

Our School – Parent Questionnaire

October 2015

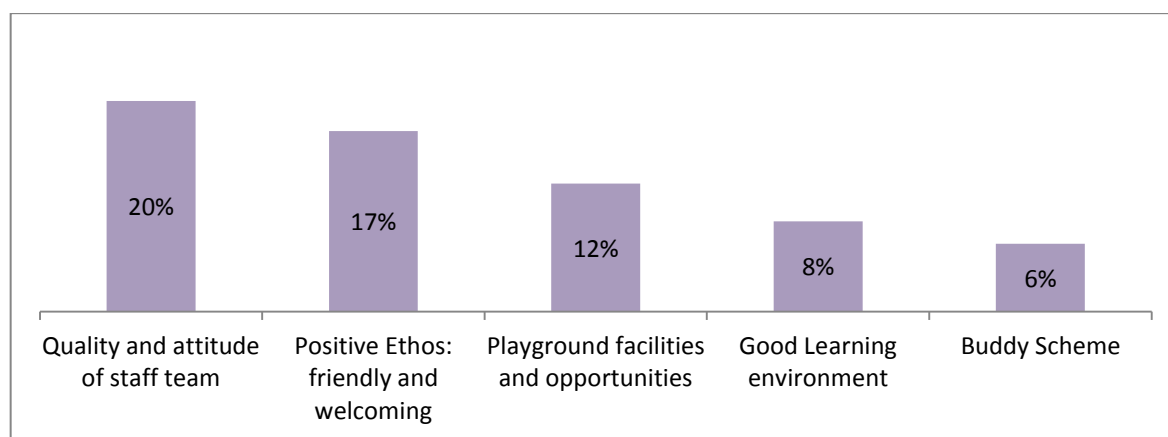
At Parents Evenings we invited parents to answer three questions. This was to help us get a better understanding of how parents feel about what we do and how we do it as well as checking what the aspirations of parents were when their children move on from Papdale. The two graphs for each of the three questions asked show:

- The Top 5 answers given by parents to each question and
- The Emergent themes - by grouping answers under broader headings to try and identify the most popular themes

For a complete list of the responses please go to appendix A at the end of this report.

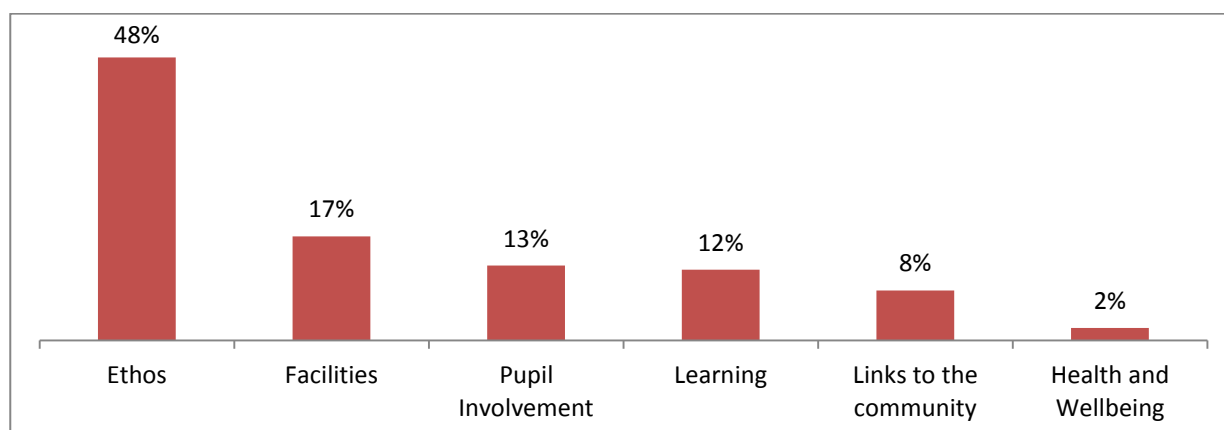
1. What makes our school unique/ special?

Top 5 answers



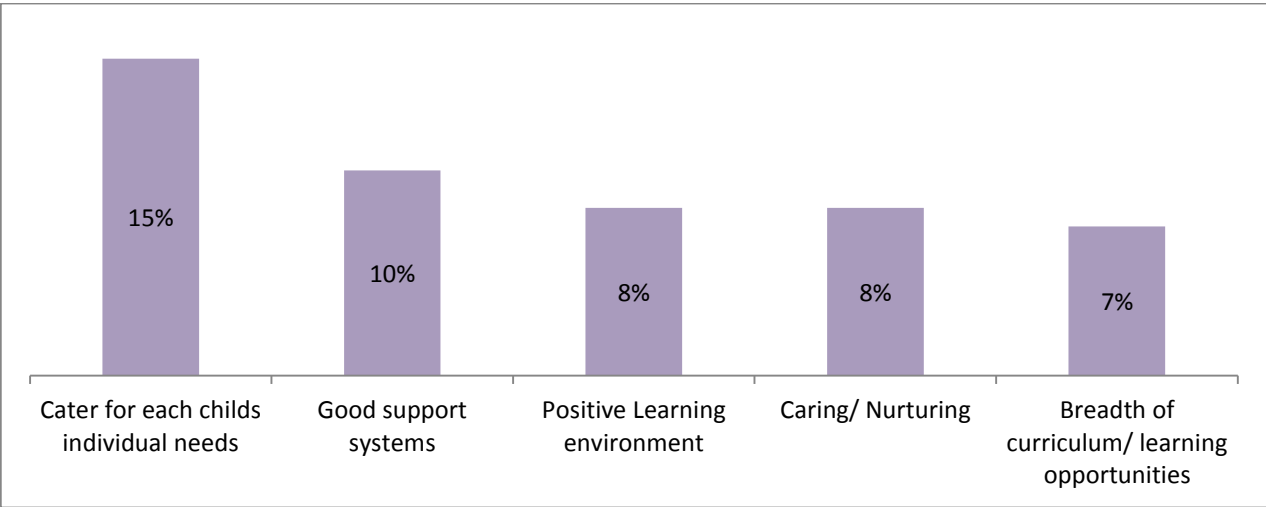
This suggests that the skills, attitude and efforts of the whole staff team were recognised as the main strength. The ethos was also highlighted as a key strength with the welcoming, open and approachable atmosphere cited as a big positive. The facilities, both inside and outside school also scored highly creating a good, positive and varied learning environment. The Buddy scheme, which involves P7 children supporting / mentoring P1 children for also praised.

Emergent Themes



2. What do you think we do best for our children?

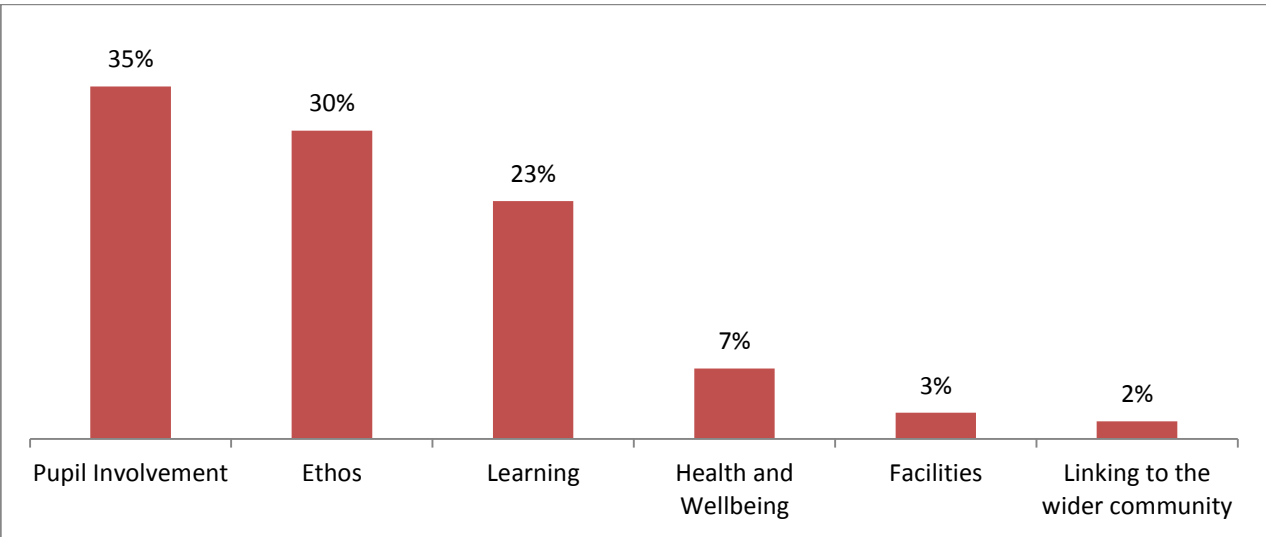
Top 5 answers



The main strength identified by parents was that the specific needs of each child were being well supported in a caring and nurturing environment. The learning environment was also highlighted as positive and varied giving children a broad learning experience.

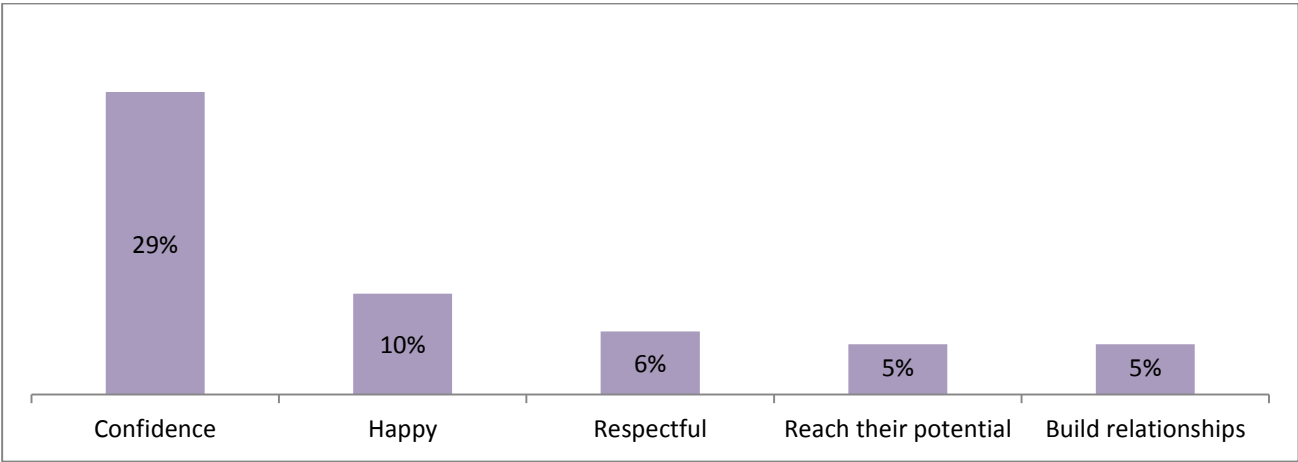
The emergent themes also suggested that parents felt children were valued contributors. The weekly Business Meeting and Pupil Groups (Pupils Council/Eco Club and Games Parliament) were singled out for praise as vehicles to allow children's achievements to be celebrated and their voices heard on a wide range of school issues.

Emergent Themes



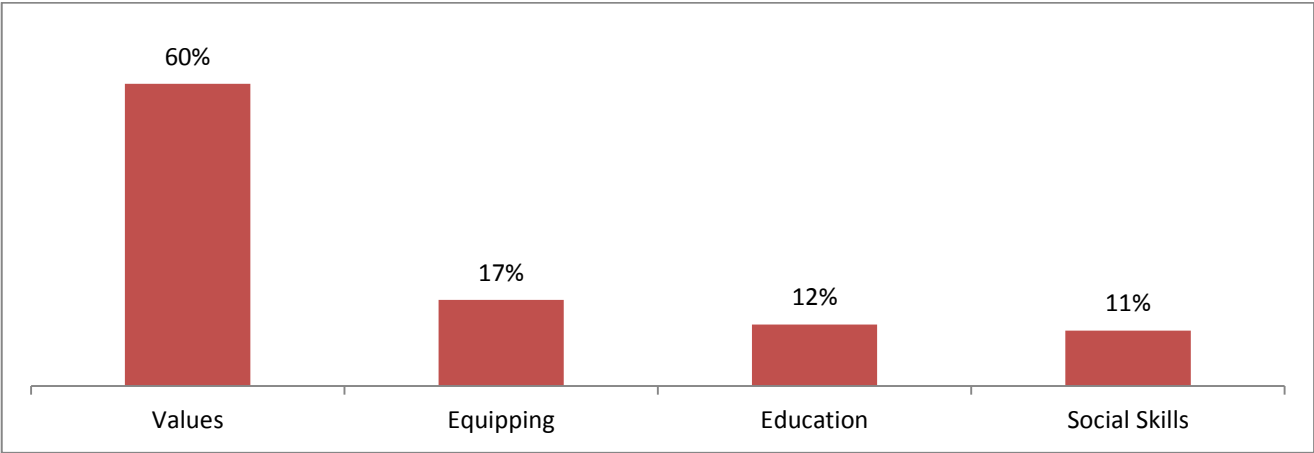
3. Suggest one thing that you would like to see our children achieving as a result of being at Papdale Primary School.

Top 5 Answers



The main focus for parents related to encouraging positive values and creating well rounded individuals who are equipped for the challenges ahead. While academic achievement was still seen as important the general focus suggested a broader interpretation where children have the life skills and resilience to cope with whatever life may throw at them.

Emergent Themes



Summary

While the number of participants was relatively small (61) the responses from those who took part generally paints a positive, happy, caring and inclusive picture of life at Papdale which is very encouraging from the school's perspective. They also suggest that we broadly share the same goals and aspirations for our children and there is a real sense that how we are doing things at Papdale is making a positive difference in our children's lives. These responses echo the aim of Curriculum for Excellence which is to enable all young people to become successful learners, confident individuals, responsible citizens and effective contributors.

APPENDIX A

All parental responses are included in the tables below. There were 61 parents who responded representing 17% of the total. To try and identify possible trends each comment has been allocated to a broader 'theme'.

OUR SCHOOL - PARENTS QUESTIONNAIRE

1.What makes our school unique/special?

	Total responses	Themes
Quality and attitude of staff team	28	Ethos
Positive ethos: friendly and welcoming	24	Ethos
Playground facilities and opportunities	17	Facilities
Good learning environment	12	Learning
Buddy Scheme	9	Pupil Involvement
Approachable staff /Open door policy	6	Ethos
Caring	5	Ethos
Positive part of the community	4	Linking to the wider community
Parental involvement/ Parent Council	4	Linking to the wider community
Size of school (for Orkney)	4	Facilities
Mutual respect	3	Ethos
Extra-curricular opportunities	3	Learning
Polite and helpful children	3	Pupil Involvement
Business Meeting and Assemblies	3	Pupil Involvement
Child centred approach	2	Ethos
School facilities	2	Facilities
Breadth of learning opportunities	2	Learning
Communications with home	2	Linking to the wider community
Pupil Groups	2	Pupil Involvement
School hours	1	Facilities
Well run	1	Facilities
Encouraging positive behaviour	1	Health and Wellbeing
All children are treated equally	1	Health and Wellbeing
Dinner Ladies look after children	1	Health and Wellbeing
Family history of attendance	1	Linking to the wider community
Good links with KGS	1	Linking to the wider community
Strong sense of belonging	1	Pupil Involvement

Total comments 143

2.What do you think we do best for our children?

Cater for each child's individual needs	17	Health and Wellbeing
Good support systems	11	Health and Wellbeing
Positive learning environment	9	Learning
Caring/ Nurturing	9	Ethos
Breadth of curriculum/ learning opportunities	8	Learning
Encouraging	7	Ethos
Happy and safe environment	6	Ethos

Teach/ promote good values	6	Health and Wellbeing
Give children confidence	5	Ethos
Buddy Scheme	4	Pupil Involvement
Inclusive / fair	3	Ethos
Pride in themselves/learning/ achievement	3	Learning
Putting the children first	3	Pupil Involvement
Friendly/ welcoming	2	Ethos
Encourages positive behaviour	2	Health and Wellbeing
Socialising them	2	Health and Wellbeing
Musical/instrumental opportunities	2	Learning
Fun learning	2	Learning
Respectful and responsible	1	Ethos
Listen	1	Ethos
Holistic approach	1	Ethos
Playground facilities and opportunities	1	Facilities
Very good school	1	Facilities
Website	1	Facilities
Healthy meals	1	Health and Wellbeing
Bullying policy	1	Health and Wellbeing
High standard of learning	1	Learning
Monitor individual progress	1	Learning
Orkney themed projects	1	Learning
Community involvement / citizenship	1	Linking to the wider community
Parental involvement	1	Linking to the wider community
Value children's input	1	Pupil Involvement

Total comments 115

1. Suggest one thing that you would like to see our children achieving as a result of being at Papdale Primary School.		
Confidence	24	Values
Happy	8	Values
Respectful	5	Values
Reach their potential	4	Equipping
Build relationships	4	Social Skills
Equip children for life beyond Papdale	3	Equipping
Responsible citizens	3	Equipping
Enthusiasm for learning	3	Education
Manners	3	Social Skills
Caring	3	Values
Best education and values	2	Education
Learning and developing	2	Education
Build on their strengths/ abilities	2	Equipping
Polite	2	Social Skills
Self-belief	2	Values
Resilience	2	Values
Eco Green studies	1	Education
Literacy and Numeracy	1	Education
Enjoy learning experience	1	Education
Sense of belonging	1	Equipping
Well rounded children	1	Equipping

Proud	1	Values
Positive attitude	1	Values
Self esteem	1	Values
Honest	1	Values
Morals	1	Values

Total comments 82

EMERGENT THEMES

What makes our school unique/special?

Ethos
Facilities
Pupil Involvement
Learning
Links to the community
Health and Wellbeing

What do you think we do best for our children?

Pupil Involvement
Ethos
Learning
Health and Wellbeing
Facilities
Linking to the wider community

Suggest one thing that you would like to see our children achieving as a result of being at Papdale Primary School.

Values
Equipping
Education
Social Skills