

Parent Voice Questionnaire – November 2025 - summary

In total we had 299 parents/carers complete the Parent Voice Questionnaire.

Question:	Summary of feedback
1. Please select the year group that your child is currently in.	Year 7 - 77 Year 8 - 60 Year 9 - 51 Year 10 - 66 Year 11 - 38 Year 12 - 29 Year 13 - 25
2. My child is happy at this school.	85% Strongly agreed or agreed
3. Comments (91)	As a school we are pleased with the high percentage of students that say they are happy at Finham Park School but would encourage those that aren't to speak to an appropriate adult or their mentor to discuss, for them, how the school can meet their need be that in lessons, social time or in our extra-curricular provision so that they enjoy coming to school each day. In the week beginning 1st December we reiterated this message in our assemblies.
4. My child feels safe at this school.	88% Strongly agreed or agreed
5. Comments (59)	Again, it is pleasing to see 88% of our students feel safe at school, but we always aim for this to be 100%. We are looking at the comments made by students to identify the places and behaviours in school that are making 10% of students feel unsafe and putting measures in place to address these. These include improving our CCTV coverage around the school, increasing our supervision at key lesson changeover and social times in key areas such as toilets and identifying a key adult for each student (for most this will be their mentor) that will work with that child to have a wholistic view of them.
6. The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved.	26% Strongly disagreed or disagreed
7. Comments (87)	We recognise that in some lessons there are pockets of low-level disruption and in addition to implementing our behaviour policy and encouraging all staff to consistently use our consequence system. We have and will continue to use staff training to upskill our teachers in effective classroom management and techniques in engaging students in their learning. This will be a key focus for us next term. We are also actively investing in programmes to support students who struggle to regulate their behaviour in lessons.
8. My child has been bullied and the school dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively.	16% Strongly disagreed or disagreed
9. Comments (48)	Bullying is the repeated, intentional act of harming or intimidating another person. Unfortunately, we do recognise that bullying happens at Finham Park School but take a firm line in trying to tackle and eradicate this when it happens. Our student voice identified the types of behaviour and places where it is likely to happen, and the school has and will continue to use this feedback to take action in working towards eradicating this.

	Using the input of our new sixth form leadership team, we are going to look at further ways we can help students report incidents. We will also use our mentor time to highlight prejudicial behaviour and the issues that 'banter' can cause. This work started with our two White Ribbon assemblies this half term.
10. The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year.	66% Strongly agreed or agreed
11. Comments (85)	<p>It was pleasing that parents/carers highlighted the subjects/teachers that they considered were good at making them aware of what their child will learn during the year. We are also aware of the method of communication being important in sharing this information with parents/carers.</p> <p>As a school we are looking at how we can share good practice between subjects and also how we can utilise the various methods of communication available to provide the relevant information parents/carers require to support their child at home – particularly our school website. We received some really helpful insights into this in our recent parent forum.</p>
12. When I have raised concerns with the school they have been dealt with properly	80% have not raised concerns or strongly agreed or agreed
13. Comments (47)	We do aim to reply to every communication received within 48 hours (working week). Our ability to reply is always helped when communication is sent directly to the person it is intended for or FAO that person. Failing that, the nature of the concern/communication in the subject will help direct the communication to the most suitable person to reply. In the very first instance, for pastoral concerns we suggest contacting your child's mentor/college leader and for subject concerns this would be the class teacher/head of subject. If you have concerns about the timeliness of responses, please contact a member of the leadership team.
14. My child has SEND, and the school gives them the support they need to succeed	10% Strongly disagreed or disagreed
15. Comments (84)	Many comments stated that the respondent did not have a child with special needs, but it was pleasing to read that parents/carers recognised the work of the SEN department, but that it was an under resourced aspect of education that was felt at Finham Park School. The school regularly reviews both the support it is able to offer to students in our Gateway provision and also that supporting students in their classes. We are in the process of reviewing the structure of our Gateway team, and also looking at further steps we can take to ensure our curriculum is as inclusive as possible.
16. The school has high expectations for my child.	17% Strongly disagreed or disagreed
17. Comments (64)	<p>The school sets individual aspirational targets for students based on being in the top 20% nationally. These can be adjusted based on individual requirements. Feedback given to students in class and when marking assessments gives them information on what they have done well and advice on how to improve their work to reach the next level/grade.</p> <p>We recognise that while our expectations for uniform, punctuality and behaviour are high, these aren't always consistently reinforced by all staff. We are taking steps to maximise the effective use of the 'Finham Classroom' which lays out our expectations for every lesson.</p>

18. My child does well at this school.	80% Strongly agreed or agreed
19. Comments (58)	It was encouraging to read a number of comments describing our students are thriving at the school. However, we recognise that this isn't the experience of all students. We are currently reviewing the curriculum model to increase the range of opportunities for students, and to help tailor lessons to the needs of all students.
20. The school lets me know how my child is doing.	70% Strongly agreed or agreed
21. Comments (80)	We understand from parent/carer responses that this question covered progress in lessons, behaviour, rewards and commitment to extra-curricular activities. We recognise that for KS3 in particular, more can be done to help parents/carers understand the progress their child is making. We are also working with the Finham Park MAT to more tightly define what the purpose of every assessment is, and to be clear on how the data from these assessments is used.
22. There is a good range of subjects available to my child at this school	92% Strongly agreed or agreed
23. Comments (35)	Responses to this question related to all key stages. The school endeavours to strike a balance between have a broad range on offer at key stage 3, allowing suitable option choices at key stage 4 whilst advising against being too narrow and finally catering for a large cohort at Sixth Form with a broad offer that meets to supports access to the next steps for students upon leaving Finham Park School.
24. My child can take part in clubs and activities at this school.	90% Strongly agreed or agreed
25. Comments (43)	It was lovely to see both the broad range of opportunities offered recognised along with individual departments and staff that to parents/carers go above and beyond. We do recognise that we do not always capture every child's specific interest with what we can offer, but either aim to do this through one off educational visits or through encouraging them to try new activities that we are able to offer.
26. The school supports my child's wider personal development.	18% Strongly disagreed or disagreed
27. Comments (35)	As can be imagined, this question had a number of different types of responses depending upon each child's different individual development needs. The school does recognise and aims to respond to emerging trends not only in education but also in terms of preparing students for the challenges that come with both childhood and becoming an adult. Period 1 personal development time and PSHRE lessons are the main tool in being able to adapt teaching and learning to try to address these needs.
28. I would recommend this school to another parent.	84% of parents would
29. Comments (57)	We are pleased that the majority of parents would recommend the school. However, we do not rest on our laurels. It is clear that there is work that can be done in many different areas. It is encouraging that staff are committed to excellent and we will continue to use feedback from students, parents and staff to help us prioritise school improvement work.
30. Communication is clear and timely.	73% Strongly agreed or agreed
31. Comments (87)	The school understands that there are a number of different platforms that is uses to communicate with parents and that different parents/carers may have their own different preference. The school increasingly

	is using the MyChildAtSchool (MCAS) App to communicate home and is looking to utilise the website more as a tool for keeping parents up to date with curriculum news and the school calendar.
32. Individual question re: parents' evenings	52% of parents had a very strong preference, a strong preference or a slight preference for in person parents' evenings. This remains an issue that divides our parent community. At the very least, we want to commit to an annual opportunity for parents/carers in each year group to come into school.
33. Individual question re: mobile phones	84% of parents strongly agreed (50%), agreed or slightly agreed to taking a stronger approach
34. Asking for comments re: phones (137)	See YSWD below
35. Request for positive comments to share (122)	
36. Any other comments of suggestions (58)	

You said....	As a school we did.....
Parents' evenings	As you will see in response to parents sharing their opinions on parents evening, namely whether they prefer them in person or online, the response the school received was 52% having a preference for in person evenings. Currently the school has in person Year 7/12 meet the mentor evenings, Year 7 Parents' evening, Year 9 Options/Parents' evening and Year 11 parents' evening in person as a "mixed economy". The school will review its calendar and look at having a balance between in person events in school and having the convenience where appropriate of some events being delivered online.
Mobile phones	<p>The recent parent voice questionnaire overwhelmingly captured the response that parents/carers supported the school in taking a stronger approach to mobile phones in school.</p> <p>Following on from this on Thursday 13th November all parents/carers were invited to a forum where Smartphone free schools presented many of the facts around smartphone use by secondary school students and many of the dangers. This was presented and a question-and-answer session followed.</p> <p>Feedback both at the forum and through the parent/carer voice capture has been analysed and will inform the future direction of the school with regards to mobile phone usage in school.</p>
Communication	<p>Through both the parent/carer voice questionnaire and through the parents' forum on Tuesday 18th November responses were gathered regarding how the school communicates with parents/carers and preferences with regards to which method of communication is preferred. Key areas for improvement include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More effective use of the website – key staff are being allocated web pages and given responsibility for updates. We also recognise that better communication about curriculum content and assessment needs to be shared through the subject pages. • We need to be consistent in whether we communicate through MCAS or email for whole school messages. • While many staff reply in a timely way to parents/carers, this isn't always the case. • Better use of the school calendar on the website will help give busy parents/carers the opportunity to plan ahead.
My Child feels safe at school/Behaviour	The school are identifying a named adult for each student that will be the lead for that student in school. In most cases that will be the child's mentor, but there will be some cases where it is more appropriate for the support which that child needs to have a

	<p>different staff member in this role i.e. College Leader, member of the Leadership team or Pastoral Support team. This will launch in January.</p> <p>From January, our Pastoral Support Officers role will be more tightly defined to help them support student wellbeing and mental health as well as working with students to both avoid and resolve conflict.</p> <p>With regards to the areas where students have identified feeling less safe around school, as a school we have increased the supervision in these areas at breaktimes and lesson changeovers and are upgrading the schools CCTV coverage to include more of these vulnerable areas.</p> <p>We have increased the monitoring of the toilets, but recognise there is further work that can be done to ensure students feel safe in these spaces.</p> <p>In the new year, we will be working with the new sixth form leaders to review how students report incidents to help ensure that all young people feel they can talk to someone if they have concerns.</p>
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