



HECKMONDWIKE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

MLM/JDN

8 December 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

Parent/Carer Voice – Term 1

Thank you to all who completed the parent/carer survey issued recently. We had over 500 responses which goes to show the tremendous amount of support you continue to show us as a school.

We have analysed your responses and compared them with national data. We are pleased that the vast majority of you agree we ensure your children are safe, happy and supported to do well. The results linked to most statements in the survey were extremely positive:

Statement	HGS % Agree	National Secondary % Agree
My child is happy at HGS	93	83
My child feels safe at HGS	97	86
HGS makes sure that students are well behaved	92	77
HGS has high expectations for my child	94	81
My child does well at HGS	92	83
There is a range of subjects available to my child at HGS	93	89
My child can take part in clubs and activities at HGS	93	89
I would recommend HGS to another parent/carer	89	79

To continue our improvement as a school the survey has been helpful in supporting us to identify a small number of parents/carers who we are working with more closely, to improve their child's experience at school. Furthermore, the results linked to three of the statements in the survey were lower than we would like. As such, we want to update/inform you of our actions to address this.

1. **HGS keep me informed about what my child will be learning throughout the year** - 40% of you disagreed.

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We had already acknowledged this as an area for improvement and have been working on ways in which we can better share details of our curriculum with you. To improve this, we have been developing [curriculum overviews](#); available for all subjects, across all year groups. Each overview provides a wealth of information about topics that are covered, how students will be assessed and how you can support at home. We hope you find this information useful and would welcome your feedback.

2. HGS lets me know how my child is doing – 20% of you disagreed.

Our [assessment, recording and reporting policy](#) is published on our school website, detailing our approach and rationale for reporting to parents/carers. The DfE recommends issuing parents/carers with two-three reports about their child's progress per academic year; we issue three, one per term.

Some of you commented that you would like more opportunities to speak to teachers in person. However, the last time we consulted parents/carers on their preference for consultation venue the results were as follows:

Virtual – 57%

In Person – 43%

This was used to inform the parents' evening schedule in 2022/23; we have gone with a 50:50 model, with some virtual and some in person evenings. Nevertheless, we will continue to keep this under review when finalising our parents' evening schedule for 2023/24.

3. HGS supports my child's wider development - 20% of you disagreed.

As a school we pride ourselves on the vast array of developmental opportunities we offer to our students, beyond the academic. We appreciate some of you may be unaware of all of the ways in which we support our students' wider development, however we want to provide information on just a few:

- [Extra-curricular Provision](#)
- [House System](#)
- [Student Council](#)
- [Careers](#)
- [The Heckler](#)

Some of you also commented that you would like to see an increased focus on students' mental health and wellbeing. As a school we have a comprehensive Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy that is integral to the pastoral support we provide for students, however, your survey responses have highlighted that we could communicate this strategy with you more clearly. We are working on getting this information on our school website and will send a link to you when this is available. Furthermore, we will continue to raise mental health and wellbeing with our Student Council to explore their ideas about what more we could do to support them.

Once again, thank you for the responses, comments and suggestions given in the Term 1 survey. Your views are extremely important to us and have helped drive our continued improvement. We hope you feel encouraged by our response, and we look forward to hearing from you again in Term 2.

Yours faithfully,



Megan Maguire

Assistant Headteacher