



BEECHWOOD JUNIOR SCHOOL

Parent's Questionnaires 2014/2015 RESPONSES

	85 Parental replies	Strong Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
1	I feel my child is happy at school.	44	40	1		
	<p>Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My child has struggled to settle in and seems anxious about coming to school. I know things have been put in place to help her and am very grateful. • He loves coming in every day. • My son always seems happy to go in the morning and happy at the end of the day. • Extremely. • My child is very happy. We have only been at the school for $\frac{1}{2}$ term and she is very settled, happy and involved. She loves 'Beechwood'. • My son really enjoys school and cannot wait to get there each morning. • She is very happy but on Fridays when other students get awards she feels a little disappointed, as she is new and doesn't know much. • My eldest child who is a high achiever is very happy at school; however, my youngest child has not settled in quite as well yet and says he is struggling slightly. • We have been part of most things so she can see what's what i.e. library, assemblies. • My daughter loves coming to school. • Since the beginning of the year my child has been extremely quiet and hasn't wanted to talk about school very much. I have raised my concerns with his class teacher and members of the Pupil Support Team. • My son loves to come to school to learn. He always tries his best and feels proud of himself. • In general my child is happy. There has been a few times where she has not been happy. • Very confident. Is determined to prepare well for Year 7. • My child is mostly happy. Occasionally he gets upset about something. 					
2	I feel my child is well cared for at school.	47	36	1		1
	<p>Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I feel she has been looked after very well by the teachers. • Always. • I never have any worries. • Communication with the parent always updated when the child is sick. • My child is well cared for. At times it is probably harder for the parents with the changes from Glenfield to Beechwood and the expectations! • My son has been through a lot this year and I feel the school has looked out for him and helped him deal with his feelings. • I am not sure what support is being offered to my youngest child who perhaps needs extra support in some areas. • My daughter has commented that she misses her old teacher as Beechwood are much stricter. • Couldn't ask for more caring and dedicated staff. 					

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My son feels well supported emotionally. • Yes - get phoned if he has hurt himself. Teachers are interested, supported my son when he was upset. • The Pupil Support Team are very good at making my child feel secure when necessary. 					
3	I feel my child is taught well at school.	43	42			
	<p>Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The spellings sometimes seem too easy. • I am really happy with my son's progress. • He is always telling me about real things that he has learnt. • She is motivated well by her teacher. • The teaching standards seem to be of a high standard. Always striving to better in all ways. • The best that can be done in a large class of children. • I attended Open Week and saw first-hand how well my daughter is being educated. • Having attended Open Week I feel they are taught well, although I feel that the teacher should have been a little better prepared with learning tools i.e. mirrors, tracing paper, math dictionary on each table with enough for all children. • My son is upset at the moment as he's not in a high level for spelling or maths. Extra support would be amazing. • I feel that there has been no 'breaking in' i.e. teacher's expectations are a lot higher than infants from day one. Some children find this overwhelming as they try to find their feet. • My child has commented that since the beginning of Year 6, he hasn't done very much numeracy. 					
4	I feel my child receives appropriate homework.	32	47	5		1
	<p>Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More homework would be better. • Children spend enough time at school and should not have homework when it is family time; however what they get is manageable. • I don't understand the benefit of topic homework. • I sometimes feel it is too much. • Whilst I appreciate the need for homework and support from home, weekly homework can be hard to get completed when you have several children and the pressures of modern life. The children find it a chore. • The homework is well structured and clear. We enjoyed the project homework, x-tables, spellings and reading. • My son doesn't always want to do his homework; however, it is something that I really enjoy doing with him. He will always try his best when doing it. • Although my son enjoys topic homework he struggles to complete spelling and xtables per week. • I would like to agree, however have found the majority of homework simple and not challenging enough. • My child receives appropriate homework but I feel I would like to see the mistakes after it has been checked. What is the progress of child and everything? • Could do with the homework being more varied. Every week it is xtables and spellings. It's the right amount just could be different some weeks to keep them interested. • Both my children really enjoy doing their homework, especially their topic projects. 					

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sometimes my child is over whelmed with homework but I realise this is to get him through SATS. • Need to make sure clear instructions are written in his homework book. • Emphasis on reading, writing, spelling and xtables. That's really good. I don't think large projects should be given as homework. • I do feel that homework should be more focused on areas that the children are struggling with. I do feel that the Homework Diaries are a waste of money as my son hasn't writing in his and neither has his teacher. • My son often comes home with no explanation of how to complete homework. • I think that my child, although she is only in Year 4, would enjoy some more challenging homework. • Please could Reading Rocket come home at weekends as this is the best time for us to read and fill it in. 					
5	I feel this school encourages pupils to behave well.	52	31	1		1
	<p>Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My son likes the house point system. • Rewards are consistently given. • Definitely. We love the housepoint system and the table points. Every week she is so proud to receive the Behaviour Award. • Behaviour is always impeccable whenever I have been in or around the school. • I haven't noticed any bullying which is the best indication of good practice I can think of! • All the children I encounter at school are well behaved and polite. They are calm and the atmosphere is orderly with children taking responsibility for themselves and the school. • It wasn't explained why a naughty child was getting extra points for sitting still and not calling out. My child could not see why they would get rewarded for not being naughty. • My child's teacher is very firm on behaviour, which is excellent. My daughter has had a couple of warnings and hates it. • Sanctions and punishments should be the same for all - it isn't currently. • Rewarding a child for good behaviour is a better encouragement than rewarding bad behaviour. I'm all for it! I like the ways you encourage good behaviour with your variety of rewards. • My child has come home with a couple of example of rough behaviour on the playground (e.g. older boys playing basketball) but not enough for us to call you. • A child with special needs doesn't seem to receive the same levels of discipline and this has continued to antagonise. My child has, on several occasions, commented on how a classmate doesn't receive the same discipline as the rest. 					
6	I feel the school deals effectively with bullying.	28	23	1		33
	<p>Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Never had a problem. • Yes. Although more feedback would be appreciated especially if an issue has been raised by the parent. From seeing how the school and teaching staff work bullying is not tolerated in any way. • We haven't had experience of this but my son says that he would know what to do. He 					

	<p>spoke about student committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fortunately, we haven't had to deal with this kind of situation. • I was very satisfied with how a 'racial' incident was dealt with and that I was immediately informed. • My son has a particular child in his class that upsets him and gets cross at him always, even though the school has tried. 					
7	I feel able to approach the school with questions or problems.	45	34	1		5
	<p>Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff seem friendly. • Yes, calls and emails are dealt with quickly. • Having a senior member of the team on the playground/by the front gate allows for more informal communication. Also, my daughter's class teacher is approachable, listens and reassures a sometimes over protective mum! • Definitely, I have emailed my son's teacher and also the Head Teacher and they came back to me within a couple of hours. • Emails are always answered incredibly promptly. The school have been very helpful over the last two years re: attendance, clubs, after school care and funding. • We are newcomers to this city, so I feel I would like to know about each activity and programme which is being held in school. • I have continuous communication with the school due to my son's special needs. Compared to other schools I have dealt with, Beechwood are outstanding. • Always helpful. • Anytime, and I have approached my child's teacher and the office. All issues were dealt with appropriately. • Emailing the office is very effective for me and response time is quick. • The email facility to teachers is a great facility. • Staff are always happy and approachable. • Sometimes. • I don't tend to direct any questions to the school directly. I often look up things on the website. The office staff don't greet us with a smile or friendly hello. • The email system is excellent and I've used this to contact my son's teacher who responded very quickly. Thank you. 					
8	The school keeps me informed about how my child is progressing (we send out reports in March and July and hold 3 parents evenings).	38	32	2		13
	<p>Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It would be nice to have more regular feedback. What my son says to me may not always be an accurate picture of how he's really doing. • Only received feedback in homework diary so far. • Not seen anything yet - would like to have known which sets he was placed in for maths and English and what results he got so I knew starting level. • I did enjoy being able to come and sit in the classroom for 'Open Week'. Was great to see my son's routine every morning. Also got to know my son's teacher who I must say is amazing with all the children and a truly outstanding teacher. • Only ever had 2 parents' evenings per academic year. When is the third? • I am not sure about the timing of reports - it is preferable to receive a report before the Christmas break. 					

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not entirely sure how my child is progressing as he is not a high achiever academically. • I would prefer interim reports on progress and maybe feedback on homework over and above the school reports and parents evenings. 					
9	The school keeps me informed about what is being taught (e.g. termly booklets, website, open weeks, newsletters).	40	43	1		1
	<p>Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The information on paper has been concise and to the point. • Termly booklets are useful to know what my son is studying. • Please send paper copies of the newsletter. Some of us don't have the internet. I have looked in the office but no leaflets. • Open Week was excellent. • I found the paper based newsletters incredibly helpful and the overall sheet of the term very useful. • The teaching booklet is wonderful. The website isn't as up to date as it could be. Newsletter is wonderful and text service is good. • Enjoyed and appreciated opportunity to visit during Open Week, thank you. Booklet helpful. 					
10	I would like to become more involved with the school (e.g. Parent Teacher Association, Governors, helping at events).	14	21	32	2	16
	<p>Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I love helping out at events and coming in to Open Days. • Cannot due to work commitments. • I love doing the reading twice a week. 					
<p>I believe the strengths of the school are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teaching and great teachers • Care • After school clubs, Breakfast Club • Encourage unity and good behaviour. They reward both very well and are good at giving incentives. Everyone certainly seems happy. • All the staff are very good at what they do and have a great rapport with children. • Encouraging pupils to become independent. • Parental involvement. I thoroughly enjoyed interacting with my son in 'Open Week'. • Music lessons as standard. • Welcoming school. • The amazing hearts of the teachers. • My child is well cared for and is receiving a good education. • I feel my children are safe, looked after and educated very well. They are very involved in clubs etc. and like to see the children do well and provide rewards and help. • Opportunities - clubs, music etc. - varied. • Pupil support - invaluable role. • Staff friendliness and approachability. • Nurturing atmosphere, creative learning, and good behaviour. Lovely outdoor areas. Good interventions. • Community spirit, sense of belonging and pride in the school. Children are taught strong values. • SEND provision. • Encouragement. 						

- Variation to stimulate in all areas i.e. music, sport, drama.
- Strong morals and expectations - exceptional staff who are clearly dedicated to their roles.
- Happy, calm feeling throughout the school.
- Free after school clubs - very nice.
- Community focus, caring for children, communication channels.
- Good ethics and well behaved children.
- Respect for each other.
- Keeping safe.
- Helping children to use their own independent skills.
- Making learning interesting to keep children motivated.
- Displays/presentations/inspiring environment.
- Sense of community.
- Reward system.
- Standard of teaching.
- Incentives for the children.
- Good parental involvement.
- Communication is good. Emails are answered promptly.
- Being able to come and see how school runs during Open Weeks.
- Dealing with bullying.
- Strong teachers with great skills, lots of opportunities for the children and a school with a great atmosphere.
- No tolerance on bad behaviour.
- Inclusion, parent inclusion and friendly and welcoming
- My son really likes attending school so whatever you're doing works well!

I would like to see some improvements in:

- A shame that we only get the newsletter online. Maybe just the important dates could be sent home.
- Communication on a day to day basis. The Headteachers at Glenfield walked round the playground talking to the parents - I've not seen that yet at Beechwood. Direct face to face talking is so valuable and underestimated these days.
- Introduction of more ICT computer knowledge as it is very important in all workplaces and all aspects of life.
- Does the school teach about other faiths apart from Islam? Plus - what about teaching English history more?
- Communication between teachers and parents regarding detentions.
- More after school clubs.
- Learn Latin.
- Maybe a once a month paragraph on pupils progress, possible improvements/great work.
- Enforcing uniform code.
- Equal sanctions for behaviour.
- More opportunity to talk to the teacher about my child's progress in the first half term.
- Improvements in how achievements are recognised. My daughter was expected to stand in front of the whole school to celebrate 2 achievements. It didn't happen, she was too nervous. Her class teacher eventually supported her to talk about her achievements in class. There should be a better system.
- Message for illness.
- I received several separate letters on coloured paper that could have easily been combined into one with a slip and tick list for clubs children want to join.

- Increases in the number of homeworks for children, particularly in maths, science and English.
- To send a text out about school uniform if misplaced for parents to check. My son has lost 2 jumpers and 1 coat and they are still not returned!!!
- Seating arrangements. I'm worried my child is distracted due to sitting with naughty children.
- My son has applied for various after school clubs. On both occasions he hasn't been given a space on any yet and would like to.
- The quality of text messages. The tone is always abrupt and makes us feel as if we're being told off. Doesn't help to build a good relationship or sense of partnership!
- I do feel that lots of effort is put into keeping me informed of how well one of my children is doing as he is doing so well, however, my youngest is not so obvious and I feel a little like I don't know how he's doing other than what he tells me.
- If a child has earned a warning back, then the teacher needs to explain to the child why they have crossed their name off. This will give encouragement to the child not to do it again.
- Sending out weekly reports about homework.
- Flexibility for working parents, perhaps an open evening to celebrate current student's work, clubs, societies on offer. To keep parents involved with topic work, on-going projects etc.
- Keeping the website up to date. Clearer communication regarding discos etc. - especially for Year 3 parents who are unsure of the way they work.
- The warning systems does seem a little disjointed with some pupils receiving them for fairly minor acts, whilst others seem to 'get away' with more.
- Teacher's spellings on spelling lists home.
- Give pupils daily homework.
- The transition between Glenfield and Beechwood seems to have gone smoothly. However, I feel that the teaching and teacher's expectations are very high. I think that the children should maybe have a 'gentler' first term in Junior School. The children have had a lot to learn in the first term. These things have definitely led to anxiety with my daughter. It is not so much the actual learning just the non-curricular learning.
- More communication.
- The Code of Conduct and rules for my child and other children to improve behaviour.
- Homework - the weekly homework is not adequate and needs to be increased to at least 1 hour of work daily.
- Nice colourful bins outside the play area as it lacks them
- Children should be in proper queues while waiting to get inside.

Any other comments:

- My child is very happy at school.
- My child has had 2 detentions so far. Whilst I agree with the first one, I feel that the second one could have been explained a little better to him. I feel he needs to find his feet a little more so that he knows and understands what acceptable behaviour is.
- Mine and my son's experiences of your school are great from after school activities to the general well-being for the children is outstanding.
- The playground needs a tidy up, it seems not as tidy as it was a year ago - lots of cordons, moss and leaves which can be dangerous to children when playing.
- Both my children are very happy.
- The teachers knowing the children's strengths and weaknesses when asked. I do appreciate

that there are a lot of children but I do think it eases a parent's mind if the teachers are able to answer confidently.

- School dinners are awful. Such a tiny portion of food and poor quality, not very healthy. We have now gone over to packed lunches.
- Thank you for welcoming us to your lovely school.
- My child has moved into Beechwood easier than I thought she would. She loves being a councillor and lost property monitor. She seems to have grown older and wiser in half a term - watch up when she's Year 6!
- Well done! All your hard work shows with all the happy, smiling faces I see each day.
- We are very pleased with the school environment in which our child is in and the professional teaching put in place.
- Am disappointed that my son's pencil case has been stolen - this hasn't been resolved.
- In the Open Week I attended but my daughter's class teachers was not teaching. This was disappointing as I could have come a different day had I known, however the covering teacher was wonderful.
- General behaviour of the boys while on the playground and healthy friendship between the children.
- The school is constantly needing money. There are an extreme amount of fundraising events that are often expensive for what they are compared to other schools and we feel pressured into providing for each of these and when you have more than one child at the school it ends up being extremely expensive.
- Lost property. Mostly labelled clothing so could easily be passed onto class child is in.
- More reminders via text. Not all things are sent i.e. trips, non-uniform etc. to remind us.
- The warning systems does seem a little disjointed with some pupils receiving them for fairly minor acts, whilst others seem to 'get away' with more.
- I would like to see a smarter appearance from some of the teaching staff as I feel it would encourage pupils to be smarter and possibly more respectful.
- I am really happy with the attention my children are getting for their learning/behaviour.
- The after school clubs are of a great benefit and the fact that they are free is a real bonus.
- We are alarmed to find our child has been praying and singing religious songs in assemblies and choir. I sat in on Thursday morning assembly about time-keeping. Why the prayer with the candle?
- A lovely school. Teachers and pupils I have had contact with are all so kind. I love parents sitting in on classes.