



Parent Voice – April 2018

- This questionnaire summarises 65 responses representing 76 children (43% - compared to 48% in April 2017 and 38% in July 2016). Where response forms had 2 sets of ✓, these were both recorded (some in different columns). This gave a total of 74 responses.
- One return did not identify how many children (nor the year group) but is recorded in the results.
- Where a question was left blank (only 1), a return was placed in the don't know column.
- This table represents a tally of all 74 responses.

	(Please tick.)	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
1	My child is happy at Ryhall CE Academy	59	13	2		
2	My child feels safe at this school	64	10			
3	The school informs me about my child's progress	56	16	1	1	
4	My child is making enough progress at this school	53	18	2	1	
5	The teaching is good at this school	52	21			1
6	The school helps me to support my child's learning	53	19	1		1
7	The school helps my child to have a healthy lifestyle; activities, PE/Sport, etc.	51	23			
8	The school makes sure that my child is well prepared for the future (for example, changing year group, moving to secondary school)	36	30	2		6
9	The school provides a good range of extra-curricular opportunities	32	35	5	1	1
10	The school meets my child's particular needs	48	23	2	1	
11	The school deals effectively with unacceptable behaviour	55	10		1	8
12	The school takes account of my suggestions and concerns	41	26		1	6
13	The communication from the school is good	45	27	1	1	
14	I receive timely responses to my questions	49	21	1	1	2
15	The school is led and managed effectively	54	19		1	
16	Overall, I am happy with my child's experience at this school	57	14	1	1	1
17	I would recommend this school to another parent PTO	YES	73	NO		1

This table represents the % of all 74 responses compared with 2017/2016 results (in brackets).

	(Please tick.)	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
1	My child is happy at Ryhall CE Academy	80 (72/67)	18 (27/30)	2 (1/3)	0 (0/0)	0 (0/0)
2	My child feels safe at this school	86 (77/76)	14 (23/24)	(0/0)	(0/0)	(0/0)
3	The school informs me about my child's progress	76 (52/27)	22 (39/57)	1 (6/13)	1 (3/3)	(0/0)
4	My child is making enough progress at this school	72 (53/35)	24 (41/55)	3 (3/5)	1 (0/0)	(3/5)
5	The teaching is good at this school	70 (78/43)	29 (21/54)	(1/0)	(0/0)	1 (0/3)
6	The school helps me to support my child's learning	73 (53/38)	26 (41/49)	1 (4/8)	(0/0)	1 (2/5)
7	The school helps my child to have a healthy lifestyle; activities, PE/Sport, etc.	69 (65/59)	31 (34/41)	(1/0)	(0/0)	(0/0)
8	The school makes sure that my child is well prepared for the future (for example, changing year group, moving to secondary school)	49 (49/41)	41 (39/51)	2 (1/0)	(0/0)	8 (11/8)
9	The school provides a good range of extra-curricular opportunities	43 (51/49)	47 (37/32)	7 (3/19)	1 (3/0)	1 (6/0)
10	The school meets my child's particular needs	65 (59/35)	31 (37/62)	3 (3/0)	1 (0/0)	(1/3)
11	The school deals effectively with unacceptable behaviour	74 (44/35)	14 (38/51)	(3/3)	1 (0/5)	11 (15/5)
12	The school takes account of my suggestions and concerns	55 (43/32)	35 (40/46)	(3/3)	1 (0/0)	9 (14/19)
13	The communication from the school is good	61 (58/46)	37 (39/40)	1 (1/14)	1 (1/0)	(1/0)
14	I receive timely responses to my questions	66 (51/41)	28 (38/43)	1 (3/0)	1 (0/5)	3 (8/11)
15	The school is led and managed effectively	73 (75/57)	26 (22/43)	(1/0)	1 (1/0)	(1/0)
16	Overall, I am happy with my child's experience at this school	77 (76/57)	19 (22/43)	1 (1/0)	1 (0/0)	1 (1/0)
17	I would recommend this school to another parent	YES	99 (95/100)	NO		1 (5*/0)

*5% represents 4 responses – 1 'no' response was positive in 14 out of 16 questions.

Open responses:

What I like most about the school:

- Excellent staff who are genuinely interested in the children
- Christian Values
- Teaching values of life
- The values and emphasis on rounded learning experience
- Fantastic rapport between teachers and pupils
- A very personal experience – very close community
- The warm, welcoming feel from both pupils and staff
- Lovely, friendly feel – loved the fact that when it snowed time was taken out of the curriculum for whole school snow play on the field – along with the Headteacher
- How much our teachers care about our children
- Small and friendly / open atmosphere
- Awards for behaviour, attendance and good work
- High expectations of behaviour and attendance
- Smaller size means children are known by staff and fellow pupils
- Strong Christian Values
- Embedded in village community
- Amazing support for individual needs
- Continuously impressed by the nurturing atmosphere and the caring attitude that the children have for each other
- The staff are happy, caring and committed
- All the students, parents and teachers are all so friendly. My child has made some really lovely friendships and as a class the parents have always been friendly and helpful.
- My child has a wonderful group of friends – we are so lucky to have such a lovely year group
- My daughter enjoys coming to school and comes home chatting about her day
- Approachable staff / staff all very helpful
- Very friendly, approachable school
- All staff answer any questions and always have time to listen
- Friendly and supportive atmosphere for all the children
- The school is very welcoming and supports children's learning very effectively
- It feels like a family and the teachers have had an amazing influence on my child's development
- The children are like a big family and all look out for each other
- Teachers and vibe are great
- Supportive and proactive staff
- Great teaching
- The teaching is outstanding
- Teachers 'hands on' approach and varied activities within lessons
- The school is very friendly and my children love the teachers
- So far, my child has had the most amazing teachers!
- Teachers in Year 1 are amazing
- The encouragement to try his hardest. The fact that he has become motivated and driven, in good balance to happy and confident! 😊
- Enthusiasm of staff; very caring staff
- The staff make you feel welcome

- Friendly, good staff, well supported, children are happy and enjoy coming (to school)
- Teachers are supportive and informative
- Teaching Methods and progress of children
- Teachers that understand the child and cares for their individual needs
- Imaginative teaching and support/encouragement given to my child
- Excellent/good communication
- Headteacher – very dynamic and inspiring and knows all the pupils
- Excellent leadership
- Headteacher is amazing
- Headteacher teaches lessons and is involved
- I love that Ms Walker is so involved with all the children! Very different to my experience of primary school!
- Inspiring children and encouraging natural learning
- I like that the topic for a term is spread over all the lessons
- Breadth and balance in curriculum.
- Friendly, sense of community for children across the age groups and that families/parents are included.
- I love how our school is such a lovely close group of people and everybody is concerned on the welfare of everyone
- Community feel/spirit
- Interaction between pupils in different years
- Different age groups are able to mix. Small enough that children know each other.
- How all the children from every class and year interact and respect one another. It's a very friendly environment
- Promotion of health and wellbeing
- Exciting lessons/topics
- Atmosphere is always positive, vibrant, open, creative – great environment for learning and playing
- Progress – value added
- Organisation
- The school has improved massively since my child started in Reception
- My child has settled very well in this school and is now a lot happier and looks forward to coming to school every day
- Fun and colourful learning environment
- My child is very happy to come to school and is settled
- My child loves coming to school!
- My children are happy here
- The school offers a wide range of extra-curricular activities
- KIA
- Great support/activities put on by FORA

In my opinion, the school could be improved further by:	Actions:
Giving less homework - I feel there is a lot of pressure on children to do their homework over the weekend when it's a time to enjoy family time and have fun.	Since our last homework survey with parents and children it was agreed that we would send out homework on a Friday (usually based on that week's learning) and the children would have one week to do this – therefore no expectation to do this at the weekend.

<p>Ensuring (or trying to) the staff stay for a whole year as this has been very disruptive – realise this is difficult to solve but this has proved to be very tricky for Year 5.</p> <p>More personalised observations of child's individual learning instead of generalised class or group activities (relates to EYFS)</p> <p>Better communication – sometimes a little more notice with events etc.</p> <p>Consolidation of communication – by having so many communication streams (e.g. Class Dojo, parentmail, letters, etc), I sometimes feel I have missed something.</p> <p>Mid-year report a bit difficult to read – could be simpler. Parents evenings much more useful.</p> <p>Red/Amber/Green system – if a child receives 1 yellow all year it seems unfair to 'tar them with the</p>	<p>Unfortunately, we can do very little to change short and long term absence and where this has been present, we believe that we have managed this in the best way to ensure continuity where possible – both in learning and in teaching.</p> <p>In the Reception Year, there is a wealth of evidence based around individual child observations conducted by different staff. All observations are used to inform progress judgements and used for moderation at the end of the academic year.</p> <p>All known and planned-for events are sent to parents on the school calendar at the beginning of the term (i.e. 3 x per year) – these are then highlighted again on the fortnightly newsletter. Although there is a sporting calendar (Rutland) that we sign up to at the beginning of the year, we must await further information from the Rutland Coordinator before we put information out to parents of selected children. We aim to do this as soon as possible and will continue to be mindful of this request.</p> <p>We would be delighted to find a system which means that one entry is communicated to all forms of communication. Facebook and Twitter are predominantly used for marketing and we recognise that not all parents choose to sign up to these social media platforms. Class Dojo has been used as a means of keeping class teachers in touch with parents as a 'look what we've been up to' showcase. Our main system of communication with parents continues to be ParentMail which includes email and text messaging – we ask that all parents subscribe to this where possible in order to keep up to date with information.</p> <p>A significant majority of parents (97%) found the mid-year report to be useful and have requested that this be continued in future years. We will seek parent voice regarding the content/usability.</p> <p>We set and expect high standards of behaviour from all children. Children are placed on yellow</p>
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<p>same brush' as another child who receives several reds and yellows. Results in disappointed children when they've tried hard to remain green.</p> <p>Path from gates to first gate needs sorting. Please speak to council to help.</p> <p>Better fencing than wire fencing (security)</p> <p>The improvements over the last few years have been tenfold! The only improvements needed relate to the usual wear and tear of a school. Nothing particular stands out.</p> <p>To see more PE/Sports within the school or more to be offered after school.</p>	<p>following reminders about their behaviour as well as requests to get 'back on track' with their learning. Whilst it is recognised there is a significant difference between the child who moves to yellow once and those who are repeatedly off green we hope that children learn to ensure behaviours remain at the expected standard. A child who is placed on yellow or red also has same-day consequences appropriate to their behaviours.</p> <p>The Parish Council undertook some work to clear this path in 2017. We will endeavour to work with the Parish Council again to improve this path where needed.</p> <p>A safeguarding review of the site does not indicate any concern with the current fencing. Where we have had a trespasser on site (during weekend/holiday), they have climbed the fencing rather than break this. We will continue to monitor this as part of our checks. An external Health & Safety review is to be undertaken in Term 6 in which this will be discussed. Any change to our current fencing will be at a significant cost and will rely on additional government funding to be secured.</p> <p>We have a premises improvement plan in place which supports statutory, general and Health & Safety maintenance required over a 3-year period. Thank you for your recognition of work already undertaken.</p> <p>All children across all classes from Reception to Year 6 have two hours of Physical Education per week – other opportunities for physical activity in learning are often provided. Whilst we teach the children the fundamental skills which are the basis of many sports, we also map out the PE curriculum to ensure children are exposed to a wide range of sports, with opportunity to develop in skill as required at competition level. In order to access a wider range, we provide these through our extra-curricular activities – these will only run where take-up is at the minimum level.</p>
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<p>Offering Gymnastics & Dance after school for my child's age group (Yr 1)</p>	<p>Over the rotations of extra-curricular clubs over a 2-year period, we have put on Dance for all children from Reception to Year 6 and Gymnastics for Years 2-6. We have had significantly less take up for those in the younger years and as clubs such as these are part subsidised by the school, they have not been financially viable.</p>
<p>Football for younger years</p>	<p>Again, when football has been a club available for younger year groups (i.e. Key Stage One), we have not had the take-up to make this club financially viable.</p>
<p>Better range of afterschool clubs (limited for some year groups)</p>	<p>Every member of staff, including support staff, voluntarily puts on an extra-curricular activity providing a range of clubs during lunch time and after school. The number of children in Key Stage Two is greater and therefore, there will be more clubs available to this age range. During this term, despite asking the children what type of clubs they would like on, we have had poor take up with some clubs having only 2, 3 or 4 children. Staff can only put on clubs within their own expertise – areas outside of these rely on support from volunteers otherwise costs of clubs increase where we are able to buy in services from others. Compared to many other schools we have continuously offered a wide range of clubs and ensure that we consider every year group, recognising that Key Stage One children often request to have clubs on at lunch time. We will be carefully considering our offer in the new academic year and will continue to seek pupil voice.</p>
<p>Year 1 extra-curricular activities – could improve by having activities for the children each term.</p>	
<p>Extending the extra-curricular activities for the younger age ranges in particular music.</p>	
<p>More visits/visitors</p>	<p>Every class schedules at least one visit related to one of their curriculum themes each academic year. Some classes choose to undertake a second, which may be related to their RE learning. We always have to consider the costs of visits carefully and ensure that these are affordable for parents/carers.</p> <p>We aim to organise visitors linked to class themes where possible; this academic year we have been visited by St John's Ambulance, members of the Rutland Osprey Team, a published poet and author, 'Send a Cow' representatives, violin tuition for whole</p>

	<p>class (Year 6) and as part of our KS2 'Inspire Me' week, we have been visited by a Sony Playstation Games Designer, RAF and a surgeon from PCH.</p> <p>We always welcome visitors and if parents/carers are able to put us in touch with any person who they think would be a suitable visit to school, please do get in touch. Please note that safeguarding procedures are put in place for any visitor who attends the school.</p>
<p>More emphasis on making healthy lifestyle choices e.g. healthy eating</p>	<p>As part of the PSHE curriculum, every year group has a focus on Healthy Lifestyles, which includes an understanding of the different food groups. We teach children about sugar contents in processed foods and how to consider alternatives as well as learning about choice and moderation.</p>
<p>For the school to continue as it is and maintain its high standards.</p>	<p>Thank you for this comment. We continue to make careful strategic decisions in order to become recognised as an outstanding school for the quality of all-round education we provide for all children who attend.</p>
<p>A clearer transition from year to year – what will the expectations be</p>	<p>This year, as expressed at the start of this summer term, we intend to make Term 6 a transition term so that children have a number of opportunities to meet. We will be bringing forward our 'Meet the Teacher' evening to Term 6, in which the staff will discuss the changes of the following year's curriculum including how to best prepare.</p>
<p>Moving classrooms in to year group order</p>	<p>Classrooms are of different sizes and decisions have to be based on the number of children in the class suitable to the class size. The smallest class has 20 children and the largest class 30 children. 10 children can make a significant difference in different classrooms.</p>
<p>Slightly earlier Breakfast Club start</p>	<p>Breakfast Club currently starts at 7.30am. This request will be put through to KIA to see if there is a need for a number of children in order to make this a financially viable option.</p>
<p>A linked, strong nursery/pre-school</p>	<p>Ryhall Childcare Centre (Rainbows), which is an independent pre-school is given opportunity to not only use school facilities, but also to link with the</p>

<p>Could we have purple shirts instead of white?</p>	<p>Reception Class. Against the current admission policy, there is no guarantee that children attending this pre-school will successful gain a place at the school.</p> <p>We initially considered a purple polo shirt when the uniform was changed in 2015. However, it was agreed that in the warmer weather, the darker colour would absorb heat and be uncomfortable for children to wear over the full day. When parent voice was gained, it was decided that purple would be better for PE as outdoor stains such as grass and mud would be less noticeable, and less difficult to wash.</p>
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The school would like to thank all of the parents who have made the above suggestions – whilst we hope that we have been able to reassure you with the responses, we will also ensure that these continue to be considered in any future decision making. Thank you again.

If you wish to add any further comments, suggestions or give explanation for any of your answers, please do so here. These comments are always gratefully received, both positive and negative as they help to gain a greater insight into parent voice.

- I am very pleased that I chose this school and happy with the progress my children are making. I feel they are well supported.
- In my experience so far, the school has met or surpassed my expectations. I'm looking forward to now seeing both of my children flourish here!
- We love Class Dojo – this is brilliant for parents who work away too. We'd love to keep this form of communication going please.
- Purple Uniform ☺
- Thank you for being A-M-A-Z-I-N-G!
- I can't think of any (improvements) – you are doing amazing.
- My child has improved so much since joining (KS2) in September. She now loves school and is eager to learn. The school have supported all my child's needs and keeps me updated regularly.
- Two very different experiences for the two children. One where the teacher knows everything about our child and one where the two parents' evenings have been generic and basically what was in the report (Yr 3 & Yr 5)
- Couldn't be happier with the transformation we have seen in our child – academically, socially and in his confidence levels. Thank you for all you have done to help. We are so grateful that our child is in such a kind and considerate environment.
- Both of my children have always been very proud of their school. What has been so nice recently is that we have heard so many positive comments from 'outsiders' about the school. This is down to the hard work and commitment from the staff at the school and this now really shows.
- Thank you for all that you do – your dedication and hard work are appreciated.