

Some positives from the parent voice survey Spring 22

My child loves school. Thank you so much

My child is well supported by teachers and TAs, feels happy and safe to go to school each day and I know he's going to be supported by them

We are really pleased with the way you have dealt with the pandemic, you've done an amazing job, in difficult circumstances. We look forward to being able to see you face to face in parents evenings.

My child has flourished since being at Westdale infant school. The staff are all so dedicated and take the time to communicate with us as parents. we are so grateful for all staff do. Thank you

My child is very happy at school and has had a really positive start that I believe will underpin his future educational career . Thank you for all of the schools are work especially the increased effort through covid .

My child's teacher is amazing goes the extra mile.

We have been so impressed with my child's class teacher. She has taken the time to get to know her and has made effort to support her in the areas that she struggles (confidence/anxiety). As a result she has flourished at school and really loves it. The teacher is thorough in her feedback and we feel that her thoughtful and nurturing approach has had such a big impact on my child having a great start to school life.

Your staff are friendly, positive and caring. It is a huge reassurance to know that staff are kind and thoughtful of her needs when, as a parent, you cannot be there.

I love that the focus is on children's wellbeing.

I love the creativity the teachers put into making learning fun.

My child loves coming to school.

Further comments from parents, responses, and next steps

Queries around dyslexia

We are currently working towards a dyslexia friendly status quality mark. This means we have reviewed all our resources, environments and how we present information to children, amongst other things. Children rarely get diagnosed with dyslexia before the age of 7 and an educational psychologist makes this diagnosis. However, we do have children with dyslexic tendencies in school. We have resources and strategies in place to support these children including coloured overlays, visual signs and symbols, phonic interventions, and clear slides. We work hard to make sure this benefits all children. We are continuing to work towards this quality mark and will keep you updated.

Reading at Westdale

Our home school contract asks that you support us with reading at home as this has such a huge impact on children's confidence and progress in reading. Below is a reminder if our reading offer in year groups. We also have our reading army to support children's reading in school.

F2

- 1:1 reading by teachers, TA's fortnightly, group read alternate weeks
- Shared reading daily to model reading strategies

- Story time with comprehension and key words focus
 - New vocabulary is highlighted, displayed, and sent home on topic trails (see website)
 - We ensure children have more experience of extended texts as the year progresses
- Book talk and more extended texts for more fluent and confident readers

Year 1

- Group reads and one to one (every other week)
- Class comprehension 3 x half term with two/three sessions a week
- Shared reading at least 3 x a week
- Daily whole class story time

Year 2

- Group reads and one to one (every other week)
- Bought in service of the Literacy Volunteer scheme to support reading fluency
- Class comprehension weekly
- Guided group reads for fluency
- Shared reading daily
- Daily whole class story time with a focus on extended texts

We do value and want to thank our parents and carers for their support and commitment to reading at home. Your children would not make the progress they do without this. We reward children for reading at home through our class reading awards and are currently looking at how parents can be a part of celebrating this, we will keep you updated.

Can classes be split?	Sometimes we keep classes together as they move year groups, sometimes we mix the children up to give them a chance to make new friendships and develop relationships with others. Covid and the lack of time in school has meant we have kept classes together in recent years. This year we will mix the children's classes as they move up the next year group.
Stretching the faster learners in school	Teachers are very aware of children who need stretching and challenging in different areas of the curriculum. We use strategies to promote greater depth of knowledge and application of skills to do this with our faster learning children. The focus is on deepening knowledge rather than moving onto the next level too quickly. We teach our children to problem solve and reason and our star challenges and open-ended investigations allow them to apply their knowledge in different contexts and explain their thinking. If you require any further information, please contact your child's class teacher.
School meals and portion sizes	We now have our school meals delivered from a different kitchen and the quality of meals had improved as well as the portion sizes. We have spoken to NCC and our school kitchen regarding concerns raised and will continue to monitor this rigorously.

<p>Too much playtime and not enough time to learn in F2</p>	<p>Play is learning! Play is how a child learns and is an integral part of teaching and learning in the Early Years Foundation Stage. It underpins our curriculum, the learning and all aspects of children’s development. Through play, children develop communication and language skills, emotional literacy and creativity, social and intellectual skills. For most children their play is natural and spontaneous although some children may need extra help from adults. Play takes place indoors and outdoors and it is in these different environments that children explore and discover their immediate world. It is here they practise new ideas and skills; they take risks, show imagination and solve problems on their own or with others. At Westdale, we provide high quality planned experiences to engage and promote children’s play and curiosity that is supported by adults to ensure children’s learning is enjoyable and challenging. In our Foundation 2 classes we have a mixed timetable of teaching and learning. We offer whole class teaching for phonics, literacy and maths, small group work to teach and explore specific learning and one to one reading. Opportunities to extend, embed and explore the teaching and learning are incorporated as an enhancement to our provision in the classroom. For further details about our Foundation offer please click on the attached link https://www.westdaleinfants.com/eyfs-offer/</p>
<p>Can we have a school holiday club?</p>	<p>We are continuing to explore this but cannot commit to this until the school has its roof replaced. This is due to start before summer holiday and means we cannot accommodate children in holiday club at the same time. We will continue to liaise with Westdale Juniors with whom we have shared holiday provision and will of course keep you updated.</p>
<p>Anti-Bullying</p>	<p>We are currently working to update our anti –bullying policy and behaviour policy using a relationship-based approach to behaviour in school. We would welcome responses from parents and carers around these issues when further information is sent out so your voice can also be included in these policies. Please look out for further information around this after half term.</p>