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Parent/Carer Survey – 2017/2018 Outcomes and Next Steps

Dear Parents and Carers,

At the end of last academic year, a parent/carers survey was completed in order to gain your views about our academy. Thank you to the many of you who took the time to give us your feedback. We received 38 responses, representing approximately 40% of the parent/carers body and we really would like to have a greater number of respondents over this next year.

We have continued to receive extremely positive feedback and some helpful suggestions and thoughts on how we can continue to improve and build on our current successes. As I have done with our previous survey, I thought it may be helpful for you to know some key headline results/feedback that came out of the survey, and what the academy will be doing to address any areas for development. For existing parents/carers, you may recognise some similar findings as with the autumn term survey.

Please note that due to the relatively small numbers of respondents, each response is approximately worth 2.5%.

Key Strengths

Almost all parents/carers agree or strongly agreed that:

- Their child enjoys coming to Green Ridge (97.5%).
- Their child is safe and well-cared for at Green Ridge (100%).
- The teaching at Green Ridge is good and helps their child to make progress (97.5%).
- The school is well led and managed (97.5%).
- We promote a healthy lifestyle to our pupils (100%).
- We expect each child to work hard and achieve their best (97.5%).
- We help parents/carers to support their child's learning (through parent meetings, workshops, newsletters etc.) (100%)
- We encourage parents/carers to play an active part in the life of the school (100%).
- We make sure each child is well-prepared for the next step in their education (100%).
- They are happy with their child's experience at Green Ridge (100%).

The large majority (95% or greater) also agreed or strongly agreed that behaviour at Green Ridge is good and that incidents of misbehaviour are appropriately managed.

Individual feedback and responses about the school's strengths supported the statements above, for example with comments such as:

- "Communication is fantastic. There is also always a feeling that the staff are approachable, regardless of who that member of staff is."
- "Well behaved children and parents that work with the staff as well as the children."
- "Classes are made fun to keep the children engaged and willing to learn. Children are awarded for their good work to keep them encouraged."
- "The individual approach they have with every child and the enthusiasm of the staff."
- "I feel the school's strengths are the progress in which my child has made this year and the amount of learning that my child has done is brilliant."
- "My daughter is progressing so much in her learning and thoroughly loves school and I can't ask anymore."
- "My child has enjoyed his year at Green Ridge, and hugely blossomed. He has come on in leaps and bound with literacy and maths, and most importantly he loves it!"

Areas for improvement

As with our previous survey, there were some questions answered where not all parents/carers agreed (the same questions in fact!); however, these responses were in still in the minority in comparison with all other responses:

My child gets the right amount of home learning (for their age) (90% agreed or strongly agreed).

This remains a contentious issue in every school, with all parents/carers having different experiences and abilities to support their child. We recognise that the home learning will never meet the demands and wishes of all parents/carers, but we try to make it purposeful for the children so that they are motivated to do it (without becoming a chore!) and then building on this to reinforce key skills as the children develop (e.g. spellings, timestables). Parents will often expect a 'sheet' to feel that their child is doing home learning, but in reality, quality reading of 10-15 minutes per day, practising spelling words together and learning timestables or number facts is more than enough and is better support for your child in the long-term. However, we will continue to review our home learning policy and expectations each year as our academy and children grow.

I am kept well informed about my child's progress through Pupil Learning Reviews and meetings with staff (90% agreed or strongly agreed).

We continue to welcome suggestions as to how else parents could be kept-up-to-date about their child's learning; there are opportunities to join us for stay and learn sessions, we have pupil learning reviews, and parents can make an appointment with the class teacher as necessary.

I know how to contact the school's governing body (75% agreed).

Details of who are school governors can be found on our website [here](#), and details about how to contact them can also be found [here](#). The governing body also send home a [termly update](#) to parents/carers, which was published in June. You also have two parent governors, Laura Nunn and Bina Varsani (parents of children currently in Year One) whom you can go to directly.

What do you feel the school could do to improve on with regards to the social and emotional development of the children?

Comments broadly fell within the following categories:

- Giving greater opportunities for children in Reception to have leadership responsibilities across the school;
- Greater resources for children to use during break and lunch times;
- More opportunities for children to learn how to deal with their emotions and feelings, particularly when frustrated.

In considering all the suggestions made, including those above, we are going to take the following actions:

- Make a crib sheet for parents/carers to know what home learning each year-group has, and what expectations there are from home to support this – **by October 2018**.
- Introduce book-look opportunities for parents/carers so that they can informally come in and see their child's learning at least once every half-term – **by October 2018**

- Putting in place videos on our website of key teaching strategies used in each year group so parents can support at home and systematically planning parental workshops throughout the year to support parents – **by November 2018**
- The school is working with the PTA to raise additional funds for outside equipment for the children to play with at break and lunch times through the Tesco token scheme; the school itself will also be purchasing additional equipment for break/lunchtimes over the coming year, but this selection of resources needs continual replenishment – **ongoing through 2018/2019**

For existing parents, thank you once again for taking the time to share your views and for helping us to improve what we do at Green Ridge. For those new parents who have just joined us, we would very much like your input and feedback for the academy and would encourage you to complete the survey yourselves later in the year in order to gain further responses.

Please do ensure you make contact with the Parent Forum reps in your class who are able to feedback any ideas/suggestions to the school on a regular basis (more details being given about this); they meet every half-term and this is your way of ensuring that all issues are raised and appropriate action is taken where possible.

Yours faithfully,



Mr. Aaron Wanford
Headteacher