



A huge thank you to all of the Parents/Carers who took the time to complete our recent survey to provide your feedback and give your views on the school. We had 34 responses.

- Your views are very important as they will help us to identify areas for us to work on as a school in the coming year and we have already discussed the results as a Senior Leadership Team.
- We are delighted with the results, especially **100%** stating they would recommend the school to other Parents/Carers. Please remember that we are a school community and if you ever wish to discuss anything, your child's class teacher, phase leaders (Mrs Jarrett, Mrs Latham and Mr Simpson) and myself would be happy to listen to your views and discuss these with you. We promise we will always try to be reflective and make changes to make your child's experience here as positive as possible.
- The results, feedback and views from Parents/Carers have fed into many our School Improvement Priorities and changes to our practices/procedures for next year.

<u>Statement</u>	<u>Response</u>
My child is happy at this school.	100% Strongly agreed/agreed.
My child feels safe at this school.	100% Strongly agreed/agreed.
The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved.	100% Strongly agreed/agreed.
The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year.	94% Strongly agreed/agreed; 3% Don't know
The school has high expectations for my child.	97% Strongly agreed/agreed; 3% Don't know
My child does well at this school.	100% Strongly agreed/agreed.
The school lets me know how my child is doing.	100% Strongly agreed/agreed.
There is a good range of subjects available to my child at this school.	100% Strongly agreed/agreed.
My child can take part in clubs and activities at this school.	100% Strongly agreed/agreed.
The school supports my child's wider personal development (e.g. not just curriculum) and provides other experiences.	94% Strongly agreed/agreed.
Where there is a concern about bullying, the school dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively	88% Positive Response (7/8 responses)
My child has SEND, and the school gives them the support they need to succeed.	83% My child has SEN and school gives them the support they need to succeed (5/6 responses);

	17% Don't know (1/6)
I would recommend this school to other parents.	100% Strongly agreed/agreed.

Thank you so much for taking the time to share your thoughts with us — we truly value your feedback.

Your comments will be shared with our staff and Governors to help us celebrate what's going well and identify areas for further development.

Here's a small selection of the lovely things you said:

#### Q'n: What do you feel are the strengths of The Gates?

- "Good teaching and variety in learning and activities."
- "Everything. The Gates is such a welcoming school with a great headteacher which shows throughout the school as all other members of staff are happy and helpful"
- "Varied curriculum  
Strong knowledgeable teachers"
- "Headteacher - very present and all for the children.  
Great communication  
Broad curriculum and experiences offered to the children 😊"
- "The teachers truly care about the children's well being, not just about their attainment. Feedback is always listened to and concerns are acted upon quickly. There is a wide range of clubs available and lots of fun and creative ways to learn such as rock kids."
- "They follow their values. Having an engaged headteacher who is very involved and interested in all the children's wellbeing and education, always has a smile and will always speak to and acknowledge parents on the school grounds.  
They praise and acknowledge lots of children every week which is lovely to see on social media posts."
- "Mr Doherty and teachers. I can say after Mr.Doherty had joined, there are lot of improvements in school which helped my child in overall development."
- "Every kid is encouraged to be independent."
- "Wide variety of subjects taught and after school clubs to develop children's extra curriculum opportunities."
- "One big family with best head teacher"
- "The involvement the teachers have with students. Brilliant head teacher and staff"
- "All staff are warm and friendly and you can tell they genuinely love and care about the children they are teaching. Brilliant school and so glad we chose The Gates."
- "The teachers are absolutely fantastic and lovely. My child is engaged in all her lessons and feels listened to"
- "The Gates has a great sense of community throughout the school. Each teacher's know all pupils by name. Mr Doherty and Mr Simpson greets parents and children every morning and the school gates and Mr Doherty is always accessible for parents and the children."
- "Friendly and lovely atmosphere"
- "Great teachers. Lots of after school classes"
- "All the staff, teachers, Headteacher and support staff are a credit to the school.  
Good communication.  
Approachable staff."
- "Communication.  
Values."

- “All the teachers and staff are very caring, and can see that they put in a lot of effort for the students.  
The school has put in many measures to give children a good place to learn.”
- “We like how everyone in the school celebrates each other’s achievements, particularly with the wonderful Friday assemblies.  
The school is a positive environment and encourages children to do their best and not give up.  
It is clear that the staff genuinely care about the children, the headteacher is so warm and welcoming and knows all the children well.”
- “Commitment of the teachers”
- “From what I’ve seen the gates school has many strengths, the variety of tasks for the children to engage in both in the classrooms and outside. And the way themes are updated in keeping with the seasons/months/holidays etc  
The progress my child has made in such a short time developing her skills and her understanding of new concepts / methods of learning shows how well children respond to the teaching.  
The fact that the school really celebrate students successes and make a big fuss over achievements with stickers, star of the weeks and vip parties etc it really helps the children engage and feel good about themselves building that confidence.  
A big one for me is the teachers/headmasters relationships with students. Mrs Riley has been a real safe space for my daughter and helped her to settle into school which isn’t easy. She is quite reserved and shy but I feel having teachers who get to know the kids on an individual level is really comforting to parents. Also Mr Doherty has a visible presence in the school, is extremely involved and seems to know students by name which is really lovely and not something I’ve seen before in my experience.”
- “Supportive,safe,effective leadership”
- “Always ensure all children strength are celebrated”
- “The community”
- “I’m believe the community feel of the school is amazing . Also I would like to add that Mrs Jarrett is an outstanding teacher my daughter speaks of her as if she is a member of her family . The trust and confidence she has built with arabella is inspiring . It’s hard express how far she has come from the shy quiet girl she used to be and Mrs Jarrett has been a huge part of that .”
- “Love the fact you see mr Doherty interacting with the children, I feel it is more than just a job to him and he really cares.”
- “It’s a fantastic school and I feel very lucky Alice attends. It’s a wonderfully inclusive school, with the wellbeing of children put first at the same time as supporting them to achieve. There’s a wide range of opportunities across the school for children to express themselves, try out new things and learn about the world. All the teachers and assistant teachers are very welcoming and approachable. It’s lovely that teachers are there at the door to welcome the children each morning and Mr Doherty and Mr Simpson are usually around to greet children and parents as well. There are high expectations of the children but where children don’t behave in the way that is perhaps expected of them they seem to be supported with kindness to learn.”
- “Lots of choice”
- “The sense of community within the school- parents feel valued and informed.  
The teachers obviously genuinely care about the children.  
Mr Doherty is inspirational - the children all love him and feel that he knows them. He is present, listens and obviously goes above and beyond to keep the school improving all the time- we are lucky to have him.  
We love the inclusive feel of the school and that each child is thought about and catered for-

you know our children very well- you help them to develop very well.

We know that compared to other schools our friend's children attend in Westhoughton that they don't get the opportunities and experiences that our children receive.

We now what our children are learning, the communication is great and we feel involved.

Thank you for offering opportunities for us to come into school, share our views and be involved with our children's learning journey.

Keep up the great work that you all do- we are proud that our children attend your amazing school."

- "Every child is 'known' to the staff. It is warm and welcoming"

#### **Q'n: How could The Gates develop further?**

- "Parking"
- "My daughter faces challenges with particular children in her class whose behaviour she finds irritating and sometimes unkind to her or others. She isn't being bullied but is negatively affected by this behaviour. I wonder if there is a way to promote peer feedback for years 5/6 where children are supported to work through their differences in a way which is restorative."
- "My only criticism is the MCAS app, I have missed things due to the app not sending me notifications, I am in a high-pressured job, a single parent juggling 1001 things, if I don't get notifications via an app I can easily miss things. Seesaw app always notified me of messages, I did raise this last year with the receptionist who was lovely but didn't know why I wasn't getting notifications. I had very bad mum guilt when Ava got star of the week and nobody went to assembly to see this."
- "The only improvement I'd suggest is to secure the fields with fences."
- "Ensure that all children get fair turns to be chosen as part of school council or other volunteer groups/outside extra curriculum activities that the school takes part in"
- "Lollypop man outside school, stop asking for money"
- "The My Child At School app isn't the most intuitive to use. Sometimes new announcements drop to the bottom of the screen and you may not notice they are there for several days. There is no categorisation or order of priority between messages and announcements."
- "We really miss the free clubs. I understand this probably put a lot of extra pressure on the teachers."
- "Some of the afternoon sessions for parents are difficult to attend as you have to essentially be out of work from 1.30 right through to after school collection time which isn't always possible. I understand access to the hall etc must be really tricky if there was opportunity to have a morning session that you could work early morning, attend school and return to work I feel I could attend more sessions and perhaps other parents may feel the same. The information passed out to parents can sometimes be confusing or come from a variety of sources so you don't always look on the place you're supposed to and might miss something important. MCAS can be quite temperamental, it often shows posts and they are extremely hard to locate again despite scrolling back weeks. This may just be us and user error! But we've had a few posts we've read and cannot find again to check the information."

- "I would suggest sheltered bike sheds to help protect the bikes from the elements and to try encourage more children cycling to school maybe give extra house points to the children who do cycle to school as a reward and encouragement of health behaviour, this in return would help with congestion as well as promote the green message the school try's to achieve. Possibly shut the car park for parents to help keep children safe from moving vehicles."
- "I would like to ask that the school reviews its use of social media with a stronger focus on privacy. At the moment, the school's social media pages are open access, with each individual class having its own page on X. These pages include regular posts showing children's images and daily activities, which are visible to any X user. If X is to continue being used to share photos and updates on school life, I would ask that the school considers making individual class pages private and accessible only to parents or carers with parental or legal responsibility. Having done a little research, good practice suggests that such content should also be deleted annually. At present, some class pages (for example, Robins) appear to show images going back to 2021. One possible suggestion, if social media continues to be used, would be to create private class pages for each intake, which stay with that class as they move through the school (rather than their images being spread across several pages as they move up a year, as they are now) and are deleted when the cohort leaves. If parents and carers are aware of this policy, they can save any images they wish before content is removed."
- "Faster responses to queries re. SEND provisions"