



Athersley South Primary School

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www.athersleysouth-primary.co.uk

Headteacher: Mrs E. Sanderson
Deputy Headteacher: Mr J. Wheelwright



3rd May 2022

Dear Parents / Carers,

We recently sent out a questionnaire to all Parents and Carers to support our evaluation of the school. Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete the questionnaires, we really do appreciate your feedback and opinions. It was lovely to hear your positive comments about what you feel we are doing well and we are also grateful to those of you who suggested ways in which we could further improve.

Along with this letter you will receive a presentation with shows all the responses we received for all of the questions. On slides 23 and 24 we have produced a 'You Said, Our Response' table with regard to the areas in which you feel we could improve as a school. For your convenience we have also included this below so you can see what action we are proposing where necessary. The full presentation can also be found on the school website <https://www.athersleysouth-primary.co.uk/letters-home.html>

Parents/Carers Said They Would Like...	ASPS Response
Regular updates on learning/A class newsletter saying what my child will learn in the coming term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are currently exploring different formats and will look to introduce something for all year groups from September. In the meantime, we may consult with some parents as we review and evaluate different options so we can best understand how you prefer the information to be presented.
More school trips, visitors and themed school days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We appreciate that covid has restricted these opportunities but plans are now underway for children to participate in educational visits again. We aim for all children to participate in at least one visit off site a year. We have some visitors planned for Term 3 to support the children's learning including the Fire Service. A Jubilee themed day is planned for May and a Spanish themed day for July to support our curriculum offer. We also regularly participate in fundraising days and anti-bullying initiatives.
Better communication, including new staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our First Friday Newsletter is a key tool in our communication with you and allows us to provide general updates and information. Further letters are sent out about class specific or other matters e.g. clubs. Ordinarily we do not have many staff changes within the school year, but we do appreciate that this year has been more difficult due to staff absence.
More after school clubs and increased capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We do currently offer a range of clubs, but will look to offer more if/when we have the staffing capacity. Sometimes numbers have to be limited for safety reasons.
Improved school dinners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our school meals are provided by Barnsley Schools Catering Service. They have recently launched a new menu, with additional options that have so far been well received by the children. The meals are nutritious and there are a range of options each day.

To allow Parents to know what their child has had for dinner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This option is already available via the ParentPay App and you can view your child's school meals history. If you are unsure how, please contact school.
Extending Breakfast Club hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unfortunately, at the moment we are unable to extend the hours as our Breakfast Club staff also work in school during the day. A consultation did go out previously with a private provider, but at that time there was insufficient interest in an earlier start time to make it a viable option.
Provide daily timetables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is something we will look to include within a termly newsletter/curriculum update. However, our timetables can be quite fluid so may not always reflect exactly what your child does each day.
Updates via text	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We do endeavour to send out texts where appropriate. You suggested a text when a child receives a Learner of the Week award. Pre-covid, Parents/Carers were invited into assembly to watch their child receive their certificate so knew about it and could be there too. With the return of whole school assemblies we also hope to resume the practice of inviting Parents/Carers in too 😊.
Reward children who behave well	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our behaviour reward system does seek to reward good behaviour through our 'success stones', team trips and certificates. We always welcome other ideas too.
Understand families within the school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We strive hard to know all our families in school well and to support you as well as your children. If you feel there are gaps in our understanding, please do contact school.
Have more time for Parents at drop off/pick up time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The environment at entry and exit times is busy and staff need to monitor all children for safeguarding reasons, so cannot always engage in conversations with Parents/Carers. That said, if you need to speak with your child's teacher, please call school before/after the school day to speak with them where the matter is urgent, or request a call back/make an appointment to see them. We want to give you our full attention when speaking with you and entry/exit times are often not appropriate. Mrs Smart our Parent Support Advisor and Mrs Walch, Learning Mentor, are also usually available at the beginning/end of the day and they can be contacted via main school reception. They can often provide advice/support or pass messages on to class teachers.
Provide extra support/1:1 For children struggling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please be assured that we are constantly monitoring the progress of every child within school and if we identify there is a need for additional support we will plan for this to happen. We will then monitor and evaluate the impact of this support. If you have any concerns about your own child's progress or the support they receive, please do contact school.

Many thanks in anticipation of your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Mrs E. Sanderson