# An Daras Trust Igniting Curiosity Growing Capabilities

## Windmill Hill Academy: Parent/Carer Survey 2024

Analysis and Response

Summer term 2024	Strongly	Agree	Tend to	Strongly	Conclusion	Overall
98 surveys completed	agree		disagree	disagree		judgement
<b>1.</b> My child enjoys attending school.	54%	35%	8%	3%	Vast majority agree	89%
<b>2.</b> My child is making good progress at school.	63%	28%	7%	2%	Vast majority agree	91%
<b>3.</b> Behaviour in the school is good.	50%	35%	7%	8%	Vast majority agree	85%
<b>4.</b> My child gets the right amount of work at home to do.	46%	41%	11%	2%	Vast majority agree	87%
<b>5.</b> The teaching is good.	62%	28%	6%	4%	Vast majority agree	90%
<b>6.</b> I/we are comfortable about approaching the school with questions or a problem.	74%	16%	5%	5%	Vast majority agree	90%
<b>7.</b> The school expects my child to work hard and achieve his or her best.	70%	24%	2%	4%	Vast majority agree	94%
<b>8.</b> The school works closely with parents.	54%	32%	9%	5%	Vast majority agree	86%
<b>9.</b> The school is well led and managed.	71%	17%	5%	6%	Vast majority agree	88%
<b>10.</b> The school is helping my child become mature and responsible.	65%	26%	5%	4%	Vast majority agree	91%
<b>11.</b> The school provides interesting activities outside of lessons.	63%	23%	10%	4%	Vast majority agree	86%
12. I/we am kept well informed about how my child is getting on:						
A) Through reports	48%	33%	13%	6%	Vast majority agree	81%
B) Through Parent Consultations	55%	35%	8%	2%	Vast majority	90%

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					agree	
c) Through the availability of staff after school	49%	29%	16%	6%	Vast majority agree	78%
<b>13.</b> I/We find the school website helpful for finding out current information.	43%	37%	15%	5%	Vast majority agree	80%
<b>14.</b> My child is safe at school.	62%	30%	6%	2%	Vast majority agree	92%
<b>15.</b> There is a good range of learning trips or visits during school hours.	58%	28%	11%	3%	Vast majority agree	86%
<b>16.</b> I/We are satisfied with our choice of school.	64%	27%	3%	6%	Vast majority agree	91%
<b>17.</b> The school governors are available and accessible for parents.	43%	34%	18%	5%	Vast majority agree	77%
<b>18.</b> The school office offers advice and support to parents.	78%	17%	4%	1%	Vast majority agree	95%
<b>19.</b> The school office is able to help with any queries I have.	83%	12%	4%	1%	Vast majority agree	95%

**20.** Please comment on what the school does particularly well:

We have felt that the whole school environment has helped our child to thrive and looks forward to learning more every day.

Caring for and teaching children well.

Staff are passionate, flexible, knowledgeable and reactive.

The pupils are confident that they have a voice and will be listened to. Rights respecting is taken exceptionally seriously.

School offer trips and days outs, including swimming.

School engages with the local community.

Communication is good.

This year has been good for my son to become more independent and confident.

The outreach trips and swimming opportunities are so important and we appreciate that these are offered to our children.

Teacher is available for a chat of needed and is regularly seen to greet the children in the morning walking into class.

The spread of the cost for activities has been a great idea and I hope that this will help the school with increased contributions from parents.

The school's principles run through pupil behaviours at all levels and ages.

Rights respecting, empowering the children, inclusivity and giving all pupils a voice.

Supports children and parents well.

Calm and friendly

Wrap around care is really useful especially at a discounted rate for multiple siblings.

My children respond well to the assembly and awards that are distributed which gives them a massive boost in confidence and achievement.

My children very much enjoy going to school and are having fun whilst learning.

All the staff and friendly and do their best to help with any questions and my children come home buzzing with information they have learnt.

My daughter has enjoyed every minute of KS1 - all 3 teachers have been amazing and have been brilliant for my daughter's journey for the last 3 years!

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Teachers are approachable and easy to talk too.

Always happy to go to school!

My child has enjoyed the activities that have been made available for them.

Nice opportunities with trips and enrichments.

It's nice to see children celebrated with the assembly post.

My child loves this year and the teachers and they come home with lots of information about what they are learning.

School trips are well organised and a good range and joining in with local events like at St Piran's day and watching Bugsy Malone at college.

Range of school trips and external visitors like 'Open the book' and owl visit.

Head of School is fantastic!

My child loves school and she loves her teachers.

Safe and happy environment to learn in.

Getting them involved with activities and making learning fun.

There is always something going on for all kids.

The school are always encouraging my child to do her best and do activities and projects that she really enjoys.

This has made my child confident in future learning in the school.

From the small amount of time my daughter has been at the school, I can see that they are well organised and very engaging with the children.

Keeping parents updated on ClassDojo.

Address general issues as they arise.

Good school visits

Strong leadership from teachers

**Bertie** 

Office staff are helpful and stands for what the school is for.

This educational institution is exceptionally well-organised and professionally managed, with a strong emphasis on providing high-quality education to its students.

Swimming lessons.

Pe choices.

Reading

Activities such as Wild Tribe.

Age-appropriate learning and the teacher is great at keeping children engaged.

It's great to see Mrs Bassett on the playground most days.

Creates a family atmosphere, as well as teaching to a high standard.

The office are great and very supportive.

Key stage one team are brilliant.

Everything!

I feel Windmill Hill Academy has always made parents feel welcome to be part of the school community, should they wish to be involved, or interested, the school provides a good selection of fundraising events, and performances, that are put on by the children.

The school helps my child learn and has helped with their confidence loads.

#### **21.** Please comment on how the school could be improved:

Making parents evening more accessible for working parents.

Sort out the in and out of the drop off maybe make it two way.

Sort out the hill - maybe the council should be involved.

At the start of each half term, it would be helpful for the homework menu to be posted on class dojo but it seems we have to chase for it.

More communication for parents please.

Communication regarding change of staff and support staff could be improved to help support and reassure the children at home.

School lunch menu is often discussed around the dinner table.

More parent teacher talks

Over the last couple of years, lots of use of supply or cover teachers due to teachers being ill, working in other locations or leaving. Although there has been an effort to make sure it's the same 'regular' supply teacher, it's still been unsettling, especially this year leading up to SATs and their final primary school year.

More daily or weekly updates on what they have been learning so we can continue that learning at home much better.

School trips

Communication could be better. Sometimes things are unclear and messages can't always be found on dojo. We all understand that funds are very limited, and budgets are set, but in a perfect word it would be extremely beneficial for children who are feeling overwhelmed, and under achieving because they are feeling anxious in a bigger teaching group, to have additional one to one teaching.

#### **22.** Any other comments

In my opinion, my daughter has been there Year F and is now in Year 6. It has been an exceptional school. Thank you for all that you do!

A really lovely school where my children are thriving in and enjoy being at school.

I am very happy with choice of school and the teachers work hard to keep my child engaged and happy. It will be sad day when Mrs Zoffman leaves. Good luck to her.

Senior management are very supportive when approached.

Keep up the good work!

### Response to surveys by Abby Bassett (Head of School)

Thank you for completing the surveys. They do help us to evaluate all of the different aspects of your child(ren)'s experience here at Windmill Hill Academy.

It has been pleasing to see the positive results and that the vast majority agree in all areas. All staff and Governors are working extremely hard and have worked hard to improve the priorities from the previous survey. This is evident in the responses that we have received.

We are pleased to see that your child enjoys school, is making good progress and that the vast majority agree that the teaching is good and we have high expectations (in line with Visible Learning).

We are glad to see that you find Parent Consultations a useful experience and you can look forward to receiving your child's annual report in July. We hope that being able to book Parent Consultations online via Teachers2Parents makes the whole booking experience much easier and time saving. We understand that there are limited evening slots however we are unable to extend these, due to teachers' directed hours. Therefore, going forward, I will attempt to release the slots later in the day (approximately 5pm) to make them more accessible for booking for parents working during the daytime.

The vast majority agree that the behaviour is good and that we are helping your child to become mature and responsible (in line with our Rights Respecting approach). Last year, with all stakeholders' input, we updated our Vision and Values. This was reflected, as well as being a Rights Respecting and Trauma Informed School and in line with Government guidelines, to review and update our behaviour policy. This was shared with all stakeholders in the Autumn term and was implemented in the Spring term. We thank you for your support with this and hope that you agree that the children enjoy being recognised for going 'above and beyond' and in our weekly Celebration assemblies. As it is a fairly new policy, we will continue to further embed it for the rest of this academic year and next year. We have been awarded the silver award for Rights Respecting and are currently working towards our gold award.

We pride ourselves in our regular communication in a variety of ways, e.g. in person, ClassDojo, Social Media, online newsletters and our website, which we can see is a positive for parents. The school website continues to be regularly updated and I hope that the 'families' tab makes things easier to find for our families. I hope that you also like the 'Events' section on ClassDojo which should help you to remember key diary dates. Do let me know if you have any further suggestions of how to make the website or ClassDojo more user friendly.

Teacher absence is minimal across the school but I understand that this has been increased in some classes this year. We endeavour to update you regularly and provide consistency for our pupils, but at times, this can be challenging with lack of cover available. We are so pleased that our current school staff have stepped in at the last moment in covering classes as they all want the best for our pupils and to ensure that this is a familiar face. There are times, however, where supply cover has to be used but we try and use supply teachers that are familiar to the school.

The staff are generally very regular and prompt with releasing regular updates on ClassDojo. However, I will remind them about a weekly update (apart from the week the newsletter comes out), as well as making sure all curriculum documents are released to you at the start of each half term, as I can see this is something that you all like receiving.

I can see some of you have mentioned the availability of school staff after school. It can be difficult at times due to after school meetings/clubs etc. However, if you do wish to speak to your child's class teacher, please do ask them to make an appointment or pop into the office/make a call to arrangement. Also remember that Mrs Walsh, our SENCO, is also availability for meetings if you have any concerns or queries relating to special educational needs. I know our office staff are a real credit to our school and it is great to see that they are very supportive to you all.

Our Governors have worked hard this year for you all to become more familiar with who they are. They have attended school events, e.g. performances, Parent Consultations and I have shared information on our website. Please do look out for them at the next event and if you wish to find out more please visit the section about our Governors on our school website: <a href="https://www.windmillhillacademy.org/web/local\_governance/205226">https://www.windmillhillacademy.org/web/local\_governance/205226</a> You may recognise some familiar faces!

We have worked hard to review and continually improve our curriculum and have continued to build in more opportunities for learning enrichments, activities and trips. I think you'll agree that they have had many opportunities this year, e.g. local visits, trip, residentials, community events etc. However, rising costs and transport prices have made this more challenging and we are aware of passing increasing costs onto families. We thank you for all of those that pay the voluntary contributions promptly but we do need to ask for the number to increase as this does have a significant impact on what we can provide including swimming. Unfortunately, school budgets do not stretch to covering the costs of all educational visits.

We have worked hard to provide a range of after school clubs and are pleased to see the increased range we have been able to offer this year. We hope that your child(ren) have enjoyed attending them. It may have been disappointing that we have had to cancel Boxercise this term but this is due to limited numbers. Hopefully, this will increase and it can be reinstated in the Autumn term.

We hope that your children have enjoyed the new menu from our catering company, Aspens. If you ever have any suggestions, then please do email them to us and I can pass them onto them. Like us, they continually look to seek ways to improve so will be grateful for your feedback.

Lastly, the hill and traffic. Although we do frequently report the problems to the Highways, Council and Police, the school does not have the powers to enforce any traffic rules. We ask that as many parents as possible walk to school/part way to school. Not only will this minimise the traffic around the school site, but will support the environment (in line with our sustainability plan) and physical/mental wellbeing. If you are unable to do so, please remember that we have permits for the local carpark (simply ask the office) which is a short walk from school and we do have the 'drop and go' system in place the mornings. We continually report the potholes on the hill but need to ask the whole community in reporting them as they may action more promptly if more report them. This can be done online via the Cornwall Council website: <a href="https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/transport-parking-and-streets/roads-highways-and-pavements/report-a-problem-with-a-road-or-pavement/potholes/">https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/transport-parking-and-streets/roads-highways-and-pavements/report-a-problem-with-a-road-or-pavement/potholes/</a>

Once again, thank you for your feedback and I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support. If anything does pop up, please do not wait for a survey to share your thoughts or raise any concerns,

ease do come and s ild's class teacher.	. ,			·