

July 2014 Parents' Survey

In addition to the main school annual survey that takes place in January each year and involves students, parents and staff, we undertake a Summer survey to gather parental feedback as the school year comes to an end.

We surveyed almost 200 parents across Y10 and Y11 and the outcomes were presented to governors at their 21 July meeting. Overall feedback is again very positive.

	% agree	% disagree	% don't know
My child is sufficiently challenged to achieve his/her potential	89	8	3
I am satisfied with the extra-curricular opportunities	76	5	19
I am satisfied with the size of my child's classes	88	2	10
I am satisfied with the library and study facilities	81	2	17
I receive sufficient information about my child's progress	88	12	0
I am satisfied with my involvement in my child's schooling	90	7	3
I am satisfied with the way my child is looked after and supported	98	0	2
I feel my child likes school	100	0	0
I feel welcome at the school	100	0	0
I would recommend Vandyke to new parents	95	5	0

Two areas are highlighted with more mixed feedback. These are homework and information about governors. On homework, while 59% of parents agreed that the right amount of homework is set, 31% did not. When we have investigated this further in the past those who are not satisfied have split into two groups, namely those who believe not enough homework is set and those who feel too much is set or do not want any homework to be set. This is the case in many schools and is a hard one to resolve! Homework is an important aspect of what we do. We believe in the value of homework and will continue to ensure that reasonable amounts of homework are set in all subjects as appropriate. Any individual parental concern about homework is always followed up carefully.

The other area is information about the work of governors. Again, those who feel they do not know enough about governance tends to divide into two camps, those who do not know enough and would like to know more and those who do not know enough and do not feel the need to know more! Governors have considered again this feedback and will be providing further information through the website and the Vandyke Voice during the course of this year in addition to information already routinely provided.

I would like to thank parents who took part. Your feedback is valued and taken seriously. The next planned parental feedback survey will involve all parents in December.