

Whitehall Park School Parent and Carer Questionnaire 2015



**Total number of questionnaires given:
Total number of responses to questionnaires: 83**

Statement		Strongly Agree		Tend to Agree		Tend to Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Don't Know	
Communication											
C.1	The school works closely with parents.	67	81 %	15	18 %	0		0		1	1%
C.2	I am made to feel welcome in school.	73	88 %	10	12 %	0		0		0	
C.3	I find the communication from the school clear and easy to understand	68	82 %	9	11 %	4	5%	2		0	
C.4	I find that there is the right amount of communication from the school	62	75 %	21	25 %	0		0		0	
C.5	I find the newsletters informative and useful.	71	86 %	11	13 %	1	1%	0		0	
C.6	I find the website informative and useful.	63	76 %	17	20 %	0				3	4%
C.7	I am kept well informed about how my child is getting on.	48	58 %	25	30 %	8	10 %	1	1%	1	1%
C.8	I feel new students (reception children and parents of Year One children who started this year) and their families and carers are integrated well into the existing Whitehall Park School community	66	80 %	12	14 %	2	2%	0		3	4%
C.9	I have found the staff at WPs approachable.	78	94 %	5	6%	0		0		0	

Responses:

- We love the class weekly newsletter as its great to talk to my child about what they are doing in school and make connections
- All good for me
- We have been impressed by the level of communication from the school, particularly as we have come from another school and experienced a very different approach there
- Communication between staff and parents is excellent, can't fault them!
- The teachers are very approachable and I feel that I can ask them about any aspect of my son's life
- We receive regular updates and communication
- All members of staff, especially Laura Birkett are always around at the gates every day and very approachable
- The teachers are very approachable and I feel that I can ask them about any aspect of my son's school life
- We love the class weekly newsletter, X doesn't always tell us what is happening and it's great to be able to talk to him more and make connections
- Excellent
- Easy to find out what you need – staff always really helpful
- Please can you provide a secondary school?
- I have been exceptionally pleased with my child's progress, happiness and wellbeing in regards to all areas of her schooling
- I am able to communicate very well with my son's teacher as well as other members of staff
- The newsletter is incredible, as is the facebook page – very few schools use these channels effectively
- Parents evening has offered the first opportunity for us to have a face-to-face chat about our son's progress as work commitments mean we have limited contact with the teachers
- Lots of communication
- Key dates in a section on the newsletter
- I am very pleased with the communication – if I need to speak to a member of staff they are always available and helpful
- Easy to find what you need – staff always really helpful
- This is a very good school – Miss Birkett is the greatest
- I think that the school is amazing and the head greets everyone in the mornings at the gate and always makes everyone feel welcome

Suggested Improvements / Questions	Explanations/proposed actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I would appreciate a text service to inform me/remind me of important things 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Text service is currently being implemented and should be up and running by end of January 2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New homework inconvenient as we like our weekends with our family 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In response to parental requests, we are trialling a new method of home learning. Children in Reception still have simple collaborative tasks to undertake. In Year 1 children can choose how much or how little home learning they attempt. All children are asked to read their home reading books on a daily basis. We have also adapted the dates when home learning is handed out and returned in response to requests from parents. Now, children receive home learning on a Friday and return it to school on a Wednesday. Hopefully this gives families the opportunity to either do the home learning over the weekend, which suits some families; or on Monday and Tuesday evenings, which suits others! It also gives us time to use the Home learning in class and set the next week's tasks.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More email communication would be better 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We now have an up to date list of parent email addresses, but we must appreciate that not all family's access email and so have not used this technique as a means of getting messages home.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The year 1 parents have been great, we really appreciate the effort that they make to make us feel welcome – my only problem is it does feel like the school is run by the year 1 parents and the staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In Autumn term, all families were given a questionnaire to request their views on aspects of the school and what we can do to improve. All views are valued and taken into account when planning for the future Continue to encourage parental involvement within school life, through Fantastic Friday, drop-in sessions, information sessions, etc. School staff are highly visible at the start and end of the day between 7.45am – 9.00am and then from 3.25pm – 6.00pm. Parent Governors could further seek the views of Reception families about how to increase the levels of engagement and feeling a part of the school Ensure that the PTCA hold events for both year groups and encourage participation for all as the separate events in autumn may have contributed to this feeling of separation Raise the profile of the Governing body, so that families know who to speak to beyond the school staff
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school communicates with some parents more than others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is difficult to reach some of the families who are working and whose children attend before and after school activities and are collected by Child Minders. The school sends out a weekly newsletter, updates Facebook and the website regularly. Additional letters which are specific to families (as newsletter goes to 650 subscribers who are not all families) are sent out as and when necessary, e.g. for trips/visits/special events. Continue to guide families to use the website/Facebook for updates as this is the best way to get up to date news and views. Ensure families are aware of our open door policy and that everyone feels they can pop in for a catch up or ring to speak to a member of staff if they are not able to come into school during school opening hours of 7.45am – 6.00pm.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would prefer maybe the same amount of communication but less frequency e.g. at the beginning of the month 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As school life is fluid and responsive and the newsletter provides weekly updates or key information that has arisen that week, it is difficult to provide just a monthly newsletter as we need to be responsive to change. School will consider reducing communication (although 100% of those who responded said that they felt communication was the right amount).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I know that my child's teacher is available to speak to, but if parents work fulltime, its hard to find out how well my child is progressing – at the moment I have no idea at all 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We encourage all families to get involved and appreciate that some of our families work long hours, so encourage families to call to speak to teachers or to leave messages for them to contact them. As with all state schools, we provide three parents evenings a year and a full written report in the Summer term. In addition to this, we provide additional events for parents to get involved with each year, e.g. Meet the Teacher event in September, parent workshops, weekly "Open classroom" events through Fantastic Fridays, opportunities to come on trips and to join us for special dates, e.g. Birthday

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> celebrations, Royal Banquets, etc. In addition, our WPS Friends PTCA organise a myriad of event of families and community members to get involved and find out more about school life
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some staff welcome feedback, others are defensive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All staff are encouraged to remain professional, abiding by our code of conduct and many policies and procedures at all times. Families are also reminded to consider the Parent code of conduct and Home:School agreement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Too many papers sent home, key dates not always clear and not in one place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key dates are always on the website and dates for the year ahead were provided at the beginning of the academic year. We regularly send home a single sheet with dates for the term ahead on. In addition, dates are regularly provided within the body of the newsletter or individual letters are sent home with specific dates, e.g. for trips, special events, etc. School needs to encourage greater use of the website so that families can regularly check dates, etc. Calendar function on website needs to be improved to make more accessible.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newsletter too long and too wordy – not always clear who the audience is 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We try to cater for all differing tastes and so try to keep the newsletter a balance of formal and informal articles, as well as providing key dates and information. We will try to cut down the wording of the newsletter and will consider sending newsletters on a fortnightly basis.

Next Steps:

- Encourage families to use the website more frequently as there is a plethora of information available there
- Ensure website is more user friendly and information can be more readily located
- Prompt parents to refer more clearly to the termly list of dates for the diary which is sent to parents and added to the website
- Add a weekly dates reminder section to the newsletter. Consider cutting down content and frequency of communication
- Evaluate the communication within the school to ensure that preferred medium is used
- PTCA to organise events involving all parents and not year group specific

Statement		Strongly Agree	Tend to Agree	Tend to Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
Learning						
L.1	The school expects my child to work hard and achieve his/her best.	77	93 %	5	6%	0
	I understand the school's educational approach and how this impacts on my child's learning and progress	64	77 %	14	17 %	3
L.2	My child likes school.	72	87 %	10	12 %	1
L.3	I would recommend WPS to a friend.	75	90 %	8	10 %	0
L.4	Behaviour in school is good.	72	87 %	9	11 %	0
L.5	The school provides an interesting range of activities outside school.	65	78 %	16	19 %	0
L.6	I think that school trips support my child's learning	69	83 %	14	17 %	0
L.7	My child is making good progress at school.	72	87 %	9	11 %	0
L.8	Teaching is good at WPS.	71	85 %	9	11 %	0
L.9	Children at WPS help and respect each other.	68	82 %	13	16 %	0
L.10	My child is set appropriate home learning.	60	72 %	18	22 %	3
L.11	I understand the Home-School Agreement and my role in my child's education at WPS	70	84 %	13	16 %	0

Responses:

- The standard of learning in this school is high, my child has learned so much already. He was at another school and learned more at WPS in a couple of weeks than he did in a month at the other school
- My child is learning extremely well and enjoys learning and the learning approaches used
- Even though the school expects our children to work hard, they do it in a non-competitive way, making every child feel confident and special
- We love the education that our child is getting and feel very lucky to be here
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- My child is learning extremely well and enjoys learning and the learning approaches used
- My child is making excellent progress and has exceeded my expectations to what was possible in the space of one year
- My son is learning at WPS
- My son has progressed very well at WPS, they work hard and the school have good home learning that supports their work in school very well
- We would recommend this school highly
- Great variety of home learning tasks – we are fans of home learning
- Even though the school expects our children to work hard they do it in a non-competitive way, making every child feel confident and special
- We're really pleased in how independent learning is encouraged
- Thought the home learning was too much at first but seems to be ok.
- We would love music – guitar, singing, drumming, etc but appreciate that the music service may not start until year 2
- My son has progressed very well at WPS, they work very hard and the school have a good home learning policy that supports their work in school very well.
- I would recommend the school highly
- My child has taken to life at WPS very well and is happy and feels supported by the staff
- My child is making excellent progress and has exceeded my expectations of what is possible in the space of one year
- My child has made huge progress and I am proud of the teachers and WPS
- My child is engaging with the learning very well and seems to have fun whilst she is doing it.
- We are delighted with the progress our child is making at school
- I was initially concerned by the high level of home learning each week but X seems to enjoy it and we don't struggle /I don't have to nag him to complete it, so we're happy
- Music related after school club activities would be good – maybe chess and other science related clubs
- My child is thriving, I couldn't be happier with their progress or their love of learning
- We are really pleased at how independent learning is encouraged – we love hearing our child trying to spell out words in their free time
- Please continue with home learning levels and amounts as we really love the fact that our child gets challenged with his homework

Suggested Improvements / Questions	Explanations/proposed actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I question the use of television, its relevance and value 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual literacy is sometimes used within class, for example video clips might be used as a stimulus for learning, e.g. a clip of a certain part of a film. • During wet playtimes, films of music are played on interactive whiteboards to provide stimulation for children, alongside other activities provided.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not happy with home learning being done over the weekend • I did prefer the mon-fri home learning timetable as I find it quite stressful doing it at the weekend when my child is out of school routines and not interested in learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is being trialled in response to requests from parents and families who did not like home learning being set on a Monday and returned on a Friday.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a lot of home learning and although it is open ended, my child feels anxious if they don't complete it all, which puts a lot of pressure on getting it all done. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school follows the government recommendations on the amount of home learning for specific age groups. • Children are encouraged to enjoy reading on a daily basis. • Children in reception are provided with simple activities to undertake with their family, whilst children in Year 1 can self-select from a range of activities and decide how much or how little home learning they

<p>Please cap it at a reasonable amount.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I do not agree with homework for primary KS1 children 	<p>complete.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Home learning should be fun and a way for families to keep in touch with how their child is progressing and what they are learning at school. This message is reinforced at school and we would encourage families to do the same at home or speak to the class teacher if they have any concerns or questions Home Learning policy is available on the website
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Home reading programme seems inconsistent and confusing. No response to our comments in the reading log book. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school does not have a reading programme for home reading as we focus so firmly on reading within the school day and so want children to enjoy reading at home by self-selecting age appropriate books to attempt alone or share with their families at home. Books that children can take home are organised into levelled Reading Bands and are given a colour coding. Teachers support children, as necessary to self-select and change their own reading books when they are ready for a new book. We keep this system informal as we consider reading at home to be for enjoyment and so families can enjoy sharing in the progress of their child's reading.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We would like to be more guided on how to approach his learning at home – especially with phonics At the start of the year, we were told that there will be a parents training session for phonics and maths – when will this happen 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents were invited to attend a Meet the Teacher workshop at the beginning of the autumn term and there are regular opportunities to speak informally to the class teacher or TA or to a senior member of staff at any point between 7.45 – 6.00pm. Parents are also encouraged to give the school a call if they cannot get into school during these times, if they need any help or advice. In addition our website has a whole host of information about teaching and learning at Whitehall Park School which is designed to help families. We held an IT and E-Safety workshop in the autumn term which was well attended. In Spring and Summer terms, we will also be running a series of events on Phonics, Maths and the curriculum for families to attend.

Next Steps:

- Remind parents of dates for further parent workshops in Spring term – focus on new parents
- Continue trial of weekend home learning and assess at the end of Spring
- Involve all staff in changing of books and adapting children's reading levels in accordance of their guided reading progress and assessments – ensure comments are added to the child's reading diary to inform families of progression when appropriate

Statement		Strongly Agree	Tend to Agree	Tend to Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
Governors and Leadership						
GL. 1	The school is well led and managed.	72	87 %	11	13 %	0
GL. 2	I would feel comfortable about approaching the school with questions, comments or concerns.	65	78 %	15	18 %	1
GL. 3	Concerns I have expressed have been acted upon.	59	71 %	21	25 %	1
GL. 4	If I needed to, I would know how I can contact the School Governors.	30	36 %	29	35 %	6
GL. 5	There is good leadership from the governors.	35	42 %	27	32 %	5

Responses:

- Very good leadership in the school
- The leadership team are very effective and dedicated to setting up this school.
- I love Miss Birkett and the two deputy heads. I think that they are very driven and passionate and it rubs off on the kids
- The leadership team are effective, very dedicated to setting up the school
- The head and two assistant heads are fantastic – extremely professional, knowledgeable and pragmatic
- Very good leadership in the school
- The school is managed well, all staff are very active in all aspects of school life
- I haven't had any concerns but if I did they would be acted upon
- The school is managed very well and staff are active in all aspects of school life
- I haven't had any concerns but if I did, I feel they would be acted upon

- Well managed
- It has been difficult to build a school without the building and the leadership team have engaged well with the community to make this happen
- I'm not sure of the exact role of the governors and how that fits with the structure and running of the school x 18
- I'm not quite sure what the governors do (but that is due to me not finding out) x 7

Suggested Improvements / Questions	Explanations/proposed actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I didn't even realise the school had governors • I don't know who the school governors are • When would you contact a governor and why would you contact one • I am not sure of the exact role of governors and how that fits with the structure and running of the school • We have no exposure to how governors are doing and what they are doing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is information within the school website on the roles and responsibilities of the Governing body and they have provided drop in sessions in the past. In addition, Governors are present at many school events and have featured within the newsletter. • Governing body will seek ways in which their roles can be further understood and shared with the wider school community.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please send us information about the building work and when it is completed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We provide updates on the building work as and when they are made available to us by the Education Funding Agency.

Next Steps:

- Governors to raise their profile by setting up a meet the governors session which allows them to explain their role and share their contact details with parents and families
- Continue to add any new information to building updates section of the website along with reference to this in the newsletter

Statement	Strongly Agree	Tend to Agree	Tend to Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
Environment					
E.1 The school is a safe place.	76	92%	6	7%	0
E.2 The learning environment is bright, stimulating and engaging.	78	94%	5	6%	0

Responses:

- We look forward to the new building
- The school have created an amazing environment with what small and limited space they have
- It is a bright and stimulating environment
- We look forward to seeing the classroom context in the new school
- I believe my son is very safe at WPS
- Dining hall addition has been a benefit
- Friendly, well equipped and fun
- When the school is fully built it will be awesome
- Friendly, well equipped and fun
- Given the temporary nature – it works fine. We all know the new building is on its way
- Considering the school is currently in cabins, it's such a cute environment – very well set up and you can tell that the kids love being there
- Despite its current state of flux, the portakabins seemed to be very well equipped
- I feel that my son is very safe at school

Suggested Improvements / Questions	Explanations/proposed actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would love to see more outdoor play – sure we will see this next year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor play and learning is an important part of the school day here at Whitehall Park School. Children in Reception can choose to learn outdoors throughout the school day. Throughout the curriculum we try to undertake outdoor learning and often have small groups undertaking investigative learning or the whole class doing PE outside.

	<p>There are also designated outdoor play times (weather permitting) for all children for twenty minutes in the morning and afternoon and for one hour at lunchtime.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are very excited about the future plans for our outdoor spaces on the new school site and will look forward to developing and designing these with children and parents. • The Friends of Whitehall Park School, which is made up of all parents, carers and the wider school community have very kindly organised, planned and ran events for the wider school community across the course of the school year. These include Winter Wonderland, Quiz Night and the Summer Fete. The aim of these events is twofold:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To bring together the local community ○ To fund raise for the school <p>The Friends of WPS have huge plans to develop outdoor learning and are currently saving up towards an outdoor play structure for our new grounds. The costs of these structures can be anything between £25,000 and over £150000 so all of their fundraising is a brilliant start!</p>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I am concerned about access to the demolition site. Is this going to be through the existing school? How disruptive and safe is this? What is the construction plan and are parents going to be informed? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The site is carefully controlled and monitored by Extra Space solutions, in collaboration with the Education Funding Agency. They have all the necessary safeguards in place to ensure that the site meets all current regulations. • The curriculum has been adapted for the Spring term so that the building works become a feature of our learning. This means that children will be involved in the building projects and even get to access the site and see what's happening!
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Next Steps:

- Use child questionnaires to inform us about what resources are needed for the outdoor area

Your Opinion

Since Whitehall Park has opened, what have you been particularly pleased with? (please give specific examples where possible)

- My child has made really good progress in their learning
- There is a good sense of community and a balance between fun and work
- Good organisation and structure of lessons
- Teachers and leadership are very strong
- Warmth of staff
- Welcoming feel
- The friendly approach and the community it creates
- The positivity, the expectations and the warmth
- Fantastic approach to learning
- Quality of leadership, high levels of learning, quality of teaching, staff's drive, passion and ambition
- Being made to feel part of a community, the friendliness of the parents, coming together at places like the planning meeting
- My son is happy at WPS, I also like the effort the school puts into my sons learning
- Teaching, teachers, level of work produced, after school clubs, social aspect of school
- I am extremely pleased at the dedication of the staff, their commitment to the children's education
- The good level of education and all of the extra-curricular activities
- High standards, organisation of learning/home learning and dynamic leadership team
- Parent community is very supportive and inclusive
- The sense of community
- The quality of teachers
- The welcoming attitude of staff and other parents
- Our son is very happy to come to school
- Integration into the wider community and sense of community within the school
- The teaching is amazing and my son has progressed well
- The overall attitude of staff and parents alike has been very positive and welcoming
- How fast children have learnt certain things
- We can really see our sons progress through his home learning
- The staff are amazing, everyone here has such enthusiasm and care for the school, creating a very strong and

happy school

- The outings have been varied and appropriate to what is being taught
- Teachers dedication and long working hours
- The progress that my child has made across all subjects of learning from day 1 up to now
- Our son has a positive approach to learning and is happy to go to school and seemed to have overcome some of his initial anxiety rather quickly – well done team!
- I love the original themes each term, the school excursions and the after school clubs
- I would love it even more if you'd have music classes including for example piano
- Teaching staff are very welcoming – communication has been great
- The enthusiasm of the teachers and staff and PTCA too
- Very good leadership in the school
- Staff, learning and after school provision for my child
- Teaching and school management on a day-to-day basis
- Children work in books is impressive
- I am pleased with the school – it feels like a safe, nurturing place for learning. I am particularly impressed at the communication from school to parents
- The learning environment is colourful, excellent displays
- Excellent assessment tools and targets to move children on
- There is a strong effort to building community among parents and teachers at events
- Brilliant Fantastic Friday
- The learning environment is colourful and there are excellent displays
- A great sense of community around the school, as a parent we feel very well informed and included.
- The staff all knew who our child was in the first week, they made us all feel very welcome
- Our child is really happy here and that is the most important thing
- I'm well informed with what will happen at the school and what is happening at the moment
- Excellent assessment tools and targets to move children on and improve on
- School ethos, Miss Birkett, the energy
- Great range of learning activities
- I have been pleased with my child's progress
- The individual approach to education, the strong community, how the school stretches my son and supports him
- The activities such as Fantastic Friday and coffee mornings
- Specifically with the progress of my son's English and how his confidence increased
- All the staff are approachable and are showing interest in what they are doing, for example, even when I call the office, they recognise my child which is a good sign
- As parents, we are very pleased with the school in all aspects
- Dedicated teaching and management staff
- I am very pleased with the school – it feels safe and nurturing place for learning
- I am particularly impressed with the communication from staff to parents
- I have been impressed with how welcoming the school environment is and how helpful everyone is
- Everyone has been really welcoming
- I feel the dedication and commitment of the teachers is fantastic
- School trips are plentiful
- A great sense of community around the school – as a parent we feel very welcome, informed and included. As working parents it's unfortunately hard to take part in all of the activities
- Location
- The enthusiasm of the staff and PTCA
- The site – although the school is yet to be built, the classrooms and site are impressive
- Teaching staff are welcoming and communication has been great
- Children's work books are impressive
- My child's development academically and socially
- The feeling of community
- I am well informed of what is happening at the moment
- Exciting curriculum – v.positive 'can do' attitude

Suggested Improvements / Questions	Explanations/proposed actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As working parents, its unfortunately hard to take part in all the activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We appreciate it is really difficult for everyone to get involved and hope that in the future this will be possible for everyone. We do have events, sessions and parents evenings on at differing times of the day so everyone can get involved at some point during the academic year.

WPS strives to offer a dynamic and creative curriculum. Do you think we are achieving that goal? (please give reasons for your answer using examples)

- Learning goals apply to real life
- The book themes are great and phonics teaching is stimulating
- The work given to my child and what he has learnt is indicative of a creative curriculum
- All the home learning supports their work in class and they give them very diverse activities
- Yes, I am very happy that his learning includes things like science
- I think that the school is achieving very well
- I like how stories are used to structure the lessons
- Yes, Beebots, cooking, practical outdoor activities and trips, etc
- Yes, X is excited about school and learning – he comes home and freezes cups of water, makes things and is very pleased with himself
- Absolutely, having had the privilege of seeing the entire curriculum, it is clear that the SLT are creating a first class educational roadmap
- Yes, I think the projects work very well to engage the children
- The school outings are fantastic for the children
- Yes, lots of kinaesthetic learning opportunities, lots of group work and role play
- Yes, we have been pleased, especially in comparison with our child's previous school
- Yes – creative themes, arts and crafts that are original, home learning is very creative as well
- I have been pleased with X's progress and how much he enjoys school
- Yes, we like seeing the work the children are doing – practical work
- Yes, the school is very creative, especially junk modelling and maths in reception
- His home learning is always stimulating and interesting
- WPS has a very creative curriculum and I feel it allows the children to take more interest in their education
- We think that the curriculum and teaching is outstanding, the topics are all interesting and relevant to the children
- Yes, such a range of creative exercises to approach learning – Gruffalo crumble, ragoli patterns, visit from doctor, etc
- The wide variety of topics supported by trips (theatre, zoo, etc) – this keeps my child interested
- I personally can see a change in my son which is definitely a plus to the school
- Yes, I can see the improvement in my son and as I look at the books at the numbers he is learning, I am impressed
- The twins are really enjoying their learning about the wider world
- Yes, my child comes home talking about different things and wants to learn about them
- I think that my child really engaged with the themes in the curriculum and is always excited about each new topic
- Yes, it feels like the curriculum is taught in a fun and diverse way
- ASC definitely contributes to rounding up the key curriculum nicely
- My child seems to be stimulated by what they are taught, particularly the different topics such as frozen
- The curriculum seems diverse and stimulating as well as challenging in the key areas

Suggested Improvements / Questions	Explanations/proposed actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Music would be a good addition to ASC provision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We would love to have music as an after school club, but unfortunately have not yet managed to find a music teacher
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sometimes curriculum seems to be dynamic and we are concerned about the opportunity to play, especially for younger children who cannot write letters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The curriculum is rich and varied and ensures that there are learning opportunities for all children and that learning can be accessed by all. Learning is carefully planned, based upon assessment of each child's needs and preferred learning style. Some children learn best through kinaesthetic approaches, so although this might appear to be playing it is often learning through play.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A more rounded approach e.g. more music, art, drama during school would be fantastic • Would like to see more music • Seemingly so, but more PE would be good 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All of these aspects are an integral part of the curriculum and happen every week in school. Sometimes aspects such as art or music actually take over the whole curriculum for a few weeks, like before Christmas three weeks were set aside completely for creativity and children were engaged in art, music, DT and creative projects throughout this time. Each week children undertake art, music, PE, science, history, geography, RE, as well as English, math, science, computing and PSHE. Please do look at the curriculum maps available on the website. In addition, children can access extra provision with these areas of learning through our extensive extended school provision.

WPS offers a number of different after school clubs and activities. Is your child enjoying the club(s)? (please include any suggestions of clubs we could run in the future).

- Yes – 51
- We love performing arts
- My child enjoys clubs very much
- My child enjoys after school clubs
- Yes, he loves clubs, can even count to 10 in Japanese!
- Absolutely loves the after school clubs, please keep performing arts and street dance
- Performing arts has given my child so much confidence!
- Yes, it's a good range already
- Yes, my child loves after school club – it's fun as well as educational
- YES, my child LOVES asc. There are great choices of activities
- My child is engaging in after school clubs
- Yes, very much! He does football and performing arts
- My child very much enjoys afterschool club while she is there
- Street dance is brilliant – art is also excellent
- My son loves after school clubs – he is so much more active
- My child does one club and really enjoys it
- Yes, they're great!
- Our son enjoys the class that he attends, the breadth of activities is very impressive
- School clubs seem good
- I love it – there should be more spaces available

Suggested Improvements / Questions	Explanations/proposed actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, space/astronomy club? • Reading club • We could introduce star gazing and chess club • musical activities would be better • Yes, maybe science club or history club • Japaese? Knitting? • Swimming and computing would be good after school clubs • Fencing and music in future? • We would love an advanced French club • A music club would be great, singing, playing and learning about different types of music • Cycling – control and road awareness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At Whitehall Park School we love to hear your feedback and all the clubs we have provided this year so far are as a result of your suggestions as feedback from families and children was that you wanted professionally run clubs for specific activities such as karate, ballet, French, Spanish, etc. We will definitely be taking your ideas for the future forward, although we have found it impossible to find a music club teacher so far!
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, perhaps it would be worthwhile to organise the in demand clubs a couple of times a week to cater for everyone? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the Autumn term, when some evenings were oversubscribed, the school staff put on an additional care club, so we always have that as a backup facility, as long as we have at least 6 children wanting to attend. We assume that as our school gets larger there will be more need for care club so will definitely be offering in future years.

I understand the role of the Whitehall Park School PTCA and its relationship with the school

- Yes - 43
- Yes, unfortunately we haven't been able to participate as much as we would like to given our work commitments
- I am impressed by the level of support and interaction of parents
- They work incredibly hard and it really shows through the great events they hold and the communication
- Yes, they are excellent and very hard working
- Yes they are very helpful and work nicely with parents
- Yes and I feel they are brilliant and so engaging – their energy and enthusiasm is infectious
- Yes, and I think they do a fab job!

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good activities to bring community together, very supportive school • Yes I think that they are brilliant and so engaging – their energy and enthusiasm is infectious • Yes, I'm really clear on that • PTCA is very well organised, helpful reps, fun events and also very supportive 	
Suggested Improvements / Questions	Explanations/proposed actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No, I don't really....to collect money? • Not completely – fundraising not clear about where the money goes • Yes, however not clear that everyone belongs to PTCA by default 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The PTCA has their own page on the website where you can find out lots more about what the roles and responsibilities of the PTCA are. Basically every member of the school community is automatically a member of the PTCA and so can get involved in any way they can. A small committee and class reps were voted into roles so that there was some overall organisation and guidance. These roles will come to an end in July 2016 and we will be asking people to put themselves forward for the formal committee and class rep roles. • The PTCA has two main functions:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To organise events to bring together the school and wider community ○ To raise money for the children at the school. Currently, and for the next few years, the PTCA is raising funds for:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Play equipment, e.g. a large wooden climbing structure which can cost over £50000 just for a very basic structure ▪ A library. These can cost upwards of £50,000 to stock.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The difference between the PTCA and the school is a bit confusing. I don't always know what is organised by the school and what by the PTCA – in particular, what is the role of the class reps? • I understand the role of the PTCA although I feel that some members misunderstand their role 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As a parent or friend of the school, you are automatically a member of The Friends of Whitehall Park School Parent, Teacher and Community Association (PTCA) which means that you are able to really make a difference to your local school by supporting the school, helping to organise and run events for the children and the community and by doing so helping us to raise funds for equipment and resources for the school. <p>The PTCA is not run directly by the school, but is made up of members of the school community including parents, grandparents, friends, neighbours and staff. Steering the PTCA is the committee which is made up of the Chairs, Treasurers and Secretaries, as well as class representatives for each class. All of these people work tirelessly behind the scenes coming up with fundraising ideas, organising events and special occasions. Without everyone's support, none of these events would be possible, so it really is important for everyone to get involved!</p> <p>All the money that is raised by the PTCA through events such as Winter Wonderland, Quiz Night, Tuck Shop and the Summer Fete is being saved towards large items for the children, such as playground equipment and creating a library in our new school. This fundraising is completely separate to the school funds and therefore this means that the PTCA can choose areas in which they would like to invest the money raised.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek further clarity from PTCA Committee about the differing roles of elected members
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would like to be more involved but meetings are always Friday mornings when we are working 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Often there are meetings or other things to do to get involved, e.g. setting up for events in the evenings. Dates are always in the newsletter and we really would encourage you to come to any of the evening events or meetings as they tend to be less well attended.
Any other comments?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Miss Stella is brilliant. She made an effort with X from the start and her passion for learning is obvious • Thank you for all your hard work • I have nothing negative to say, you're all doing a brilliant job • PTCA are fantastic • We are overall delighted with the school and feel very lucky that X has a place here – the standard is incredibly high 	

- I am really happy with the school – thank you for the effort
- I have nothing negative to say – you’re all doing a great job
- We appreciate the rigour and commitment shown to foster and nurture a learning community, with both pupils and parents, thank you!
- It’s the best school in the world
- Great staff, great school
- We have been very, very pleased by what we have seen at WPS since joining in September. We have absolutely nothing but positive things to say about WPS
- It’s the best school in the world!
- Overall very happy and most importantly child is happy learning
- My child enjoys school
- I think great progress is being made academically
- I love the school
- I think the school has come on so much since day 1, my child and myself love the school and I wouldn’t have him go anywhere else, he has made me so proud.
- The school is doing such a fantastic job
- We absolutely love the school and are so happy that we moved to this school.
- We can’t wait for the new building
- No, I really like the school
- We are continually impressed with the high standards of the teaching and the fantastic attitudes of all staff – thank you
- I am so pleased that I got a space at WPS when I did. Best thing I did moving him to WPS and I am so happy for my son to be here and cannot fault the school at all.
- Overall, outstanding. Please keep up the good work
- Overall, I am really happy with the school – thank you for the effort
- Overall I am really happy with the school – thank you for the effort
- Im glad I drop off regularly and get face to face contact with the brilliant staff

Suggested Improvements / Questions	Explanations/proposed actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We love the school but feel that it is struggling a little with clear communication this year, we have email, the website, paper letters in bags, whatsapp groups, PTCA/Facebook pages – its all a bit too much! 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We agree! It’s hard to get the balance right as some people like to have differing degrees of communication. In the coming months we will be looking at how to streamline this. Ideally, we would like to be paper free and use the website as the main means of communication, but this doesn’t work for all and there will always be a need for paper letters as not everyone has electronic communication. Watch this space for changes! • Just to clarify – the school does not have a WhatsApp group and has no involvement and engagement in this. This is a group that families and parents have set up and it is completely separate to the school.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constant reminders for ‘voluntary contributions’ puts pressure on parents who cannot pay (£30 seems quite a lot) • I feel there is a constant reminder to parents to pay for school trips and play tickets is counterproductive – it would be nice to receive more information from the school without a request or reminder for money. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trips, visits and special days form an important part of our vision and ethos and really help to bring learning to life. Many schools only do one or two trips a year and we try to do more than this EACH term, along with special days which are often very reliant on resources. <p>Trips can prove extremely expensive in terms of transport and paying entrance fees, particularly for the significant number of parent volunteers who we have. As a school, we are unable to fund the amount of trips and visits that we like to have without parental contributions. The only financial contribution the school asks for is for trips, visits and events. All other fundraising is done by the PTCA to save for playground equipment and a library.</p> <p>We are not able to request single contributions for single trips so have asked parents to make a voluntary contributions, suggested amount of £30, per term so it’s easy for people to do this in one go. Unfortunately in the Autumn term, only 50% of parents made any form of contribution, ranging from £5.00 to £50. Whilst the school offers financial support to families who are finding it hard to make contributions, we cannot subsidise the trips if we only receive a small amount of contributions.</p> <p>In future, if we do not receive sufficient contributions, it will mean that</p>

	we will have to re-evaluate our trips, special days, events and visits and reduce the numbers over the course of the year.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 'donation' for the school play feels like a ticket price due to the way it's been requested and this doesn't sit well with me as it is a nativity play 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many schools ask for a donation for Christmas activities and plays. This donation was a voluntary contribution and was a suggested amount, which was made clear in all correspondence. This donation went directly to the PTCA who are saving for playground equipment and a library for the school.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I would prefer if children didn't wear shirt and tie in KS1 – they cannot dress themselves and a white shirt isn't practical – teachers are not formally dressed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our uniform is something that makes us unique and special. Our "Look smart – Think smart" motto is a real part of our vision, values and ethos and is something that is important to each of us here at the school, right through to our Trustees who created Bellevue Place Education Trust.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would be fantastic if there could be PE twice a week and forest school, yoga or other activities that are not in the core curriculum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are extremely lucky to have professional sports coaches to take our PE lessons each week and they provide a wide range of different activities which fit with the National curriculum for PE. As the children have so much active and outdoor learning we feel that a longer PE session at this age is most appropriate, as the children take so long to change! As the children grow and develop, PE will take place twice a week and you will see aspects such as swimming and cycling being introduced. We have investigated the costs of Forest Schools and other specialist provision as part of our curriculum, but they are too prohibitive at this stage and would require further financial contributions from families. For example, a one hour session of Forest Schools for 20 children is £375!
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We appreciate the great effort into establishing the school but individual contact with families could be improved 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As a school, we are accessible to all between 7.45am and 6pm and have an open door policy. Families can email us or call us if they cannot access us during the school day due to work or other commitments. We feel that, as a school, we offer a plethora of opportunities for families to be involved, be a part of the school and to chat to us. Realistically, we offer much more than many schools and hopefully the responses in this questionnaire will remind parents of the many opportunities they can get in touch or involved. Please do look at the contact us pages on the website for ways to get in touch.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please could you have a nursery ready for September 2016? Any chance of opening a nursery in 2016 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We would love to and are working on it behind the scenes! We know there is a real need in the area and the obvious educational benefits for each child moving from an internal nursery to Reception.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It would be lovely to see climbing equipment/wooden frames etc as part of the new school when it comes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We absolutely agree and cannot wait for the PTCA fundraising to help us achieve this dream!