



## Parent / Carer Questionnaire 2024

Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete the questionnaire, we really value your feedback and will continue to work together to make Ashfield better and better.

115 questionnaires were completed. Where parents had a view (not including don't know answer) the following percentages are applicable:

<b>The school is welcoming to all visitors</b>	100%
<b>My child is happy at school</b>	97%
<b>My child feels safe</b>	100%
<b>The school encourages children to adopt a healthy lifestyle</b> (for example free fruit/veg in KS1, sports and PE, clubs, Healthy School status, health week)	100%
<b>There is a wide range of extra activities</b> (for example the range of clubs, after school activities, themed weeks, trips and visitors etc).	81%
<b>The PTA (Friends of Ashfield) makes a significant contribution to the life of the school</b> (e.g. raising money for superstar trips, in school activities, discos, Christmas presents, trim-trail, after school performances-magician...)	96%
<b>My child receives support if he/she needs it</b> (eg through provision for children with additional needs, support for medical needs, for children with English as an additional language, counselling, playground support, extra booster sessions)	98%
<b>The school keeps me informed of my child's progress</b> (eg. parents' evenings, reports, and SATs results, comments on home learning, certificates and stickers).	95%
<b>My child is making enough progress</b>	96%
<b>Teaching and learning in school is good</b>	100%
<b>Homework is at the right level for the age of my child</b>	98%
<b>Staff and children have good relationships</b>	99%
<b>Behaviour in school is good</b>	97%
<b>Bullying is dealt with effectively</b>	92%
<b>The school tackles any discrimination and inequalities well</b> (do you feel that all children and parents are treated equally and with respect and discrimination/racism is not tolerated and dealt with appropriately?)	98%
<b>The school is well led and managed</b>	99%
<b>The school keeps me well informed about events in school</b> (via text service, newsletters, school blog, new website)	90%
<b>The school takes account of parent's/carers' views</b> (this survey, informal chats, parent consultation evenings)	100%
<b>The school takes account of pupil views</b> (class and school council, pupil interviews, assembly)	98%
<b>The school makes sure that my child is well prepared for the future</b> (for example when starting school, changing year group or changing school).	99%
<b>I would recommend the school to other parents</b>	100%
<b>Overall I am happy with my child's experience at this school</b>	100%

**What do you think the strengths of the school are?**

**SEND**

SEND is the best I've come across!  
Ashfield go above and beyond for SEN children  
My son with ADHD and autism is well supported.  
Inclusion of children with SEND

Inclusion and equality generally

**Relationships and staff approachability**

Teacher student relationships  
Approachable staff  
Teachers and teaching assistants are very approachable  
Friendly engaging staff  
Staff seem to genuinely care  
Caring teachers  
The feeling of family they promote  
Strong relationships between students and staff  
Staff friendly and approachable  
Friendliness and support

**Staff and leadership**

Friendly staff  
Fantastic and supportive staff  
The teachers are the school's greatest strength along with the methods they use  
Lovely teachers  
Lovely kind teachers  
An amazing team of caring and dedicated teachers, with excellent leadership  
Culture and leadership  
Great leadership

**Teaching / curriculum**

How teachers know each child to be able to help them as they need support  
Teaching standards  
Teaching diversity  
Good range of subjects  
Teaching quality  
Engaging activities  
Academic support for children  
The way they capture the students' attention  
Teachers are superb - you can see it is a vocation, not a job  
Progress  
Meeting each child where they are  
So many fun activities  
Teachers really get to know the students

### **Welcoming Community**

Welcoming and safe

Sense of community that teachers build with families

My children feel supported and loved here

Friendly environment

Friendly and welcoming

Friendliness of staff is always excellent

Really welcoming

### **Behaviour**

Students mostly delightful

Kindness and working hard from staff and children

### **Setting**

Lots of space outdoor activities

Fab outdoor area

Green space and outdoor focus

Play space

### **Events**

Lots of events and trips

Get lots of people into school like authors, police, firefighters and local groups such as Wildlife

Friendly Otley

Lots of opportunities and trips

Trips and opportunities

### **Happy children**

Children are happy

My kids are really happy at this school - they love their teachers and all the fun things they do.

Our children love coming to school which speaks volumes

My child has been really happy since his time here

My son loves coming here. That says a lot about school.

### **ANO**

Confident that if there were a problem it would be addressed appropriately

Psychologically safe place - kind and caring

They both have come on such a long way since coming here and I am looking forward to what the future holds for them here at Ashfield.

### **Support for pupils**

Overall support - not just academically

This school has helped both of my children in so many ways

I have appreciated the support from school staff to make my child feel settled once he arrives at school

School really seems to care about the kids and that's the best thing - thank you.

### **Support for pupils and parents / carers**

Always someone available to talk to if needed

Parent support worker a great new addition

Support for parents

## Communication

Communication - always someone available to talk to if needed

Great communication

Overall the school has been great at communication and support

Contact

Open door policy when talking to teachers and head

## Other

The ethos

Extremely happy with everything

Safe environment and trust

The golden rules

Mixed demographic

The school is fabulous - very impressed and happy

**Parents and carers wrote about priorities for improvement. Here are our plans for tackling those issues:**

### **More range of clubs high demand year 1 not much more winter indoor clubs**

So far this year we have had:

- Autumn 2 Music & Movement, Coding and choir
- Spring 1 Coding and Dodgeball
- Spring 2 Dodgeball for both key stages
- Leeds United Foundation - Friday Football Autumn - Y5 & 6 Spring - Y3 & 4

We will try to keep a range of clubs going. Some clubs happen at lunchtime such as singing and library. Ashfield staff also run booster classes before and after school. We will look at some more outside providers to enhance our offer and see which staff have capacity to offer more.

### **Communication general - more notice for events - confusing and for helping out on trips**

**Communication between teaches office and HT. All by email - no letters in bags**

### **Working parents need more notice**

Thank you for these comments. We did make a big effort last year to improve things but I can see from your comments we have not been consistent. After meeting with staff to firm up communication protocol, I will send out a letter explaining our processes. We will try to give more notice for events. I do understand the busy lives you all lead as parents of primary school children juggling this and your own jobs.

### **Both parents carers receiving texts**

Unfortunately, finances will not allow us to add 2 adults to each child on Teacher2Parents our testing App. We can add another as a second contact however if you let us know you would like that. Please give the office a ring if that would be helpful. We are currently moving from SIMS to Arbor for school management systems. Arbor does have a parent messaging service too. When our Teachers2Parents contract is finished, hopefully, we can get a texting service through Arbor that can include more adults.

### **Add year group to texts**

I apologise for this one. This is something we tried to improve on last year and it looks like we haven't succeeded. I will ensure all staff are reminded of the need for year groups to be included in the message.

## **Y5 / 6 toilets**

The Collaborative Learning Trust will help us to look into these toilets. They have specialist plumbers on the team. There is often a drain smell that we haven't been able to sort. From 11<sup>th</sup> March, we now have our full complement of cleaners. As well as making toilets a priority for our cleaning team, class staff will teach pupils to take care of the toilets themselves so they leave them in a pleasant condition for the next user.

## **More SEND support for pupils who are less obviously SEND and their parents**

We have a number of pupils in school who receive extra support for their physical, academic, social and emotional needs. Not all of these pupils are on the SEND register. We also have a 'watch' list to see if an initial intervention helps a child or if they need something more intensive. If you are worried about your child having SEND needs, please speak initially to your child's class teacher.

## **PTA what has happened to it? - communication**

So far the PTA have hosted the following events:

Autumn Light Disco

Quiz night

Mini Christmas Fair

The Christmas disco was replaced by the mini Christmas fair as I had originally planned it for the Thursday before breaking up for the Christmas holiday. I would not have had enough staff who could stay to keep everyone safe on this date and time.

There will be an Easter disco on 21<sup>st</sup> March.

Plans are in place for a family bingo night on 7<sup>th</sup> May, a break the rules day in school and our summer fair on 11<sup>th</sup> July.

Please see Friends of Ashfield website page and newsletters:

<https://www.ashfieldprimary.co.uk/pta-friends-of-ashfield/>

## **Bullying: teachers expect children to deal with conflict on their own too much**

Please do let me know if you feel that a bullying complaint has not been resolved. Our approach is if you have worries initially please speak to your child's teacher or Mrs Hey (learning mentor) or Mrs Warren. We'll talk to your child. We'll talk to the other party and often we will organise a circle of friends where each party chooses other children they trust to help. All children meet regularly with a member of staff to discuss how to make sure everyone sees the situation as improving and no one is isolated. The children know that the members of staff are there to help. To start with this happens a few times a day and then reduces. Please also encourage your child to talk to us as soon as they feel uncomfortable.

We have found a restorative approach like this has a longer lasting effect than a punitive approach. No approach is perfect. Please talk to us again if you feel the situation has not improved or encourage your child to do so.

## **Homework and reading books too easy**

Please speak to your child's class teacher. Books are chosen for children linked more than just their ability to read passages out loud fluently. We assess children with PM Benchmark which looks at the following reading components:

- ability to re-tell
- decoding errors as a percentage of a passage
- ability to self-correct
- comprehension both literal and inferential
- strategies for fluency and processing text

It may be that your child's teacher wants them to practise one of the above elements linked to understanding before moving to another more challenging text.

## **Playground already improved - keep it a focus**

I absolutely agree. Many playground items are consumables that have to be renewed and others

we have to save up for.

**Change sports day to old focus**

We have a new PE lead this year, Miss Morris, who will organise sports day. We try to have a mix of traditional races as well as other activities to keep all children moving and motivated.

**Parents not smoking on way to school and tying dogs at fence**

Ashfield cannot enforce anything outside of school however a reminder in newsletters is a good idea.

**More progress reports on top of parent consultation**

We have parent carer consultations 3 times a year. In the summer term this is optional if you want to discuss your child's written report. We are looking to add other opportunities to see your child's work in school. We held 'Meet The Teacher' in the autumn term. Rowan Class are showcasing their DT work on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2024.

Other classes intend to follow suit in the summer term.

Please let your child's class teacher know if you would like to discuss their work in between parent consultations.

**Sports teams**

I agree that we could definitely have more sports teams. Staff who have managed this previously have had changes in their circumstances.

**Calm down on attendance obsession**

Attendance makes such a difference to a child's progress at school. Regular attendance is needed in order for your child to acquire and develop essential skills, establish good routines, increase their confidence and promote social skills.