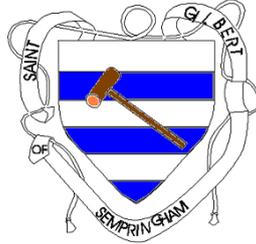


St Gilbert's RC Primary School

Cambell Road
Winton
Eccles
MANCHESTER
M30 8LZ

Head of School: Miss J Tumelty
Executive Head: Mrs J Forshaw



☎ 0161-789-5035
☎ 0161-921-1671
🌐 www.stgilbertsrc.co.uk
✉ stgilberts.rcprimaryschool@salford.gov.uk

Questionnaire for Parents and Carers – October 2016

The table below shows the results from the parent questionnaire that we sent out in October. Thank you to everyone who helped in the survey – your responses and comments are very helpful to us as we continue to look at moving the school forward.

Statements		(Please tick)		
		Agree	Disagree	Don't Know
1.	My child is happy at this school	97.67%	2.32%	0.77%
2.	My child feels safe at this school	99.22%		0.77%
3.	My child makes good progress at this school	95.34%	3.10%	0.77%
4.	My child is well looked after at this school	96.89%	1.55%	1.55%
5.	My child is taught well at this school	96.12%	1.55%	2.32%
6.	My child receives appropriate homework for their age	79.84%	12.17%	5.42%
7.	This school makes sure its pupils are well behaved	98.44%		1.55%
8.	This school deals effectively with bullying	55.81%	5.42%	37.20%
9.	This school is well led and managed	84.49%	1.55%	6.97%
10.	This school responds well to any concerns I raise	75.19%	6.20%	18.60%
11.	I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress	86.04%	8.52%	3.87%
12.	Would you recommend this school to another parent?	Yes 99.22%		No 0.77%
13.	<u>Some general points made:</u> "Great school – my boys both enjoy their school life and progress well in an enabling environment. Thank you." "[My child] loves St. Gilbert's and the staff. She struggles with her concentration...but school are supportive with that." "Brilliant school ... do a great job." "I'm very happy with these comments and the progress my child makes." "Wonderful school for kids, with a high level of education A+." "Fantastic school that zones into my child's strengths and weaknesses and gives added help and praise." "St. Gilbert's RC is a lovely school to educate our girls. As parents, our children are happy and flourishing. A credit to all staff."			



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Areas raised for development:

1) A number of comments were made about there being more opportunities to discuss progress and update on child's attainment.

Response: *Statutory guidance from the Department of Education states that schools are required to provide at least one opportunity per year for parents to discuss pupil progress with a teacher as well as a written report of a child's progress and attainment. At St. Gilbert's, like the vast majority of other primary schools, we go above this by holding two parent consultation evenings per year as well as a written report in the Summer. Please remember, parents are welcome to make appointments through the school year with their child's class teacher should they have a concern or wish to discuss their child's learning.*

2a) A number of comments were made regarding communication by school.

Response: *We recognise there are frustrations regarding information from all parties. In the last year, we have made a concerted effort to ensure our school website has been adapted to be used on mobile phones and we work hard to ensure it is up to date and has a functioning calendar of events; we have a twitter feed for instant and ongoing notices; as well as carefully using the traditional letter format (which are uploaded to the school website). This is a matter that will be raised with the Parent's forum this year as to how we can develop this further and try to build understanding on how both parents and staff can ensure that the communication is effective we hope to see a continued improvement in this respect.*

2b) A couple of comments were made as to whether a text messaging service could be utilised to support communication between school and home.

Response: *We are currently researching this as an option and considering the financial and practical implications of setting it up. We are taking advice from schools who have implemented it and we will present this to both Governors and the Parents Forum for feedback when taking a decision on whether it is the next best step for our school and the best way for something of this nature to be implemented.*

3 a) There were a number of comments regarding homework which range from it being: too much, not tailored enough, not covering other aspects of the curriculum than English and Maths.

Response: *In the past, when homework was more unstructured, we had many complaints that the homework was confusing and disproportionate e.g. some classes would seem to unfairly get more than others; others would get homework that was too easy or too hard etc. We do recognise it allowed staff to tackle key topics with their class and give greater variety but at the same time, this came with regular complaints which caused confusion and problems for staff. As a result, almost two years ago we adopted a very systematic homework scheme, which is used by other schools, to ensure that there is greater equality and make the homework more systematic for both parents and teachers. We have high standards at St. Gilbert's so that children can succeed in a demanding curriculum and our homework is an extension of that. We are planning to review homework this academic year with the different stakeholders in this issue: pupils, teachers and with parents via the parent forum. Any changes that are necessary and helpful will be actioned and explained in due course.*



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3b) There were comments about children missing break times to do missed homework, spellings and reading.

Response: *As part of the homework system we ask parents and children to practice reading and their weekly spellings each day. This is part of ongoing support of their learning as these areas are better tackled little and often rather than in big weekly chunks. At the start of the year, staff discuss with both parents and children what the expectations and conventions in these regards are. In order for the system to work in a fair way to all the children and to ensure no child is left behind in their education, where any reading, spelling or homework is missing or unevidenced we ask them to make it up using a little of the time out of one of their daily breaks. This is a very simple protocol to ensure equality of treatment and keeps the school working systematically. Teachers are asked not to make exceptions unless essential to preserve this system. However, if an emergency had arisen which would prevent a child from doing the work please just contact the class teacher and they will act as appropriate in that case.*

4) There were comments about parental workshops and meetings regarding curriculum and transition points.

Response: *We have timetabled in to the year a number of workshops where appropriate for different subjects including Reading and Phonics. We have also recently had an Open Day so parents can come and see the school, and its curriculum, in action and see how the children are learning. Transition meetings to high school are generally handled by St. Patricks or the high school a child has a place at. The suggestions for other subject areas will be considered as a staff and planned and put into place as appropriate.*

5) There were comments regarding the quality of school dinners.

Response: *We review menus each term to ensure that they are seasonally appropriate and match the nutritional requirement guidelines that all schools have to follow. When taking over the school kitchens, we put time into changing our suppliers so that children are getting high quality meat, fruit and vegetables in their food. At a recent Open Day our chef, Tina, was talking to parents and getting ideas for food from the children based on what you know they like. We are always open to suggestions as children's appetites and tastes are very varied! Tina will be present again at Parents' Evenings to allow you to sample some of the menu and offer ideas for our menus which can be taken into consideration. We also get information the children who take school meals through the eating patterns over a number of weeks and getting their feedback and ideas over the school year. Together we hope to use this to keep refining our food so that children enjoy eating at St. Gilbert's.*

