behaviour	74%	28	19	15 24%	1 2%
13	The school takes account of my suggestions and concerns	82%	23	29	10 16%	1 2%
14	The school is led and managed effectively	98%	41	21	1 2%	
15	Overall, I am happy with my child's experience at this school	95%	40	20	2 3%	1 2%
16	I would recommend this school to somebody else	95%	42	18	2 3%	1 2%

The Governors and I are delighted that; 95%* of our children enjoy coming to school; 100% of you find the school welcoming; 96% of you feel that the school keeps your child(ren) safe; 98% of responses indicate that the children are encouraged to work hard and do their best and 98% of you feel the school is led and managed effectively.

*percentage indicates responses to the questionnaire and not the whole school.

Many of the responses were quite positive where the percentage of 'strongly agreed' and 'agreed' were in the 90s (%). I would like to respond to some of the areas where the positives dropped to below 90%.

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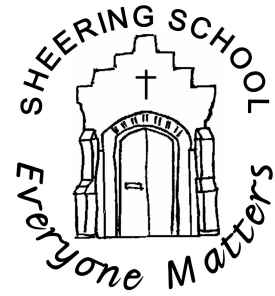
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The school communicates with me effectively about my child's progress (85%)

In response to this, I have arranged 2 curriculum evenings, on the same nights as the Parent Consultations with information about the New Curriculum which we began in September. The children will also have an interim report detailing their progress so far this year and will be discussed at the Parent Consultations.

There is a wide range of extra-curricular activities for my child to take part in (82%)

Every term we offer a range of clubs and try to cater for the needs and interests of all our children. Every teacher offers a club even though our part-time teachers and newly qualified teachers are not required to do so. Being a small school, we are limited in the number of staff we have to take the clubs which is why I also get involved with football club with Mr Newman every week and Mr Pennell, our caretaker, takes a club. If a club is not well attended, we change it so that more children have a chance to take part in extra-curricular activities. If anyone would like to offer their time, energy and expertise to run a club (subject to DBS check) we would welcome the help.

The school helps my child to lead a healthy lifestyle(82% agreed and 14% neither agreed or disagreed)

Healthy lifestyles is an integral part of the school curriculum in science, PE and Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE) and the children are encouraged to make healthy choices with their meals, snacks and drinks in school. Some of the written responses indicated that the school lunches are unhealthy but these menus, from County are nutritionally balanced throughout the week. This year we have removed and disposed of our deep fat fryer and since our new catering manager has started, we do not fry any food including the chips on a Friday. In response to your comments, we are going to continue with the Healthy School accreditation from September 2016.

The school deals effectively with unacceptable behaviour (74% agreed and 24% neither agreed or disagreed)

Behaviour has improved greatly at Sheering school and the last 2 visits from our Improvement Partner confirms that behaviour is now 'Good' rather than 'Requires Improvement'. We have not given out any Red cards since May 2015 or exclusions since October 2014.

This has largely been down to: the whole school community working together to review and understand our school rules; exploring our TERRIFIC values and the Vision and Aims; changes to lunchtimes with training for Midday Assistants and the re-introduction of Play Leaders.

Many parents who neither agreed or disagreed qualified this statement by adding that they did not have any experience of unacceptable behaviour at the school so were unable to comment. However, I do understand that behaviour is still a concern for some parents and we are continuing to improve these areas and build better lines of communication.

Thank you for your continued support

Mrs Lorna Brittain