



Rydal Road Darlington DL1 4BH T: 01325 380784 E: officeadmin@rydal.swiftacademies.org.uk W: www.rydal.swiftacademies.org.uk

Chief Executive: Mr D Judson, BEd, NPQH Head Teacher: Mr J Armitage BEd (Hons), NPQH

RE: Spring term questionnaires

Dear Parent/Carer,

Thank you to those of you that completed the parent/carer questionnaires this half-term. Please find below the outcomes of this terms questionnaires, the difference from last terms responses (coloured font in brackets), information on the responses to the pupil questionnaires and how the information is informing school improvement planning.

Termly Parent/Carer Questionnaire

Spring term questionnaire responses were received from 66 (+4) parent/carers which is a 11% return. (10% Autumn 23, 11% Summer 23)

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Don't know / No issues	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
My child is happy at this school	62% <mark>(-6%)</mark>	36% (+7%)	0%	2%	0% <mark>(-2%)</mark>
National January 2024	59%	30%	1%	6%	5%
My child feels safe at this school	61% <mark>(-4%)</mark>	36% (+4%)	0%	3% <mark>(-2%)</mark>	0%
National January 2024	61%	29%	1%	5%	4%
This school makes sure its pupils are well behaved	49% <mark>(-6%)</mark>	47% (+10%)	3% <mark>(-1%)</mark>	3% <mark>(-2%)</mark>	0%
National January 2024	48%	36%	3%	9%	5%
My child has been bullied and the school dealt with the bullying effectively and quickly	30% (+3%)	17% <mark>(-2%)</mark>	15% (+8%) / 27% (-10%)	6% <mark>(-2%)</mark>	5% (+2%)
National January 2024	8%	9%	6% / 65%	6%	5%
The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year	59% (-6%)	35% (+3%)	4% (+3%)	2% (-1%)	2% (-1%)
National January 2024	48%	35%	2%	11%	5%
When I have raised concerns with the school they have been dealt with properly	53% (+5%)	27% <mark>(-9%)</mark>	6% (+3%) / 9% (+1%)	5% <mark>(-2%)</mark>	0%
National January 2024	35%	21%	2% / 26%	9%	7%
My child has SEN and the school gives them the support they need to succeed (*11 respondents, 1 less than Autumn)	50%	50%	0%	0%	0%
National January 2024	42%	25%	4%	14%	15%
The school has high expectations for my child	50% (+5%)	42% (-5%)	5% (-2%)	2% (+2%)	2%
National January 2024	47%	36%	6%	8%	3%
My child does well at this school	56% <mark>(-4%)</mark>	41% (+1%)	2% (+2%)	0%	2% <mark>(+2%)</mark>
National January 2024	52%	35%	3%	7%	3%
The school lets me know how my child is doing	56% (-4%)	26% <mark>(-11%)</mark>	7% (+7%)	11% (+8%)	2% (+2%)
National January 2024	46%	38%	1%	10%	4%
There is a good range of subjects available to my child at this school	65% (+5%)	30% <mark>(-9%)</mark>	6% (+4%)	0%	2% (+2%)
National January 2024	52%	39%	3%	5%	2%
My child can take part in clubs and activities at this school	73% (+2%)	21% <mark>(-6%)</mark>	5% (+5%)	2%	0%
National January 2024	55%	35%	3%	5%	2%
The school supports my child's wider personal development	58% (+8%)	35% (-5%)	2% <mark>(-3%)</mark>	6% (+4%)	0% <mark>(-3%)</mark>
National January 2024	46%	33%	7%	9%	5%
I would recommend this school to another parent/carer	70% <mark>(-4%)</mark>	27% (+6%)	2%	2% <mark>(-1%)</mark>	0%
National January 2024	84%			10	5%
Would you be interested in paying for your child to access on-site childcare in the school holidays? (Estimated cost £5-£7 per hour)		18			
Would you be interested in paying for your child to access on-site weekend childcare? (Estimated cost £5-£7 per hour)	Saturday 2	Sunday 0	Sat & Sun 3 (+1)		
Would you be interested in paying for your child to access on-site wraparound childcare in Nursery? (Estimated cost £5-£7 per hour)	8am-6pm 4 (+1)	Weekend 1 (+1)	Holidays 4 (-1)		

Characteristic groups views (EAL, GRT, Ethnic minority, SEND)

Ethnic minority parent/carers made up 29% (-2%) of respondents, SEND parent/carers made up 17% (-2%) of respondents of respondents which are all proportionally in line with the school context. EAL parent/carers made up 21% (+6%) of respondents which is slightly high against the school context. GRT parent/carers made up 8% (+6%) of respondent which is low proportionally against the school context.



The Rydal Academy is part of the Swift Academies Trust - REGISTERED COMPANY No: 7533271





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Responses from all characteristic groups were in line with overall responses. Parent/carers views compare well to national averages.

Comments raised by more than 5% of respondents:

- 5% Praised the school and thanked staff for the level of support their children have received. (An additional 4% of families new to the school also praised the quality of support since arrival and felt they would have brought their children to the school earlier in hindsight)
- 5% Parent/carers would like the return of a formal parents evening.

Parent/carer views have informed decision making through:

- Return of a formal parents evening – we have explored various formats of this over the last decade which have not been viable due to low uptake. Our school offer, outlined in the termly email you receive with your child's report and our Annual Reporting Cycle, is actually more flexible to accommodate parent/carers need. If you want to book an appointment to discuss how your child is doing at any point in the year with their teacher just message the teacher directly via the RMP App. or leave a message at the school office. They will then arrange either a face-to-face meeting, Teams call or phone call. For those of you who prefer a discussion alongside the termly report just make contact and we can book you in when both you and the teacher have availability.

- Viability of future holiday care and Nursery wraparound costings. Interest has reduced over the last year, but we will continue to keep this under review.

Termly Pupil Questionnaire

We have focussed this term on the Pupil Voice groups we have established this year to get direct feedback from all Year 1-6 pupils about all aspects of our school provision.

Pupil views have informed decision making through:

- more/better playground equipment the children would like the playgrounds to feel more like a park. We will continue to work on this and use any money generated from internal fundraising days.
- tablets instead of exercise books not quite to replace exercise books, but we are currently reviewing costs to move to an iPad per pupil in Key Stage 2 and a shared bank of iPads in Key Stage 1 from September 2024. This will significantly enhance our current IT systems. The iPads will be used as a continuous resource to enhance learning through research, presentation of work and access to individual learning platforms and school Apps.
- review rewards system for green clicks the children have shared their ideas for how we can celebrate those who consistently make good behaviour choices and demonstrate our TRA Values. Their ideas include certificates and in-school privileges. Mrs Galey is now reviewing the ideas and will share updates with the children in assembly shortly.
 - Increased understanding of TRA Values and school rules following on from ideas generated by the children on how to expand our curriculum and assembly discussions about our TRA Values and the school rules we will be placing professionally designed school rules displays in each classroom, rather than the current class charters, to support consistency of understanding and message. We will also run a competition next term for the children to create a definition and a character for each of our TRA values.

Thank you for your continued support in improving our school,

Mr J.M.Armitage B.Ed(Hons); NPQH Headteacher



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