

HARROW WAY COMMUNITY SCHOOL PARENT SURVEY SPRING 2014

Some positive comments from parents:

- My children are happy and thriving at Harrow Way
- Harrow Way is a happy and welcoming school
- The school cares about my child, wants her to do her absolute best and will go the extra mile to achieve this
- Friendly, warm atmosphere; approachable, friendly staff; clear vision from the Headteacher for the future direction of the school
- Harrow Way stands out from other local schools.



REPORT SUMMARY

For the second year, a survey of Harrow Way students' parents was carried out in Spring 2014. The online survey was sent to all Year 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 parents by e-mail. The survey used a Likert format so that parents could specify their level of agreement or disagreement as follows: strongly agree, agree, disagree, strongly disagree or don't know.

Overall, the level of satisfaction with parents is very high with 96% responding that they strongly agree or agree with the statement, "My child is happy at Harrow Way." 95% of parents also indicated that their child is making good progress at Harrow Way.

In response to the question, "Would you recommend Harrow Way Community School to another parent?" 97% either strongly agreed or agreed with the statement.

97% of parents also indicated their child is well looked after. In comparing the satisfaction levels with 2013, the responses indicate an increased satisfaction across all the statements, which is very encouraging.

The survey highlighted a few areas of concern for parents.

Homework: When we completed the survey last year, 71% of parents either strongly agreed or agreed that "my child receives appropriate homework for their age". In the 2014 survey this has gone up to 90% but we are very aware we have more work to do in this area. We did introduce "Show My Homework" this year, an online calendar which can be used by parents and students to show an individual student's homework. We also introduced project style homework in Years 7 and 8. Comments from parents suggest that homework levels are still inconsistent across the school and feedback from homework projects is varied.

Communication: In the 2013 questionnaire, it was clear that although finding the 1:1 meetings with their Tutor useful, parents were very keen to meet with subject teachers. These meetings were introduced this year and the feedback has been very positive. This will be extended next year where all year groups will have a subject based Parents' Evening. Years 8 and 9 will also have their 1:1 Information, Advice and Guidance meetings with a senior member of staff regarding their curriculum choices. We have also introduced termly progress reports

and we will be looking to develop these further next year.

Behaviour Management: 90% of parents strongly agreed or agreed that "The school makes sure its students are well behaved". This is an improvement on the previous year. Parent comments suggest that more work is needed to ensure the right messages regarding the consequences of poor behaviour are being communicated to both students and parents.

The Harrow Way Community School Leadership Team is keen to express its commitment to addressing the survey findings as part of the school's continuous improvement plan. Whilst it will take some time to implement any developments, it is hoped that further change will be evident in the coming year.

Would you recommend Harrow Way Community School to another parent?

