

24th March 2025

Dear Parents,

Results of Parent Survey 2024/20259 (Reception - Year 6)

Thank you to all of you who responded to the recent annual parent survey. We use the data to support the forward planning of the school. Your feedback is invaluable and complements the feedback we receive via our regular contact with you. I am always appreciative of this as it helps inform our planning and ensures we are working closely with you, so thank you for your time and effort in delivering this to us.

Strengths of Forest Preparatory School

The parent community is very satisfied with school life at Forest Preparatory School. Many parents cited that they love the real community and family feel, that the school is small and nurturing and that we have the perfect balance between academic and personal development.

There is a very clear sense of what most parents regard as the primary strengths of the school. The most common responses were:

- The school has a strong family community and family feel. The children are happy and enjoy their school days.
- The school is small and very nurturing.
- In addition to its strong focus on education, the school has a strong focus on personal development. It teaches the children important values and develops them into well-rounded individuals.

The following table lists the questions which achieved a satisfaction rating of 95% or above:

Main School Questions	% who graded strongly agree or agree
The range of subjects, including any online learning, is suitable for my child	98%
The school's curriculum prepares my child/children for life in modern society	95%
My child enjoys learning	95%

Priorities for Academic Year 2024/25

I really appreciate the time it took you to complete the survey and can assure you that responses to each question have been carefully reviewed. Based on the feedback we have identified the following areas to be reviewed:

- **Curriculum Opportunities:**

Since the start of the Spring Term 2025, in Year 6 specifically, we now provide more opportunities for the children to broaden their skills beyond the National Curriculum by introducing STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) as a subject. This ensures that children are well-equipped when it comes to important skills such as critical thinking and analysis, problem-solving and self-management, whilst also promoting resilience, stress tolerance and flexibility. Opportunities for enrichment around STEM in Year 6 are vital in bridging the gap between primary and secondary education, ensuring our Foresters leave us more astute, independent learners who can think 'outside the box'.

- **Extracurricular Activities:**

Over recent years we have expanded our extracurricular offering and now have a programme of activities which ensure there are activities available for all year groups. In fact, our timetable is now full! If you do have a suggestion for a new club, please let the office know and we can look into its feasibility.

- **Communication**

We have worked hard to improve our communication channels. Last February 2024 we launched the iParent App, where letters are now uploaded. Hopefully parents find this beneficial and it helps parents manage information more efficiently by streamlining it in one place. Additionally, letters regarding specific events for individual children, such as sports teams, choir, or competitions, are emailed to the relevant parents on Thursdays. We are committed to providing at least two weeks' notice for all events.

Action from Easter: We will be reducing the number of 'folders' on your iParent app. This means you will only have the folder that relates to your class child. If you have more than one child at Forest, the same letter, if also applicable to the sibling, will also appear in their class folder. We hope this reduction in 'folders' will help.

- **Facilities/Outdoor Space:**

Parents have noted that our sports facilities do not compare favourably with other Independent schools and our outdoor space is small. We can only work with the outdoor space we have, but we do take great pride in our grounds and work hard to keep the school gardens beautiful. We have also invested in our playground this year, and the children are loving the new adventure playground. The playground was purposefully designed to have play equipment suitable for all years from Reception to Year 6.

To address the limited grounds, we rent Timperley Sports Club on Tuesday afternoons. There, the children enjoy excellent facilities and participate in a whole afternoon of sports, including hockey, football, and netball. Additionally, we have a specialist PE teacher who leads sessions designed to foster a love for sports and develop strong teamwork skills.



- **Curriculum Balance:**

This year there have been a few more musical events such as the Centenary Concert for Upper School children at Stoller Hall. This is not reflective of a typical school year and is due to it being a special celebratory year for our Centenary. We also see the benefits such events have on the children, their maturity and confidence blossoms and it also develops positive relationships with peers from other year groups.

I hope that this is all good news. It comes as a direct result of your input for which I am very grateful. In the meantime, if you have any questions regarding the survey results, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

G Booth

Graeme Booth
Headmaster