



## Parent Questionnaire 2023

Thank you to all those who took part in our parent survey in February 2023. We received 236 responses, and the feedback was overwhelmingly positive. Here are some of the key points and our response to some of your suggestions.

### **Our strengths:**

99.6% agree that 'my child is happy at this school' with 65.7% agreeing strongly.

98.7% agree that 'my child feels safe at this school' with 68.6% agreeing strongly.

99.6 % agree that 'my child does well at this school' and 96.5% agree that 'the school lets me know how my child is doing'.

93.3% agree that 'when I have raised concerns with the school they have been dealt with properly'.

99.2% of parents said they would recommend this school to another parent.

*'It's a welcoming school with approachable and caring teachers, the extra activities on offer are excellent.'*

*'Online information, correspondence, and general information is good. All staff seem very approachable.'*

*'Knows individual children well. Builds relationships with children and parents. Clear communication. Engaging curriculum.'*

*'Everyone is kind and helpful. Everyone works in partnership.'*

*'The school is very supportive and always encourages my child to do the best they can. My child has progressed so much in the time they have been at Cavalry.'*



### **Areas for development:**

*All your comments and suggestions have been shared with our leadership team and community council. It's not possible to respond to every individual comment but here are some of the themes that emerged along with our response:*

**ParentPay:** A few parents mentioned issues they have experienced with ParentPay, for example receiving multiple copies of the same message or not receiving newsletters as a separated parent. Please ask the team in the school office for help - we can talk you through how to make changes to your account to resolve these kinds of issues but sometimes we can't do it for you because you control the settings in your account.

**Bullying:** Most parents (170 respondents) did not report any experiences of bullying, and of those that did, 75.8% of parents agreed that 'My child has been bullied and the school dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively.' We want ALL parents to feel that instances of bullying have been swiftly addressed. We have reviewed our behaviour policy to ensure that consequences and recording procedures are even more clear. The new policy will be available to parents on the school website in April. Please continue to raise any concerns with us straight away.

**School meals:** Some parents asked us to find ways of catering for children with issues with food – more “plain” options “pick your own”, plain pasta etc., and asked for lactose/dairy free options. There was also a comment about last minute menu changes causing disappointment. We are currently carrying out the tendering process with a view to employing a new catering firm from September, and we will raise all these issues as we negotiate the new contract. In the meantime, we can already offer a dairy/lactose free option - please contact the school office for more information.



**Clubs and activities:** Some parents would like to see more opportunities for children in Year 1 to attend clubs, in addition to Junior Choir and Beginner Recorders. In the summer term we plan to offer a sports club for Year 1. Please remember that our clubs are almost all run by teachers who give up their time on a voluntary basis and still have to mark books, plan lessons and prepare resources once the club is over.

**Communication:** There were many positive comments about the flow of communication from school but some parents commented that communication could be sent out further in advance, for example notice of parent's evenings and asked for more notice on dates and events for time off work. We will continue to work on this area.

**Parking:** As well as comments requesting that parents take more care about parking near school, there was a specific comment about parking in the bus bay. Where a parent or a child holds a blue disabled badge and needs to park close to school because they cannot walk a longer distance, they are permitted to use the bus bay. We ask everyone else not to park there. This also applies when collecting children from after school clubs or evening events.