

Parental Consultation - Autumn Term 2018 - Results

178 completed questionnaires, however not all questions were answered. *Note: percentages have been rounded.*

		Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
1	My child enjoys school.	122 (69%)	54 (30%)	2 (1%)	0	0
		176 (99%)		2 (1%)		
2	My child is making good progress.	94 (53%)	78 (44%)	1 (1%)	1(1%)	4 (2%)
		172 (97%)		2 (1%)		
3	I am kept well informed about how my child is getting on.	54 (31%)	96 (55%)	14 (8%)	3 (2%)	8 (5%)
		150 (86%)		17 (10%)		
4	Pupils behave well in school.	67 (38%)	94 (53%)	5 (3%)	0	10 (6%)
		161 (92%)		5 (3%)		
5	Children are encouraged to be friendly towards each other.	104 (58%)	70 (39%)	1 (1%)	0	3 (2%)
		174 (98%)		1 (1%)		
6	I feel comfortable about approaching school with questions, problems or complaints.	109 (61%)	61 (34%)	8 (5%)	0	0
		170 (96%)		8 (5%)		
7	Staff expect my child to work hard and do his/her best.	122 (70%)	53 (30%)	2 (1%)	0	0
		175 (99%)		2 (1%)		
8	The school is lead and managed well.	92 (55%)	75 (42%)	5 (3%)	0	6 (3%)
		167 (94%)		5 (3%)		
9	Staff treat my child fairly.	107 (60%)	63 (36%)	0	0	7 (4%)
		170 (96%)		0		
10	The school seeks the views of parents and takes account of their suggestions or concerns.	63 (36%)	89 (50%)	7 (4%)	2 (1%)	14 (8%)
		152 (86%)		9 (5%)		
11	The school provides appropriate homework.	73 (41%)	89 (50%)	9 (5%)	2 (1%)	4 (2%)
		162 (92%)		11 (6%)		
12	Staff encourage my child to become independent.	100 (56%)	72 (40%)	0	0	6 (3%)
		172 (97%)		0		
13	There is a good range of after school activities.	70 (39%)	76 (43%)	13 (7%)	2 (1%)	16 (9%)
		146 (82%)		15 (8%)		
14	There is a strong Christian ethos in school.	88 (50%)	69 (40%)	2 (1%)	0	18 (10%)
		157 (89%)		2		

We would like to share the comments raised on the parent questionnaires and address some of the concerns raised.

What we do well:

- Very happy with my child's progress. Excellent teaching!
- I am so happy with the school. My son astounds me with what he has learnt already.
- I am happy with the relationship I have so far with Townlands. I would recommend this school to my relatives, friends etc.
- I have been very happy with Townlands during the time my children have been attending.
- Both of my children really enjoy coming to school at Townlands - thank you.
- Very happy with how things are in the school.
- This school is amazing, thank you.
- Content with the progress to date.
- My child is loving school, staff always very helpful.
- Very happy with everything at the moment.
- Pleased with progress writing/reading, needs to be less boisterous around class and home.
- Both my boys enjoy school and have made so much progress! They're bright. I love that now the school joins in with World Book Day and has school discos. These are happy memories from their school years.
- Best decision we made to move our daughter. She has settled well during year 3 and the start of the year in 4 and is now very happy to attend school.

Concerns:

Communication with parents

- Parents evening informative, no other communication outside of the text messages.
- It would be nice to have maybe monthly sessions open to those who want to discuss issues/concerns with pupil's teacher.
- Need to keep parents informed more on the transition from year to year i.e. school dinners.
- Sometimes miscommunication for parents who do not collect/drop off their children.
- Would be nice to know weekly how my children are getting on and what they are good at - needs to improve.
- Text message received about water only in juice bottles. My son doesn't drink water so surely having sugar free juice is better than him bringing water and not drinking anything.
- My child has settled well into year 1, just a suggestion perhaps more frequent information on how we can support my child i.e. cursive handwriting sheet at beginning of term as this is something that we could have supported with at home.
- If a text goes out, it would be really helpful with them being sent earlier and not the same day.

We have three parent's evenings per year plus two reports. We also have an open afternoon at the beginning of term, Inspire Mornings whereby parents can participate in a maths or an English lesson. There are also specific meetings for parents in particular year groups, for example in year 6 parents are invited into school to understand the expectations of SATs and discuss the residential trip. As Townlands have an open door policy, if any parent requires a meeting with a class teacher this can be arranged via the office. If there are behaviour issues, parents are informed via a letter and if persistent behaviour occurs, parents are invited into the school in order to work closely with us to address any issues.

The office routinely send a variety of text messages quickly and accurately. Over a year, thousands of text messages are sent to either individuals, groups or the whole school. Messages sent out cover all aspects of school life, including school closures.

Breakfast club and After School Club

- Could do with breakfast club opening earlier and having an after school club.
- It would help working parents if there was a permanent after school club available.
- Breakfast club from 7.45, afterschool club on Friday and until 5pm most evenings.
- The cost of breakfast club is increasing with no real visible justification. As 2 working parents we do appreciate the service but would be glad if the start time could be earlier by 15 - 30 minutes.
- An afterschool club that ran till at least 5pm would help especially now the school is getting bigger and bigger and there is less childcare around the area.
- Although the school provides activities a lot are expensive and are not accessible financially by all.
- I feel the after school clubs do not go on for long enough or have enough spaces.
- I think it would be better if the children were asked about after school activities that they would like to do and have more of a mix.

Our breakfast club opens at 8 o' clock. We believe that for primary aged children this is early enough to enable them to adjust to the demands and expectations of the school day, before undertaking any additional school based activities. We also apply this ethos to not extending the school day for children beyond 4.15pm, if children are attending clubs. We have carefully budgeted the cost for all of our clubs, taking into account a range of general and administrative costs. Having undertaken research, we are confident that we provide a service which is stimulating, safe and competitively priced. We have after school clubs running every night from 3.00 to 4.00pm. The following provides a list of some of the clubs that we have recently offered after school during autumn term 2018:- dodgeball, craft club, computer club, girls football, photography club, Lego club, art club, film club, mixed football club, table tennis club, netball club, multi-sports, colouring club, basketball club, board games, hockey club and mini dribblers.

Many of our staff run after school clubs as well as lunchtime clubs. In our 2017 Ofsted, the inspector wrote the following comment having spoken to children - 'They appreciate the many extra- curricular activities that are available to them.' During the academic year 2016-2017, the school organised 58 different after school clubs.

Homework

- Very pleased with my son's progress, although homework is an issue (he doesn't want to do it) and then it becomes hard work.
- Do not think homework should be given in school holidays.
- If homework is set, parents should be shown how to teach the same way as the teachers do at school.

Learning at home is an essential part of a good education. Regular homework is important, since it gives pupils the opportunity to practice at home the tasks done in class, and helps them work towards improving important skills. It also encourages children to become confident and independent in their learning, which will help throughout their time at school and later in adult life. Homework activities are an important part of the home/Academy partnership. All children are expected to take part in a variety of homework tasks to enhance and support their work in class.

Our homework is set within the Governments recommended time allocation, based on current good practice as set out in Homework Guidelines for Primary Academy's and Secondary Academy's.

In terms of parental participation, we encourage parents to develop an understanding of the expectations of the curriculum by participating in our Inspire mornings which we deliver twice a year in maths and English.

SEND

- I feel the school needs a SENDco for parents to liaise with.

A SENDco has recently been appointed.

In-school activities

- More dressing up days like Roald Dahl World Book Day.
- I strongly believe that more fun and range of activities should be brought into school e.g. Roald Dahl, World Book Day.

At Townlands we endeavour to provide children with a broad and balanced curriculum. We encourage children to read for pleasure. The whole school annually visit Earl Shilton Library and we hold a Scholastic book fair in school. In terms of 'dress-up' days, we try to offer a variety of these around key themes: Children In Need, Christmas Jumper Day, parties, discos, sponsored walk, non-uniform days such as Dahlicious for Roald Dahl as well as World Book Day. At Townlands, we are also mindful of the cost to parents/carers for outfits etc and we are developing and delivering a curriculum that leads to high standards of attainment and progress across the whole school, whilst also broadening children's experience and exciting them about learning. We believe in the importance of teaching children how to be good learners and through this, children consider the key learning characteristics which are needed in order to achieve during different lessons. These include some of the following skills; listening, perseverance, risk taking, creativity, making links, team work, resilience and concentration.

Parking

- I have serious concerns regarding cars parking on both the morning and afternoon school run. Not only are cars double parking but they are also illegally parking at junctions. This means that I am finding it difficult to get myself, my daughter and baby son safely across the road every day. Is there anything the school can do about this?

We work closely with Leicestershire County Council and the Police. Parking rules for highways are as follows: The road outside your house is usually defined as a 'public highway'. Therefore anyone can legitimately park there but should do so safely, considerately and legally. The introduction of the Traffic Management Act 2004 places a statutory duty on your council to tackle congestion and disruption on the road network. Your local authority manages the highway network in a manner that allows for some "on street parking". In areas where parking becomes problematic the authority has the power to introduce restrictions to control the highway use. If there are road markings, such as single or double yellow lines, both parking and waiting to pick up school children are restricted. Responsibility for enforcing these restrictions lies with the Civil Enforcement Officer, employed by Leicestershire County Council. School 'keep clear' markings should always be kept clear of all traffic. Please advise your Police Community Support Officer or Civil Enforcement Officer if you see a vehicle regularly parking on them.

Behaviour

- Some pupils are riding scooters etc. on school grounds, this is unsafe and would not have been allowed in the past.

Behaviour at Townlands continues to be judged as outstanding, this has continued from our 2013 Ofsted inspection through to our inspection in 2017, alongside our 2015 SIAMs inspection. The inspector wrote in our 2017 inspection that - 'Pupils' behaviour and conduct are exemplary.' As a school, we pride ourselves on the behaviour of our children both inside and out of school. Children learn about the required expectations as soon as they start school. In order for behaviour to be outstanding; all adults within the school follow the schools behaviour policy. We will address this concern by sending a text message out to parents/carers to remind children of our expectations with regards to scooters and bikes on school premises.

Lunch time

- Don't agree with children eating lunch whilst on the floor.

Neither do we! However during the summer months children may choose to have a picnic outside on the grass. The dining hall and outside picnic tables are also available for children to use. Townlands operates a 'Happy Lunchtime' policy. In the lunchtime zone, ambassadors teach children songs and play games.