



# Brighstone C.E. Aided Primary School

Headteacher – Mrs R. Lennon

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## Parent/Carer Survey July 2024 – Results and Feedback

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 something new and exciting to do.
- Mondays and mornings are a breeze. Our children seem genuinely excited about going to school. We hear lots at home Although she sometimes is reticent to go, as soon as she's through the door she's the happiest. She loves learning anything from reading to science to maths. She's come such a long way and although she complains about having to write a lot, she does tell us all about the different activities they have done to learn and how many times she wants to replicate them at home about what went on.
- Both my children clearly enjoy coming to school and love learning here.

Our response:

It is great to see so much enthusiasm for learning here at Brighstone. We always aim to make each subject engaging and enjoyable, with relevant links across the curriculum wherever possible. We also, where applicable, ensure that learning links to their own experiences, or to the local area, making it more relevant to the children. We also endeavour to develop the children's learning and understanding of the wider world.

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

100% of you agree or strongly agree

Answer Choices		Response Percent	Response Total
1	Strongly agree	60.00%	6
2	Agree	40.00%	4
3	Disagree	0.00%	0

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

100% of you agree or strongly agree

4	Strongly disagree		0.00%	0
5	Don't know		0.00%	0

Some of your feedback:

- Always there to listen to any problems and help guide them.
- Both our children are challenged and seem prepared for big events or moving up classes.
- The school does prepare the children, but if the children need some extra help, advising parents on what more could be done at home could be beneficial.

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 links with South Wight Area Youth (SWAY) also enables some of the Y6 children to receive further support, 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!

We continue to take advantage of being a small school, enabling us to provide opportunities for year groups to work together. We plan in 'Hive Days' throughout the year, with particular focuses, 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.

In cases where children need extra help for transition, further support is provided, such as 'social stories'. However, if you feel that your child will benefit from further support and advice at home and in school, please do let us know and we will be happy to help.

## 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	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:



- Plenty of physical education; always something new to see or hear; new cultures and religions; music to learn about; good opportunities to learn.
- He loves all the sport activities the school participates in. Thank you, Mr Goldsmith.
- There are always lots of visitors and trips to support the curriculum. The staff work hard to add extra-curricular activities and sports are always strong.
- She does and she enjoys every single one of them. She speaks highly of how much fun she has learning through the different activities.
- What a full academic and extra-curricular programme this year! Fantastic trips organised - thank you to all the staff who make these events happen!

Our response:

Thank you for your positive comments. We pride ourselves on our provision of a wide range of activities and opportunities to ensure that the children receive a broad curriculum and rich wider experiences. Throughout their time at Brighstone, each child experiences trips and residential (on the island as well as on the mainland), visitors (including from different cultures or religions), community events and sports. While these take a lot to organise, we know that they are worth it to ensure that each child develops their 'cultural capital' on their journey to becoming a well-rounded, knowledgeable and experienced member of society! We are very grateful to the BSA for their help to reduce the cost of these experiences for the parents.

**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:




- My child has not been at the school long and in the time she has been there she has come forwards in all aspects of learning, sharing, caring and her capabilities within herself.
- He has had more support this year and seems to have really improved in his core subjects.
- We are so impressed and so proud at how far she's come this year.
- Extremely pleased with the progress each of my children have made.

Our response:

Thank you for your positive comments. Throughout the year, we work hard to ensure that every child makes progress at their own level, across all aspects of school life, both academically and personally. Being a small school, we pride ourselves in knowing every child and family well, enabling us to provide the support that is needed, when it is needed. 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		0.00%	0
4	Strongly disagree		10.00%	1
5	Don't know		0.00%	0

Some of your feedback:

- Never a problem with going to school; always happy and happy when she comes out of school.
- Absolutely!
- As previously said, she finds it difficult some mornings to actually get there, but once she's in, she loves it!
- Both enjoy the classroom and the school environment, happily coming into school each morning.

Our response:

Thank you for your positive feedback. It is always clear to see that children enjoy coming to school when they bound and skip in in the mornings, and greet members of staff with a cheery "Good morning"! If at any point, your child is reluctant to come to school, we work closely with the family to identify the reasons for this; e.g. is it a 'pull' or 'push' factor (is something 'pulling' them to stay at home, or is something 'pushing' them away from school), and then put in place support to enable them to overcome any issues. Sometimes, it is just the transition between home and school that needs to be overcome, and once they are over the threshold, then all is fine again. Please do contact Mrs Jones if you or your child are experiencing any difficulties.




**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
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## 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

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:




- Apart from the locks on the gates, there is a very big sense of caring and being looked after, very respectful of the children's needs even if they are not always conventional. All children are treated with love and care.
- There are a really good set of values and behavioural expectations which are enforced and referenced.
- She definitely feels safe and has built a trusted and secure relationship with her teachers. She knows she can go to them when she has any problems and she does. We are incredibly grateful at how responsive all the staff members are.

Our response:

We aim to ensure that our school values of Love, Courage and Respect are part of our school ethos, and that everyone treats people with respect. We do a lot of work with the children on how safeguarding is everyone's responsibility; we all have to look out for and help each other. Being a small school, we know each child and their family well, enabling us to provide extra support and care where needed. Regarding the locks on the gates, this is a statutory requirement to ensure that the site is secure, meaning that your children are as safe as possible while they are in our care.

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

80% of you agree or strongly agree

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Strongly agree		70.00%	7
2	Agree		10.00%	1
3	Disagree		20.00%	2
4	Strongly disagree		0.00%	0
5	Don't know		0.00%	0

Some of your feedback:

- Punishments too harsh (blue post-it notes). Children clearly don't learn from it and some boast about how many they have. Upper classes feel too old for primary school by Year 5.
- Since she has been in the school she has come out of her shell, becoming very independent and understanding of herself and others' learning abilities.
- The school goes above and beyond on this. Especially Mrs Jones; I cannot begin to describe how incredibly fortunate we are to have her. She's an amazing professional and person that loves what she does and gives her all to it. She has had an immeasurable impact on our child.

Our response:




Thank you for such positive comments about this, especially regarding the support that Mrs Jones provides. We couldn't agree with you more: we are very fortunate to have her on our team!

Regarding the blue post-it notes, as mentioned in previous documentation, these aren't a punishment, per se, but more of a visual reminder of the Golden Rules that we have in school, in a bid to reduce low-level disruption leading to lost learning time. Any children's names written down had reflection time and a restorative chat with Mrs Jones or myself, to see what happened and what other choices they could make moving forward. However, we are aware that, while this has worked for the majority of children who have received them, it doesn't for all, and so we will now just have the restorative discussions without the use of the blue post-it notes, and will continue to have high expectations for behaviour.

Thank you for your comment about the upper classes feeling too old for primary school by Year 5. The current two-tier system has been in place since 2010, when the middle schools were closed. However, we do aim to give Upper Key Stage Two (Y5 and Y6) the opportunities for greater responsibilities befitting of their age, including applying to be a part of the Pupil Leadership Team, leading the School Council, and helping Mr Goldsmith with lunchtime sport.

### 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		50.00%	5
2	Agree		40.00%	4
3	Disagree		10.00%	1
4	Strongly disagree		0.00%	0
5	Don't know		0.00%	0

Some of your feedback:

- My child is happy to try new things and does need support at times; she receives it when and if needed.
- It would be good to see some more activities offered to stretch children beyond the basics if they are able to cope with it, particularly picking up opportunities to mix between year groups more often where possible.
- My child has needed some extra help this year, and the teachers have been really helpful helping us to identify the areas which need looking into.




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 external professionals 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.

Regarding the opportunities for mixing between year groups, we plan in regular Hive Days throughout the year, allowing children from YR to Y6 to work together on various activities and challenges. Classes also plan in opportunities for children to visit other classes; for example, to share their completed work (e.g. read them the stories that they have written) or invite them to their 'museum'. However, we will certainly look to provide further opportunities wherever possible.

### 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:


- It's something that is shown all over the school in many different ways and the children are always ready to use it on a day-to-day basis.

Our response:

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.

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

70% of you agree or strongly agree (10% not applicable)

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Strongly agree		50.00%	5

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

70% of you agree or strongly agree (10% not applicable)

2	Agree		20.00%	2
3	Disagree		20.00%	2
4	Strongly disagree		0.00%	0
5	Not applicable		10.00%	1

Some of your feedback:

- I can't fault the school staff for their help and understanding when I needed it and were ready to support myself and child and challenge anyone who was ready to stand in the way.
- I have not raised any concerns.
- We cannot fault the school in any way on this. They have always promptly responded with concerns in and out of school and have addressed them perfectly.
- Any problems we have are immediately responded to by teachers or support staff.

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 please do contact us again so we can identify what your concerns are and find a resolution.

### 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:

- Excellent members of all areas of staff; always supportive, happy and knowledgeable.
- I think this is outstanding. Organisation and communications are first class. All the little things add up. I also think the budgets, staff allocation and use of resources is maximised to deliver the best possible service.

Our response:

Thank you for your positive feedback, which is very much appreciated. 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 (teachers who all have subject responsibilities). Everyone, including all the support staff, Mrs Pelosi, the site manager and cleaner, works hard as a team to ensure that Brighstone is the best place that it can be for your child.

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?

A good relationship all staff with the children.	Values, respect, supportive; a very friendly community.
Celebrate everything. You are a great school that does great things for the children. Thank you.	A range of activities that enhance the core curriculum. A school in the heart of the community that allow children to thrive.

Community spirit and the BSA.	The caring nature of the school, the fact that every child is considered as an individual and is well looked after. A really proactive approach to managing issues and a strong focus on behaviour.
The community/family feel. Every child matters.	Everyone seems happy!
Small yet vibrant school, participating in so many activities and ensuring the children are happy, learning at the same time.	Organisation, safeguarding, safety and processes are all 10/10. I feel 100% confident my children are safe.
Barely a weekend goes by without the school doing something within the community. This has huge benefits to the children's sense of belonging and community spirit.	I hear constantly about exciting and interesting topic work. I think the teachers manage to trigger a real sense of intrigue which, for my children, makes them learn more outside of lessons.
Apart from the academic, one of the greatest strengths is the sense of community, almost family. The trusted relationships staff, children and parent build are incredibly precious and definitely help to the school and children's success.	I want to personally highlight Mrs Jones; her work could sometimes go unnoticed due to the nature of it, but she has such a deep impact in children and 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>
Communication has been poor this year.	<p>Last year, we streamlined our methods of communication to make it easier for parents to receive and find information. Our main method of communication is via email, with texts used for urgent messages, quick reminders or to notify you that an important email has been sent out.</p> <p>In a busy school, and in busy lives, sometimes things may get missed, so if you find out that you have missed any information, or information hasn't been passed on, please do let us know, and we will identify the problem and rectify the situation.</p> <p>The majority of forms to return are now completed digitally, which will hopefully be easier for parents. However, paper copies are always available in the school foyer and on request.</p> <p>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.</p>
Sending out emails; sometimes I get them a little too late and I'm not sure what I am meant to be doing, i.e. bring boxes to school on Monday.	Thank you for this feedback. We will ensure that emails are sent in a timely manner wherever possible.
No significant areas of concern.	Thank you; that is good to hear.
Looking for opportunities to stretch learning in some areas if possible.	In the majority of lessons, we have a main activity for all children, along with scaffolding and extra support for those who need it, as well as challenge or 'deepening' activities and questions for those who would benefit from being 'stretched'. There are also lots of opportunities to revisit and embed learning. If you feel that your child needs further challenge, please do let us know.
I've sat here thinking for a few minutes and can't think of any. Sorry!	No need to apologise! If you find that you think of anything at any time, please do let us know by contacting the school office.
Minimal issue and I'm sure it has its reasons to be like that but it would be great if after-school activities could be communicated and confirmed earlier than it has been this year as it is affecting childcare and sometimes is difficult to organise with short notice.	Thank you for this feedback. We always aim to send out the after-school clubs letters a couple of weeks in advance, but we appreciate that this might not be enough notice, so we will look to increase this.
Letting parents know more about the term's upcoming activities with more advance notice would really help with planning, child care and general understanding amongst the parent community. Key dates in the buzz is useful but change frequently and are sometimes missed... perhaps a calendar style page on the school website which is kept up to date with activities/ sport fixtures/ school photos etc could be provided?	Thank you for this feedback. As you identified, the key dates are in the Buzz (the majority of dates remain the same, unless they are out of our control). However, we will certainly look to have a calendar style page on our school website as well. I have contacted our website host with this query. Watch this space!

**14. Do you have any other comments?**

The school has been very kind and supportive; the teaching staff are amazing with the children; all staff from office to caretakers always smile and are helpful.

Thank you for all your hard work this year.

You're all doing a great job, thank you!

A massive, massive thanks to you all!

Keep doing what you're doing, you are amazing and we are forever grateful!

Thank you for a jam packed and fun year!

Thank you for all your positive comments. We are very proud of our small school and the role it plays in the community.

We are all here for the children to help them develop and grow in their own special ways, academically, emotionally and socially, and they make us smile every day!

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.