



# Brighstone C.E. Aided Primary School

Headteacher – Mrs R. Lennon

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## Parent/Carer Survey July 2023 - Results

Dear parents and carers,



We would like to thank those of you who took the time to share your feedback in our parent/carers survey at the end of the last academic year. At Brighstone, we feel it is important to gather parent views, because we believe in the importance of working together to be the best school we can be for your child. We were delighted to see so many positive comments, and I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone in the team at Brighstone, and to you, for your continued support.

The results from the questions are below, along with responses to your queries and concerns, which I hope reassures you and provides answers to any questions you may have. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

(1 person = 10%)

### 1. My child enjoys their learning at Brighstone Primary School.

100% of you agree or strongly agree.

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Strongly agree		80.00%	8
2	Agree		20.00%	2
3	Disagree		0.00%	0
4	Strongly disagree		0.00%	0
5	Don't know		0.00%	0

Some of your feedback:




- Always has a smile on his face at the end of the day.
- Varied class structure and learning opportunities are a big plus as well as the strict routine on normal weeks.
- He has lots of friends and always runs in to school happy and very animated at the end of the day which is good.
- Our children tell us about their day with enthusiasm. They really enjoy all aspects of school life.
- Our younger child is always keen to share everything he has done at school. He particularly enjoys science, history and DT and talks enthusiastically about all the exciting things he has been learning.
- Both children always happy to go to school & enjoy learning!

Our response:

It is great to see so much enthusiasm for learning here at Brighstone. We endeavour to make our topics/learning journeys interesting and relevant to the children, with cross-curricular links wherever possible, and we are pleased to see that the children enjoy their learning, as this means that they then learn so much more.

### 2. The school helps my child develop and prepare for the next step of their learning journey.

90% of you agree or strongly agree.

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Strongly agree		60.00%	6
2	Agree		30.00%	3
3	Disagree		0.00%	0
4	Strongly disagree		0.00%	0
5	Don't know		10.00%	1

## 2. The school helps my child develop and prepare for the next step of their learning journey.

90% of you agree or strongly agree.

Some of your feedback:

- There is ample chance to mingle amongst other years at the school though these could be encouraged more by having more than 1 official day for seeing what the next year holds for them.
- The Brighstone team put a strong emphasis on development. I particularly like how much work has gone into preparing the pupils for high school.
- The transition ASC sessions and other high school preparations have really helped prepare my year 6 child for their step up to high school. They feel much more confident that they will be able to deal with the challenges such as peer pressure and negotiating timetables, bigger buildings, new people etc.

Our response:

Thank you for your positive comments.

We carefully plan the transition for our Y6 pupils up to high school, helping them to understand what to expect and providing opportunities for them to meet with members of staff from the high schools, as well as visiting the school on a one-to-one basis where needed.

Our transition between preschool and Reception is also well-planned, with the children having weekly opportunities to visit the Reception class and get to know the adults from January onwards. This helps them to build confidence in preparation for when they join big school! Being a small school provides good opportunities for year groups to work together. We plan in 'Hive Days' throughout the year, with particular focuses on learning behaviours, where children work in their 'hives' with children from other year groups throughout the day. Year groups also have the opportunity to play together at playtimes and lunchtimes, and it is always lovely to see the different ages of children working and playing together collaboratively, learning from each other and helping one another. We will certainly consider further opportunities for children to find out more information about what the next year holds for them.

Within each year, topic webs are sent home so you can see what is being taught for that half term, which gives you an overview of the next step in their learning journey, and helps you to support your child at home in seeing links and making connections with current and previous learning and experiences.

## 3. My child experiences a wide variety of learning opportunities, including in and out of class, sporting activities and trips/visitors.

100% of you agree or strongly agree.

Answer Choices		Response Percent	Response Total
1	Strongly agree	70.00%	7
2	Agree	30.00%	3
3	Disagree	0.00%	0
4	Strongly disagree	0.00%	0
5	Don't know	0.00%	0

Some of your feedback:



- She loved the residential this year. She also really enjoyed the visit from the headteacher from Uganda.
- For our children this is a highlight. They really enjoy all of these headings to the extent they would like to see more!
- There have been some fabulous opportunities for our children this year, particularly the school trips to Portsmouth Dockyard, the forest trip and Blackgang Chine.
- Our eldest also got a lot out of the sessions where external visitors came into the school, such as the CPR session, and Stonecrabs theatre group. It gave us as parents a really good opportunity to discuss important issues at home too.
- The sports opportunities at the school were once again great and varied this year, with lots of after school clubs, inter-school matches and tournaments. We really appreciate the huge effort from Mr Goldsmith that goes into arranging these.
- I strongly believe that music and the arts should have an important place in the curriculum and can really enhance other areas of learning and improve wellbeing. We really appreciate the effort that the staff put into giving pupils the opportunity to experience so many types of music and performance. I know that my eldest particularly got a lot out of the session with Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra.
- Year 2 did not have as many in the beginning of the year but did at least have a couple towards the end of the year.

Our response:

We feel that the many and varied opportunities that we provide at Brighstone is one of our strengths, as we strongly believe in developing the whole child, as well as the academic side. Developing a range of skills and 'cultural capital' supports the children in becoming well-rounded citizens ready to make their way in the world!

We endeavour to plan in visits and visitors for each year group linked to what they are learning across the curriculum wherever possible. Throughout the coming year, we are ensuring that all year groups have a range of opportunities and experiences.

**4. My child has made progress this year, including academically and holistically (e.g. spelling, handwriting, reading, phonics, Maths, group work, independence, following instructions, turn-taking etc...).**  
**100% of you agree or strongly agree.**

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Strongly agree		80.00%	8
2	Agree		20.00%	2
3	Disagree		0.00%	0
4	Strongly disagree		0.00%	0
5	Don't know		0.00%	0




Some of your feedback:

- Extra measures put in following dyslexia diagnosis have really helped my child's confidence.
- Massive change from September, thank you to the staff and teachers for all their hard work.
- Her end of year report shows that she has made great progress this year.
- I really enjoyed reading my children's reports and hearing about how far they have come this year in all areas.
- The children's reports reflected fantastic progress in all subjects.

Our response:

We appreciate your feedback, as we work hard to ensure that every child makes progress at their own level, across all aspects of school life. We offer the opportunity to talk about your child's progress during our parent consultation meetings three times a year, and if you have any concerns about your child's progress at any other times throughout the year, then please do not hesitate to contact us.

**5. My child enjoys coming to school.**  
**90% of you agree or strongly agree.**

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Strongly agree		80.00%	8
2	Agree		10.00%	1
3	Disagree		10.00%	1
4	Strongly disagree		0.00%	0
5	Don't know		0.00%	0



Some of your feedback:

- Can't get in there fast enough some days
- We have never had any complaints!

Our response:

It is clear that so many children enjoy coming to school; when I open the gates in the morning, I am greeted by a sea of eager faces and a rush of enthusiasm as they stream through the gate, which always makes me smile!

**6. The school has a positive, respectful culture in which my child feels safe and well cared for.**  
**90% of you agree or strongly agree.**

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Strongly agree		90.00%	9
2	Agree		0.00%	0
3	Disagree		10.00%	1
4	Strongly disagree		0.00%	0
5	Don't know		0.00%	0

**6. The school has a positive, respectful culture in which my child feels safe and well cared for.**

**90% of you agree or strongly agree.**

Some of your feedback:



- Our child prompted some pastoral help from staff, which has been very helpful.
- I think all the pupils understand the values, which are enforced in a positive way.
- In all the interactions I have seen between staff and pupils, there is clearly so much respect between pupils and staff. Staff clearly really care about the happiness and wellbeing of the children, solving any issues in a really constructive and caring way.

Our response:

We ensure that our school values of love, courage and respect permeate everything we do, and that they drive our ethos and culture. We have a big focus on children feeling safe, including feeling safe to have a go and make mistakes, which is all part of the learning process, as well as in terms of safeguarding. Children are able to articulate that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility – we are all here to help keep each other safe and well cared for.

**7. The school helps my child to develop good learning behaviours, including independence, resilience, collaboration and perseverance.**

**100% of you agree or strongly agree.**

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Strongly agree		70.00%	7
2	Agree		30.00%	3
3	Disagree		0.00%	0
4	Strongly disagree		0.00%	0
5	Don't know		0.00%	0

Some of your feedback:




- The Hive days are great for this.
- Although it must be challenging having mixed classes, I think some of the positive behaviours from the older children help the younger ones, especially in such a nice environment. It also present the opportunity to be caring.
- I have really enjoyed watching the Year 6 children become so independent this year, particularly when they have been given important tasks such as helping with the activities and awarding places on the finish line at sports day. You could see them working together as a team to problem solve.
- I've really enjoyed hearing about how the EARA group and the school council have been getting on. It's fabulous to see them take on important responsibilities and work together to achieve so much. The celebration assemblies are a great way of encouraging all the above behaviours.

Our comments:

We continue to have a big focus on developing and embedding positive learning behaviours, and we appreciate your support in this, especially with helping your child/ren to develop their independence and resilience. Giving the children responsibility throughout their time at primary school, from having monitor jobs in their classroom to applying for and carrying out leadership roles in Y6, all help to develop a well-rounded child.

**8. My child receives support and challenge appropriate to their needs.**

**90% of you agree or strongly agree.**

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Strongly agree		40.00%	4
2	Agree		50.00%	5
3	Disagree		10.00%	1
4	Strongly disagree		0.00%	0
5	Don't know		0.00%	0

Some of your feedback:

- The balance of our child where maths comes easier than reading and writing is being navigated well with only a few hiccups.

### 8. My child receives support and challenge appropriate to their needs.

90% of you agree or strongly agree.

- Sensory circuits has been good for my child and they look forward to doing it.
- Thank you to all the fabulous teachers and teaching assistants. You are all doing an amazing job!
- The extra maths has helped our child become more confident - thank you!

Our response:

Thank you for your feedback. Our vision statement states that we aim to provide a nurturing environment where every child can thrive according to their needs. This has been, and continues to be, a focus for us. We access training and work closely with advisors from the Local Authority to ensure that we provide support and challenge for all children at a level that is appropriate for them, while also ensuring that the National Curriculum objectives are met. If you have any concerns about your child's support and challenge, please contact the school to discuss this.

### 9. The school's core values of Love, Courage and Respect help to develop my child's pastoral and learning needs.

90% of you agree or strongly agree.

Answer Choices		Response Percent	Response Total
1	Strongly agree	80.00%	8
2	Agree	10.00%	1
3	Disagree	10.00%	1
4	Strongly disagree	0.00%	0
5	Don't know	0.00%	0

Some of your feedback:

- These are important for our child's behaviour and general social attitude and it's a credit to the school that references to the core values are highlighted and talked about so often throughout the year.
- I often see children out of school showing the school's values. There is definitely love, courage and respect in all the children.
- The school values are evident in all parts of school life - Golden Assembly on a Friday is great.
- 100%. I cannot fault the pastoral care and support that is available.
- This is really emphasised by the awards given in celebration assemblies; a lovely way to encourage children to express the values in their learning and behaviours at school. They always look so proud!
- The school values are shown by teachers and positively transferred to the children.

Our response:

Thank you for your heart-warming comments. We are always highlighting our core values, which are embedded in everything we do and say with the children, both in Collective Worship, Golden Worship, lessons, behaviour strategies and within our pastoral care. It is lovely to hear that the children are also demonstrating these values out of school as well, which shows how embedded they are, through the positive messages from school and home.

### 10. The school responds well to any concerns I raise.

80% of you agree or strongly agree (where applicable).

Answer Choices		Response Percent	Response Total
1	Strongly agree	60.00%	6
2	Agree	20.00%	2
3	Disagree	0.00%	0
4	Strongly disagree	10.00%	1
5	Not applicable	10.00%	1

Some of your feedback:

- Aforementioned pastoral care issue is a perfect example.
- I would like to highlight a particular example of what I consider to be best practice. Some pupils engaged in behaviour that was not acceptable (and they were unlikely to have fully understood this). This was quickly recognised by the staff, stopped and investigated.

**10. The school responds well to any concerns I raise.**  
**80% of you agree or strongly agree (where applicable).**






Pupils and parents were kept updated as to the investigation and the school acted immediately to address shortfalls in the pupil's EDI learning. An external guest was brought in to improve knowledge and there were several follow-ups.

- Any issues are swiftly addressed & teachers are always readily accessible to respond to our queries.

Our response:

Thank you for your positive comments and the recognition that we aim to resolve any concerns, queries or issues as soon as possible. We believe that we are approachable so, if you have any concerns or queries, you can raise them with the class teacher, Mrs Jones, Mrs Pelosi or myself (Mrs Lennon) who we hope will be able to resolve them. We believe that working in partnership with parents is imperative to ensure consistency for children. However, if you feel that your concern hasn't been addressed sufficiently, then there is a clear procedure to follow for concerns and complaints, which is laid out in our Complaints Policy. In the first instance, the aim is to always try to resolve it at the initial stage.

**11. The school is well-led and managed (including governors, Headteacher, Senior Leadership Team, teachers, subject leaders).**  
**90% of you agree or strongly agree.**

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Strongly agree		80.00%	8
2	Agree		10.00%	1
3	Disagree		0.00%	0
4	Strongly disagree		10.00%	1
5	Don't know		0.00%	0

Some of your feedback:

- I am very happy having my child at Brighstone.
- All of the staff seem bought in to the vision and values. Everything is well organised and positive.
- I think Brighstone handled the strike situation very well. Whilst recognising and respecting teachers right to strike, families were given as much notice as possible and as much provision as possible was made.

Our response:

Thank you for your positive feedback. Sometimes we have to work with events beyond our control, and in these situations, we aim to minimise disruption and keep parents informed as much as possible. Our leadership team consists of different levels: our governing body; our Senior Leadership Team, which includes me (Mrs Lennon), Mrs Jones, Mrs Boyd and Mrs Sharp; and our middle leaders (who take on subject responsibilities). We all work hard as a team, and are proud of the way that we know each individual child in the school, as this helps to embed our vision. If you have any concerns or queries about how the school is led and managed, please do not hesitate to contact the school or the governing body.

**12. What do you feel are the school's greatest strengths? What should we celebrate?**

So many strengths! But the communication is particularly brilliant as is the feeling that the children really are at the forefront of the school's focus with special touches and thoughtful elements. This also reflects the lovely relationship that the school system has with the BSA and doesn't feel like a separate entity to the school and its children.	It is a really wonderful school with a real community feel. I love the way that the school gets involved in external events such as country dancing at the Midsummer Fair and coordinating entries into the Brighstone show. I think it's lovely that Mrs Lennon gets involved too. The BSA is a wonderful asset to the school and should really be celebrated too. I think that the amount of effort and contributions made by the BSA is sometimes overlooked by other parents who aren't involved. Those parents who do get involved should be given the recognition somehow... maybe their own golden assembly award?!
Warm, welcoming, caring & nurturing.	
Overall, the school provides an invaluable structure to the children's lives & teacher's enthusiasm encourages on the children daily.	The sport is fantastic. The children look amazing in their kit and love attending competitions and doing Brighstone proud. I like the way homework is managed. A lot of effort goes into creating a range of tasks that suit a range of learning styles.
Firstly, the feedback from the last survey has been acted upon! Well done! The schools is safe, happy, organised (Debbie is awesome) and generally, a nice place to be! We always get effusive feedback from the hive days.	
The staff! - A wonderful, caring and nurturing team. Sports opportunities. A variety of afterschool clubs. Hive Days. Strong community feel.	When our children don't feel themselves, we know the support is there and they will be listened to and looked after. I think the pupils also receive the right amount of challenge. Some days they return so tired from learning!

The children across all age groups seem genuinely connected with each other, which is really lovely to witness.	Diversity on teaching, class sizes, cooperation between school years, hive system, more after school club achievements
A small school who cares for their students and helps develop them as individuals.	The staff take the time to get to know children and their families.
<b>Our response:</b>	
Thank you for such positive and uplifting comments! We are delighted to know that you and your children value Brighstone Primary so much, and we look forward to continuing to work closely together to make our school even better.	

<b>13. What do you feel are the most important issues we should address in the next year to help us further improve?</b>	
<b>Your comments</b>	<b>Our responses</b>
Sometimes notice on school functions/events /activities/outings can be too short - we would appreciate knowing the plans for the whole term in advance, so we can plan for childcare accordingly.	We have taken this feedback on board, and, since last year, we publish a list of whole school and class dates in advance in the weekly Buzz, where known.
I really appreciate the effort that has gone into ensuring that more notice is given for school events and that dates are included in the Buzz. I do feel though that sometimes things are arranged a bit last minute, which can make it tricky for parents (particularly those who work) to make arrangements for time off or sort additional childcare, or just to get consent slips in on time. I do appreciate that this is often probably due to having to wait for external bodies to make decisions etc.	Sometimes, events may take place at short notice due to circumstances out of our control, but we strive to inform parents with as much notice as possible in these situations, and we thank you for your understanding.
Communication continues to cause confusion among parents - all information needs to be shared on all platforms. Texts should only be an alert to read email & not have too much detail.	This year, we have streamlined our methods of communication to make it easier for parents to receive and find information. Our main method of communication is now via email, with texts used for urgent messages, quick reminders or to notify you that an important email has been sent out.
I feel that there are too many ways in which messages requiring action from parents are communicated (email/text/Buzz/tapestry/Facebook/via paper). Maybe there needs to be just one or two methods? Maybe it's worth doing a poll with parents to find out what they prefer? Personally, I think Facebook and Tapestry requests are most frequently missed by parents, who can sometimes feel a bit overwhelmed by the amount of messages across information platforms.	Forms to return are now completed digitally, which will hopefully be easier for parents.  Facebook is used to share and celebrate class and school information and photos, to share any adverts from external organisations, and to repeat messages that have been previously emailed out.
Blow your own trumpet more. You do so much for the students that parents might not be aware of; the more you communicate with them the more support you will get.	Thank you. We promote the school via our Facebook page, as well as sending information and news to the local media for some school events and activities, which are often published. We welcome any other ideas to help us promote the school more; please contact the school office.
Promotion of the school to encourage it to grow.	
Structure of away matches to help get the children there and collected. There are no teams as such which makes it harder to find out who has been asked to actually play on a certain match. This term there was a lot of people mentioning matches and then parents thinking they had not got the letter as they didn't know about it etc.  It would be good to know who to contact for help with lifts. Maybe with letters an option about being able to help getting other kids to the match or something?	We strive to provide external sporting opportunities for all children in KS2, which means that, while there are teams for some fixtures, there may be times when different children take part. Now that all letters are to be sent by email, it will be easier to know if your child has been selected for a fixture. If you haven't received one, it will be because your child isn't involved in that particular fixture. If you are unsure, please contact Mr Goldsmith via the school office who will provide further clarification.  For fixtures outside of school hours, we are grateful to parents taking their children to matches. Unfortunately, we are unable to coordinate the sharing of lifts outside of school hours. However, is this something that can be asked about on your parents' WhatsApp groups?
Keep doing what you are doing!	Thank you!
I was wondering if there is a way parents/carers could receive more regular feedback outside of parents' evenings so that we can support the learning journey of each child?	It is a statutory requirement for schools to provide at least one opportunity per year for parents or carers to discuss their child's progress with a teacher. We believe that meeting with parents more often than this is more beneficial, so we provide three opportunities through formal parents' evenings. However, we are always available to discuss your child's learning at any point throughout the year; please contact your child's class teacher to make an appointment.
I understand the challenges of linking everything to the curriculum but trips/visitors/out of classroom learning are a highlight for my children and they would certainly like to see more of this.	All visits and visitors need to be linked to the curriculum (unless it is a national or local event, or a very special occasion). We aim to organise a visit or visitor (either in person or remotely) at least once every half term for each class, while also being mindful of the cost-of-living crisis. However, we are very grateful to the BSA for their generous contributions, which subsidise the cost of every trip.
It might be nice to spread school events across the year a bit more... maybe include more in the spring term rather than cramming lots of trips etc into the summer term?	

14. Do you have any other comments?	
Well done to all staff and teachers; the positive change in our child this year is in part to the hard work everyone at the school has made with him.	<p>Thank you for all your positive comments. We are very proud of our small school and the role it plays in the community.</p> <p>We are all here for the children: helping them develop and grow in their own special ways, academically, emotionally and socially, is what we are here for, and they make us smile every single day.</p> <p>We enjoy working closely with you all to provide the best possible education and experiences for the children, and we appreciate the support you have for the school. We look forward to continuing to further build this collaborative partnership between home and school.</p>
Weekly spellings. I know you are encouraging the children to be more independent and responsible, but there has to be an awareness of that being achieved. Spellings need to be monitored to check that children are learning them and bringing in their books each day/week.	
Thank you so much to everyone at Brighstone for everything you do. You have had such a positive impact on my family and we are so grateful!	
Keep up the fab work. You all work so hard and it is really appreciated by all of us.	
Happy that our child has had 3 happy, settled years here at Brighstone; only regret is we didn't move them here sooner!	
Thank you for another great year & we look forward starting again in September.	
Thank you for a lovely positive start to our child's school journey. They always look forward to school, even as we finish school on a Friday they look forward to Monday.	

If you have any questions, concerns or suggestions that aren't addressed in this letter, then please do not hesitate to contact us. We are always looking for ways to further improve!

Once again, we would like to extend our thanks to you for giving up your time to fill out the parent survey and providing us with feedback. It is very much appreciated, and we look forward to continuing to work with you closely to enable us all to provide the best learning opportunities, both academically and pastorally, for the children at Brighstone.

Best wishes,

Mrs Lennon and the Brighstone Team