

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to the 100+ families who completed our recent parent survey. We're very grateful for your feedback and thoughtful insights. As governors, we want to share what we've learned and how your views are shaping our school.

What You Told Us

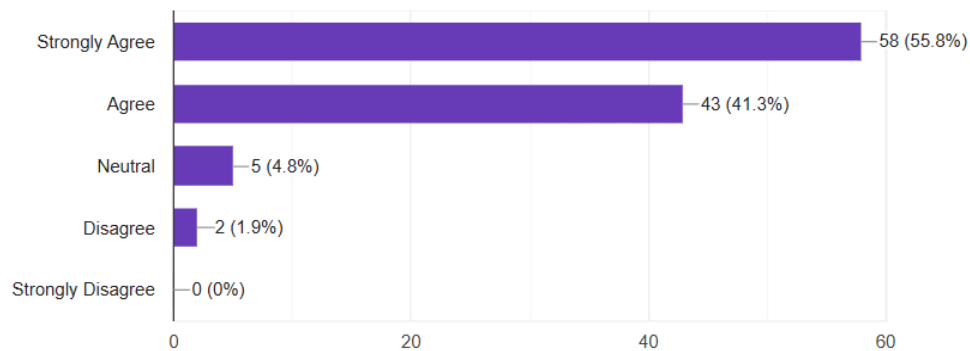
Your Child's Happiness

Over 97% of you told us your child is happy at school—56% strongly agreed and 41% agreed. This reflects the warm, supportive environment created daily by staff and pupils.

Is your child happy at the school?

[Copy chart](#)

104 responses



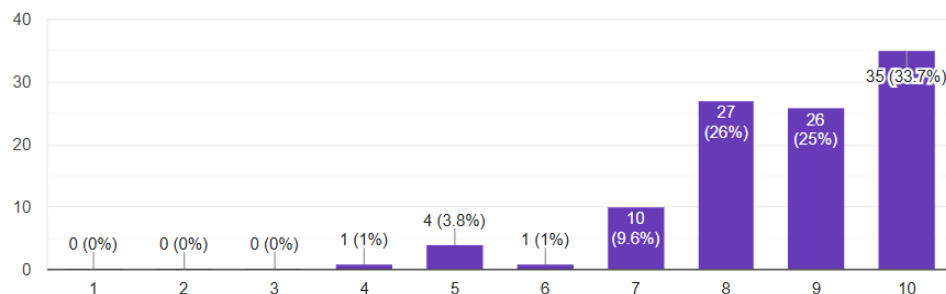
Pupil Behaviour

Nearly 85% of parents rated behaviour at 8 or above out of 10, with 34% giving a perfect 10. This reflects a safe and respectful school culture, aligned with our UNICEF Rights Respecting School ethos.

How do you judge the behaviour of the pupils at North school (10 is excellent behaviour)

[Copy chart](#)

104 responses



Communication

77% of you rated the information provided by teachers about your child's progress as 8 or above, though a few (7 respondents) rated this below 5.

To support communication around progress, the school currently provides:

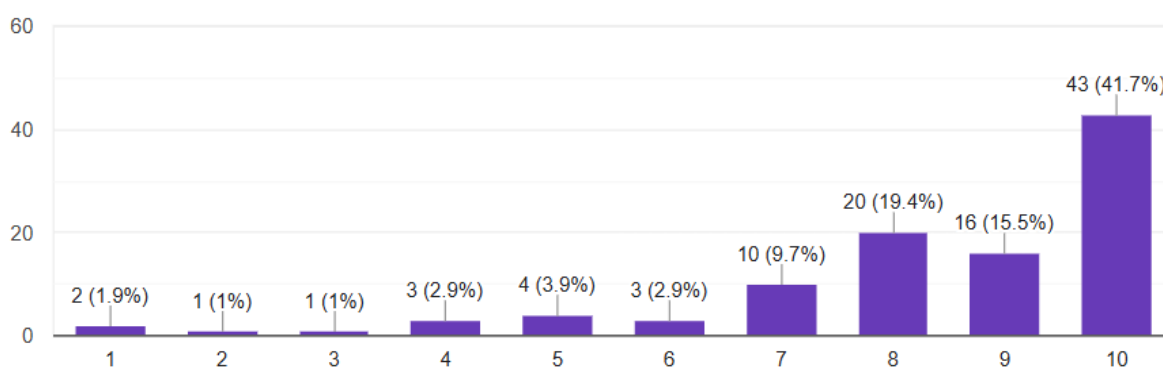
- Annual parent-teacher meetings
- End-of-year written reports
- Classroom open evenings

And, teachers are available by appointment every week of the school year. This is a pretty incredible offer.

Do you feel the teacher gives you information so that you can make judgements about your child's progress at school?

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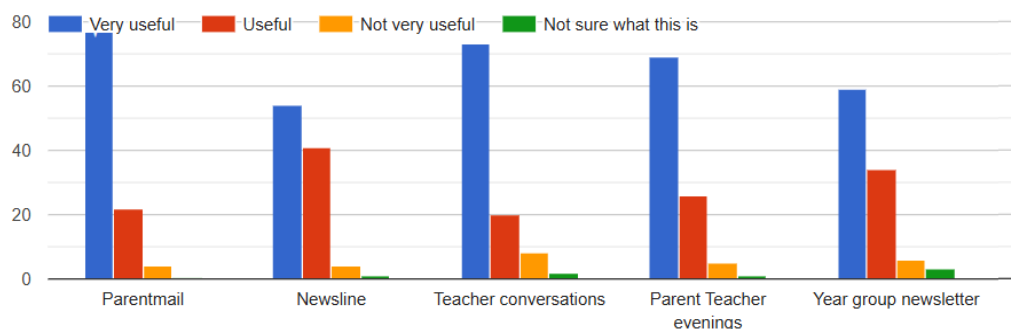
103 responses



Many parents also praised **Parentmail**, teacher conversations, newsletters, and parents' evenings. These will continue to be developed. If you'd like more information at any time, please reach out to your child's teacher.

How useful do you find the methods of communication the school use?

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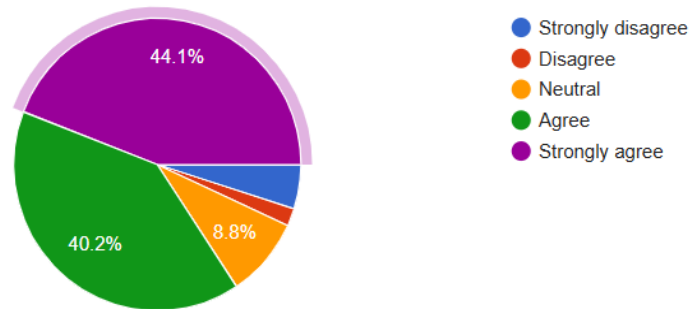
Raising Concerns

Over 80% of families feel confident knowing how to raise concerns. For those unsure: please speak to your child's teacher or contact the office. Staff are always ready to listen.

If I have a concern, I know how to raise it with the school?

 [Copy chart](#)

102 responses



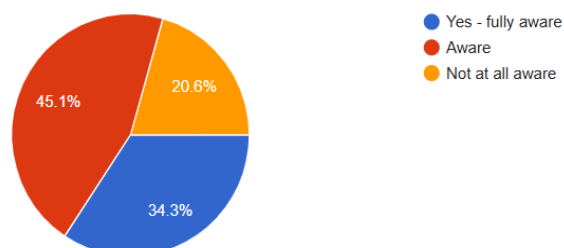
School Funding

Many of you are aware that schools across the country are working under tighter budgets than ever before. Expectations around curriculum delivery, wellbeing support, technology, and additional needs have grown, but funding has not always increased at the same pace. This means we are continually working to do more with less, and we're proud of how our staff rise to this challenge every day. Despite these pressures, we remain committed to providing the best possible education and care for your children. Your continued support, engagement, and trust make a huge difference.

Are you aware of how current financial pressures might affect our school?

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102 responses



What Parents Said in Their Own Words

We asked several open-ended questions to give families the opportunity to share their thoughts in more detail. Thank you to everyone who took the time to respond so thoughtfully. We received a wide range of comments—some filled with praise, others offering ideas and constructive suggestions. These insights are incredibly valuable to us.

Here are a few key themes that emerged:

What's Working Well

A strong and consistent theme throughout the comments was the sense of **community** and the feeling that North is a place where children are genuinely known, supported and celebrated. Many families described the school as having the warmth and spirit of a village school, despite our central location, and shared that their children feel happy, safe, and excited to come through the gates each day. Words like “welcoming,” “friendly,” “inclusive,” and “supportive” came up repeatedly. You spoke warmly about the school's:

- Strong sense of community
- Welcoming, inclusive environment
- Enrichment activities (e.g. music, forest school, sports, themed weeks)
- Focus on kindness, responsibility, and respect
- Staff dedication, especially towards children with additional needs
- Strong leadership and visible presence of Mr Garrett and the senior team
- Embrace of the school's cultural and linguistic diversity

Many families highlighted the **dedication of staff**, describing teachers as kind, attentive, and truly invested in the wellbeing and progress of their pupils. Several parents commented on how staff take the time to understand each child as an individual, including those with additional needs, and tailor their support accordingly. This individual care, combined with structured teaching and thoughtful communication, is something we're proud to hear is making a difference.

Another recurring theme was the strong **leadership presence**, particularly how visible and approachable Mr Garrett and the senior team are during the school day. Parents appreciated this open-door feeling and the genuine care shown to families as well as pupils. The school's efforts to embrace and reflect the diversity of its community were also recognised, with several comments commending our inclusive ethos and adaptability to different cultural and linguistic backgrounds.

Suggestions for Improvement

These comments covered a broad range of areas, and we appreciate the honesty and thoughtfulness with which they were shared. It's clear that families care deeply about the school and want to see it continue to thrive. A few common themes emerged:

- **Communication:** More notice for events, and more regular updates on progress
- **Behaviour:** Greater consistency in boundaries and recognition
- **Facilities:** Concerns about dinners, cleanliness, and outdoor areas
- **Home and Enrichment:** Requests for more clubs, trips, and learning resources
- **Inclusion:** Ensuring all pupils, regardless of need, feel equally supported

While we may not be able to act on everything straight away, these reflections will help shape our ongoing conversations and planning with school leaders. In some cases, there may already be work underway behind the scenes—and in others, your ideas have helped spark new thinking.

Engagement Barriers

Most families reported no major barriers. Where challenges were shared, they related to timing, childcare, or accessibility (e.g. for those with limited English or disabilities). These are helpful points, and we'll continue working to make involvement easier for all.

Subjects You'd Like to Know More About

Many parents expressed interest in:

- Maths, reading, writing, and phonics
- Teaching methods (especially for maths)
- Visible Learning and how to support learning at home

We'll continue exploring ways to share more on these topics.

Additional Comments for Governors

The majority of final comments were extremely positive. Parents praised staff dedication, leadership, and the school's nurturing environment. Some suggested more transparency around issues such as:

- Individual concerns follow-up
- School finances
- Resources for 11+ preparation or extra learning support

A number of parents also raised concerns about the area around Seatrade House and the challenges around parking. While this is outside the school's control, we continue to raise the issues with local authorities and work closely with the local community.

Thank you again for your kind words, honesty, and suggestions. We are proud of the positive, caring school community we're building together—and your voice is a crucial part of that.

We remain committed to listening and taking action wherever possible.

With thanks and appreciation,

The Governors of North Primary School