



New Town Primary School

Autumn 2022 Parent Questionnaire: Results

2022: 53% of our families provided responses to our questions	% of replies that agree			Difference between 2021-22
	2019	2021	2022	
Are you satisfied...				
that your child is happy at school?	99%	99%	100%	+1%
that your child feels safe at school?	100%	100%	99%	-1%
that your child makes good progress at school?	99%	99%	100%	+1%
that your child is well looked after at school?	98%	99%	100%	+1%
that your child is taught well at school?	100%	100%	100%	0%
that the school has high expectations of your child?	96%	87%	99%	+12%
that there is a good standard of behaviour at school?	99%	100%	99%	-1%
that any incidents of bullying are dealt with quickly and effectively by the school?	94%	82%	96%	+14%
that the school supports children's needs well, including children with special education needs or a disability?	99%	98%	97%	-1%
that the school is well-led and managed?	99%	98%	99%	+1%
that the school responds well to any concerns raised?	99%	99%	98%	-1%
that you receive valuable information about your child's progress?	97%	97%	97%	0%
that you would recommend this school to another parent?	100%	97%	98%	+1%
that there are a good range of subjects available to your child at school?	98%	97%	99%	+2%
with the way the school supports your child's wider personal development?	99%	98%	98%	0%
with the way in which the school communicates news and information to parents through the weekly newsletter, texts and letters?	99%	99%	98%	-1%
that you are made to feel welcome and cared for when you visit the school?	100%	100%	99%	-1%
with the variety and organisation of extra-curricular clubs available to children?	95%	-	97%	+2%
with the way in which the school gives equal opportunities to all races, religions and gender?	100%	100%	100%	0%
with the Open Door Policy offered by all staff at New Town?	100%	99%	100%	+1%
with the pastoral support your child receives?	100%	96%	98%	+2%
with the introductory teacher sessions at the beginning of the year, and the workshops offered to support parents to help support children's learning at home?	97%	98%	97%	-1%
with the 'Learning in Year ...' sheets which tell you what your child is learning and sets out all the homework tasks in advance of the term?	98%	97%	97%	0%
with the Knowledge Organisers which show the knowledge for each topic of learning?	100%	98%	97%	-1%

What do you and your child love about New Town?

My children are safe, well looked after and the school is well-led and managed. We love the communication from the school. The Tapestry app is fantastic, it is so good to see my child's progress with photos. The environment is so friendly and pleasant. We love the pride children take in being part of New Town. The teachers are welcoming and always ready to help. Great classrooms and learning environments. New Town Primary School is very pupil friendly. My daughter like her teacher and wants to be at school even on the weekends. Thanks for the support being rendered to us. My child likes her teachers and friends, and she loves the ambience. In total we are happy. Good at keeping us up to date and great communication with us. Amazing staff. All the staff and teachers are very friendly. Effective communication. Behaviour in school is good, and my child is happy. We love everything about New Town. We are really happy here, it has a caring team ethos. The school is good at sorting out problems really quickly. We love the teachers and the way they take care of our child. Teachers give time to parents. The way the school pupils relate with each other is commendable. The kindness of teachers and staff being respectful and supportive. The school is so welcoming to all the people. Teachers availability for parents to inform of any concerns. We love the staff and teachers who have great communication with families. Everyone is kind to the children and if there are problems they see to them and make my son happy again. We love the educational support and the hand-on efforts by the teachers, and the encouragement to do well at school through certificates and house points. I have seen a huge improvement in the past few years. We value the open door policy. The school has a nice atmosphere and teachers. It has very interesting learning through play. The reception classes, equality and teaching approaches. We are happy to see all the religions are respectful towards one another. The school is warm and welcoming. The school has great teachers, so many different cultures and lots of support given to the children. We love the environment and atmosphere given to the children. The infrastructure is very good and children are learning new things in very decent ways. We love the diverse community and inclusion program with special needs students. We love how New Town look after our children. It is a safe school and we like the way they solve problems in a short time. It is a great & valued school. This is a good-quality school with very kind staff all around. It is a beautiful school family. NT has amazing staff who go the extra mile. Our problems or concerns are sorted out right away and it is a safe haven for our whole community. Students are treated with respect. The school balances well between curriculum and physical education. My child enjoys attending school and it keeps him engaged in various activities. New Town provides a friendly approach to parents and a second home to children. All the staff are kind and caring. We love the strong community spirit, and the friendly and approachable teachers and staff. We love New Town because my son loves to meet new people and different cultures and learn new things everyday.

What would you like to see improved further at New Town?

What you told us you would like to see improved...	Our response
We would like to know what happens on a PE day.	Pupils across the school take part in PE lessons twice a week, and so we ask they they wear their PE uniform to school on the correct days. Their PE learning is outlined on the sheets which are sent home each term, and these can also be found on the website. We aim for our children to be proficient in a wide variety of physical skills, including invasion games, gymnastics and dance and ball skills for example.
More games at playtime. More playground equipment.	We currently employ two sports coaches at lunchtimes who encourage children to take part in organised games. Equipment is provided and we strongly encourage the pupils to take care of this and use it sensibly, however, we do look to replenish this where required.
Maybe more space for playing outside.	The outside space at our school is extensive, and as we have now spaced out our lunchtime provision, there are less children in the outdoor areas at any one time.

	Unfortunately we are not able to expand our outdoor areas any further because of the buildings which surround us.
More field trips and outdoor activities.	Covid meant that many trips and activities had to be put on hold for a number of terms over the past few years. We are pleased to have now planned in a good number of trips across the school as well as weekly trips such as swimming lessons for some year groups. We know the huge benefits of taking children offsite, however this also comes with a large amount of organisation, and requires us being able to secure the right number of adults to support this safely. We are also mindful of the cost that 'big' trips (involving coach travel) can mean for parents and families, and will endeavour to get the right balance so that parents do not find this a burden.
The syllabus should be more elaborate, and recommend the books, sources and websites for reference.	The 'Our Learning' sheets are sent out and put on the website for reference each term. These are accompanied by Knowledge Organisers which show the intended learning, and the key books which the class will use.
There should be more workshops especially for about the maths and English as well.	The Autumn series of workshops for parents was planned with Maths and English workshops led by our school leaders. If parents require any more information they are more than welcome to look on our website where extensive curriculum information is shared, or approach a member of staff if they would like more information or support.
More opportunities for sports / cycling training.	As well as our PE sessions twice a week, we have sports coaches at lunchtime and some after school sports clubs run at a heavily subsidised cost to families. We are always looking to improve this provision, and this year we are planning to take our pupils to Palmer Park Stadium to experience an athletics day, increase our swimming lessons by using the newly opened local swimming pool, and offering more unusual sports opportunities such as fencing. We have also booked some sports experience days to link to our curriculum throughout the year. We are seeking to make links to consider the possibility of safely providing cycling proficiency training to children.
Ability to join more than one after school club & more club opportunities.	Our after school clubs are run mostly by teachers, and some external companies. In the Autumn term we provided over 350 places, however, we recognise some pupils would like a place at more than one club. To be fair to all pupils, we endeavour to offer one club allocation to all pupils, rather than allowing some pupils to dominate the available spaces. In the future we will try to increase the number of places available at clubs after school where possible.
More computers.	We are pleased to have started this year with a fully equipped dedicated IT classroom, where we have also installed a teachers smartboard to assist in the teaching of Computing. Each year we allocate some of our school budget to IT provision, and will continue to do this so this remains well-equipped.
We would like after school childcare options.	Each year we survey our families to see if there is the appetite or need for wrap around care to be provided at New Town. To date, there has not been enough interest, however, we plan to survey this again this academic year.
Reporting absences feels difficult often. It would be helpful if we have a group of WhatsApp or things like that.	We have looked into this matter, however, are unable to use Whatsapp as a way for parents to contact us at present. Families are able to call into school at any time (day or night) to leave a voicemail regarding an absence, or email the school on admin@newtown.reading.sch.uk .
A bigger bike shed.	We are very lucky to have a large bike area, however, with the increase in pupil numbers, we are considering other suitable areas for this use too.
Give more focus to other languages in addition to English.	We are thankful many of our pupils speak English plus at least one other language (and often more than this)! This brings welcome diversity to our school family. However, with over forty languages spoken, teaching a range of other languages would be very difficult. We teach French from Year 3 upwards, which is in line with National Curriculum requirements.

Some instances of older children using foul language need to be dealt with.	Foul language is not tolerated at New Town, and we reiterate our high expectations of being polite and mannerful in our communication at every turn. Sometimes pupils may use language which is not appropriate at school, and where this happens we discuss the choice and inform parents to that they understand the need to fully support this expectation at home.
Improve canteen food and put more vegetables. More variety / options in the school lunches.	Caterlink (who provide our school meals) do adhere to all government food standards, and ensure the meals include fruit and vegetable portions. We will feed this back to Caterlink.
Make physical activity important to the girls and get girls to play plenty of sports.	Girls take part in as much of the sports curriculum as boys at New Town, and we strongly encourage everyone to attend sports clubs for example. We will audit girls' attitudes and participation in the optional sports activities and clubs, and consider how we can encourage this even more.
Even more staff.	We would love to have even more staff, however, school budgets are limited and we cannot always invest in unlimited amounts of staff!
Feeding back to the parents about any complaints and actions taken.	We have an open door policy and always try to communicate with parents in a timely way as soon as we have found out more about any matters which are brought to our attention. We like to do this via a conversation, ideally face to face, so that we can answer any questions or discuss the concern and bring it to a satisfactory close.
Better training for all staff for SEN children	We welcome a very wide range of children with an extremely diverse range of needs, and do endeavour to ensure our staff team are trained to able to provide the best we can within a mainstream school setting. We would always encourage families to feed back to us where they think we may need to do more or could learn more.
Neatness in the cafeteria can be improved.	The lunch hall is cleaned daily as well as between sittings each lunchtime, and has frequent deep cleans too. It has recently been repainted and we are looking at installing sound proofing so that the noise from the children does not reverberate so much. We know we are very lucky to have a purpose-built lunch hall, and we encourage our children to also play their part in keeping it a nice place to be.
For the school office members to be more informed about what's happening at school.	The office team are kept informed of all events at school, but our school is a very large and busy place and unfortunately they cannot always have all details to hand to help with every query. We aim to respond as soon as possible to any queries we cannot answer.
More flexibility with late arrivals and absences	It is the law of our country that children attend school, every day punctually. The government have this year set out new and significant plans to tackle absence and lateness to school, and schools are required to follow up on these issues rigorously, and therefore we cannot allow any flexibility with late arrivals and absences. If you would like to find out more, please visit School attendance and absence: Overview - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

We love to celebrate staff who have gone the extra mile: tell us about anything or anyone which you have really appreciated at New Town in the last year.

Mrs Phillips has been great in giving me reassurance with any queries we have. She takes extra care to speak to my daughter and encourage her to come into the classroom. Mrs Hester does a great job. Miss Fudge has encouraged my son and he has progressed extremely quickly both in reading and in general at school. Miss Fudge is a gem of a person. Miss Burgess helped my child settle in very well as she was brought in mid-year. Ms Phillips and other teachers who supports my child's progress. I think in general all teaching and non-teaching staff are doing extremely well. They are so kind in answering our queries. Mrs Farahani is always on hand to speak to me and help solve any worries. Mrs Lambe has been really exceptional, and has given care and attention to my son with his development. Mrs Manson is very loved by our child. Mrs

Younis-Zaman really helps my child and talks to me about how they are doing. My son really enjoys being in Mrs Woollard's class, her lessons are very inspiring. Mrs Gibson is always caring and lovable. I really appreciate all teachers. Mrs Harrowell has been great. The leaders lead the school well and are always approachable. Miss Geary has been a wonderful help to my child. Miss Marcham looked after my child well in reception. Miss Burbidge has helped my child in settling down quickly and she has been welcomed. Mrs Manson was very supportive with my child's transition into this year group. My son talks so much about his teacher Mr Groves, and he is excited to go to school every day and learn new things. Mrs K is wonderful. The school leaders are really approachable and smiley. They always make time to help the students and the parents. I think all the staff at New Town have given more than 100% of their effort, so all of them are very special to me.