



## Haddenham Community Junior School

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Registered Charity No. 1122813

Aiming High, Celebrating Success

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### Parent Questionnaire Response

Welcome to my annual response to your annual questionnaire. We had 70 returns amounting to 24% of you. This is similar to last year and I always take non-response as a sign that things are ok!

Firstly thank you very much for your overwhelmingly positive responses. These are the highlights.

	Agree	Disagree	Don't know
My child likes the school	100%	0%	
There is a good display of pupils' work on the walls	99%		1%
Do you feel well informed of your child's progress?	86%	12%	
I am happy with the amount of homework given	80%	17%	
The school grounds are a good area for social and physical interaction	100%	0%	
The school is clean and pleasant	96%	2%	2%
The school is a safe place	98%	2%	
The school promotes healthy lifestyles	89%	2%	7%
If I have a concern, I know who to speak to	96%	1%	3%

#### Homework

Always a tricky one. I know from previous wordings that as for Goldilocks the answer is 'too much', 'too little' or 'about right'. I know we will never get the homework bit right for all of you by its very nature. I am pleased that this time 80% of returns were happy with the amount.

#### Communication

I was disappointed that 16% felt you are not well informed about what is going on. This year we have introduced the large noticeboard outside school on which there is a weekly digest. This is repeated on the school website. Mrs Adams-Wright updates the school information part of the telephone answering machine every Monday. 'Pop in' is on Mondays for the first half of the term and Wednesdays for the second half.

With respect I think sometimes we need to remember that communication is actually a two way thing - information doesn't drop out of the sky into your laps, you may need to interrogate the

website etc to find it! Also, if your children are anything like mine, you still need to delve into the bags at night or nothing written on paper will find its way to you!

### Safety

I am glad that only 2 of you thought the school isn't a safe place. However even one is too many. Please come and see me so that we can discuss your concerns.

One of you thought the uniform doesn't cater equally for both sexes. Again please come and articulate your concerns so that we can redress the issue.

Thanks for the hugely positive comments such as:

*HCJS is a well run happy school with good facilities.*

*I have no doubt that my children are in the right place.*

*Teachers very approachable if there is a problem.*

*I am impressed with the displays... it gives my child a sense of pride.*

### Miscellaneous issues clarified

No 'topics' are repeated; each year has its work planned. Maths topics and some literacy topics are revisited as per the numeracy and literacy strategy, at a different level each time.

Gifted and talented children - staff are aware that HCJS is a generally high achieving school. As a Head I expect to see the needs of these children met through quality class teaching. We aim to provide many open ended and creative tasks so that children's independent learning is developed. This means that there is no need usually for a different type of work. I am extremely pleased to tell you that some Y6 children sat optional extension SATs papers this year and it showed that 13% of the year group achieved a Level 6 in maths. When you bear in mind that the average for the end of Y6 is Level 4 and our most able score L5, these pupils are much more than two years ahead of the national average.

We cannot sit the children in the hall so that all can eat together as it would mean no lunchtime clubs would be able to run in there.

Re the request for more 'current work': there really isn't enough time to go off curriculum for one off things like making cards for mothers' day, and (personally) I feel there was enough media coverage of a certain recent wedding, without the need to add to that in school time! (Some classes did do some work on the royal family.) We do go 'off curriculum' for planned events like Challenge Days and outdoor education weeks already, (and the Football World Cup). I expect the Olympics may well feature in the near future.

Non 'sporty' children do have opportunities for non-sporty clubs: ICT club, art, construction, gardening, choir etc. We are always open to volunteers who could come in to run chess or other clubs!

Thank you for the time taken to complete and send in the questionnaires. Your comments are valued and help us move continually forward.

Yours faithfully  
Sue Roberts  
Headteacher