



Kettleshulme St James CE (VA) Primary School

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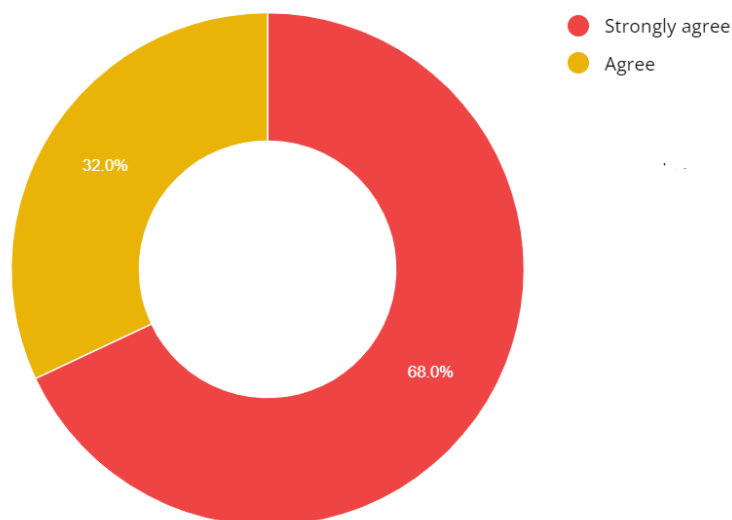
Friday 23rd September 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

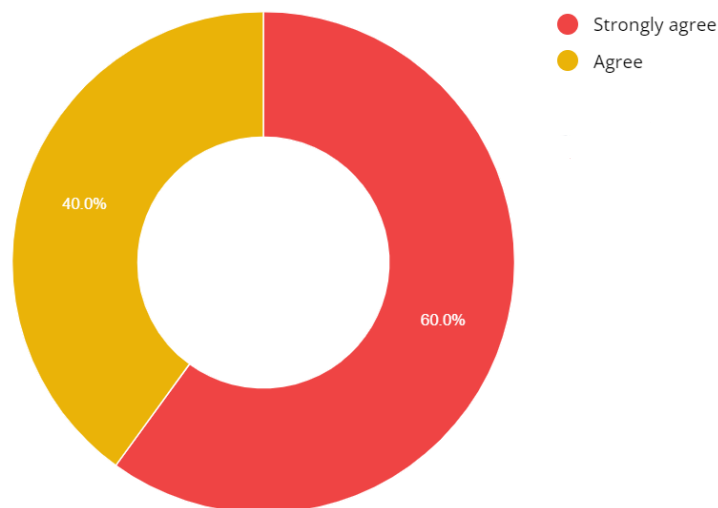
Thank you so much to those of you who took the time to complete our Parent Survey (Summer 2022). Your responses will really help us to move forward into the new year with an Action Plan which is directly linked to your feedback.

As promised here is a summary of the results which have been generated from 25 responses.

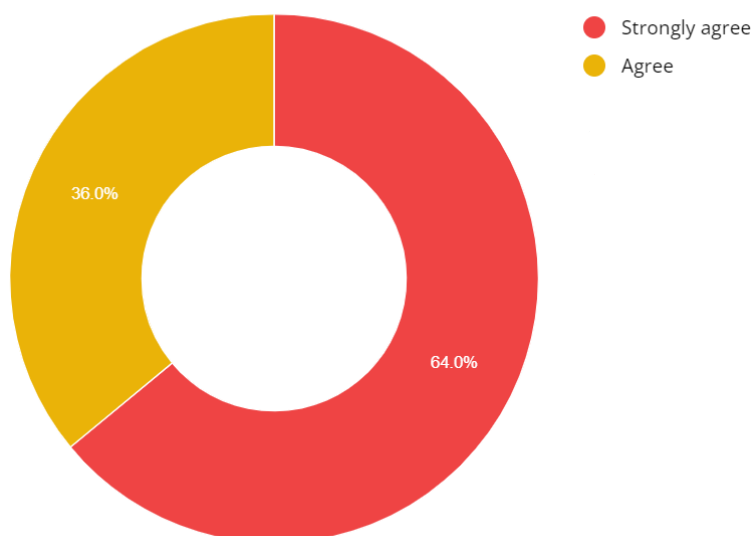
My child is happy at Kettleshulme St James Primary School.



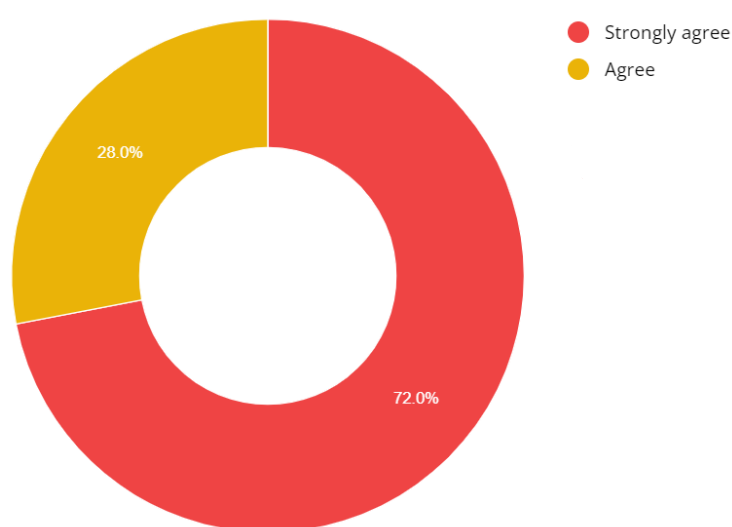
My child feels safe at school.



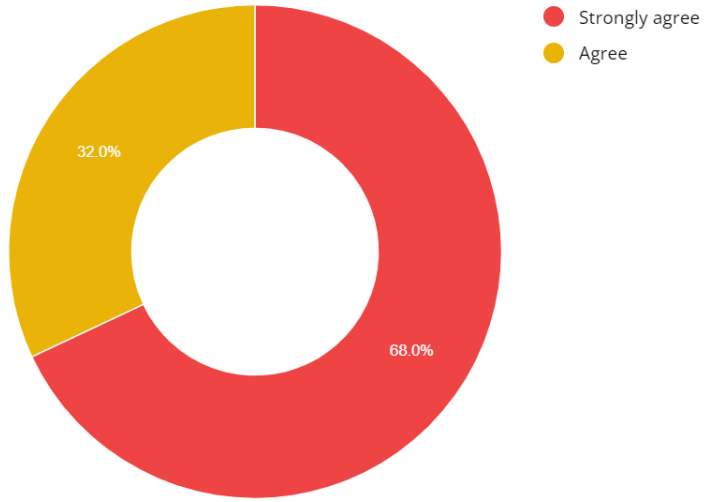
My child makes good progress at school.



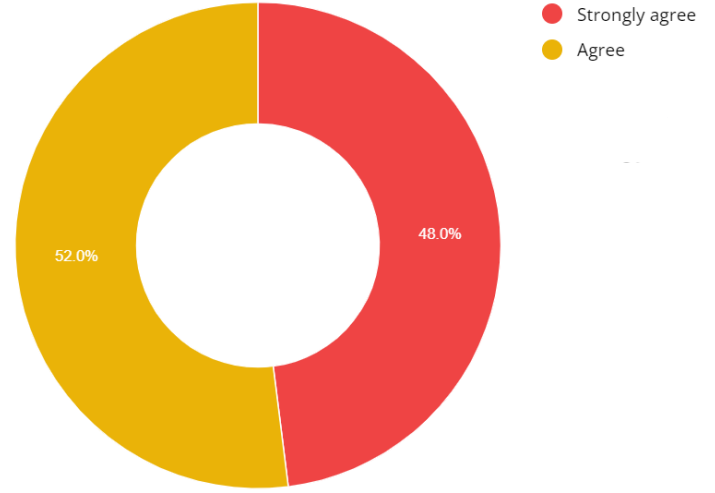
My child is well looked after at school.



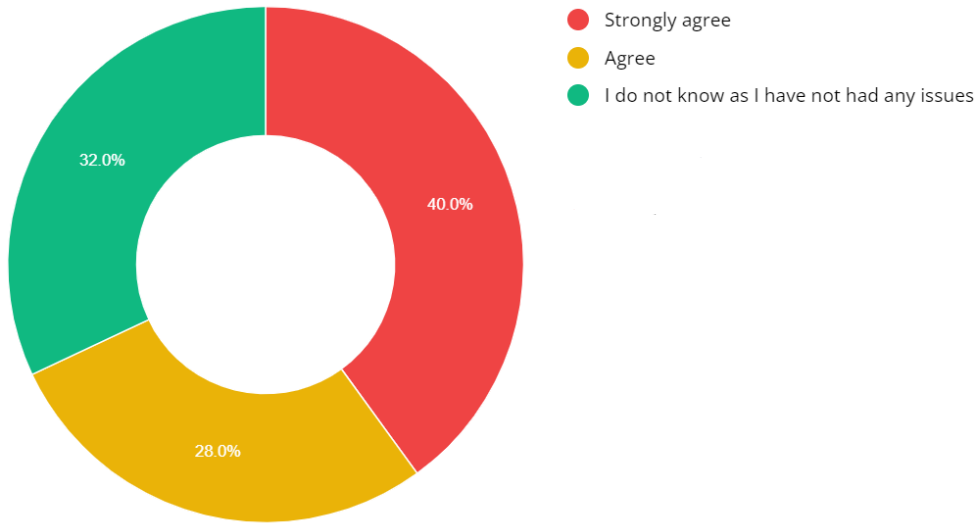
My child is taught well at school.



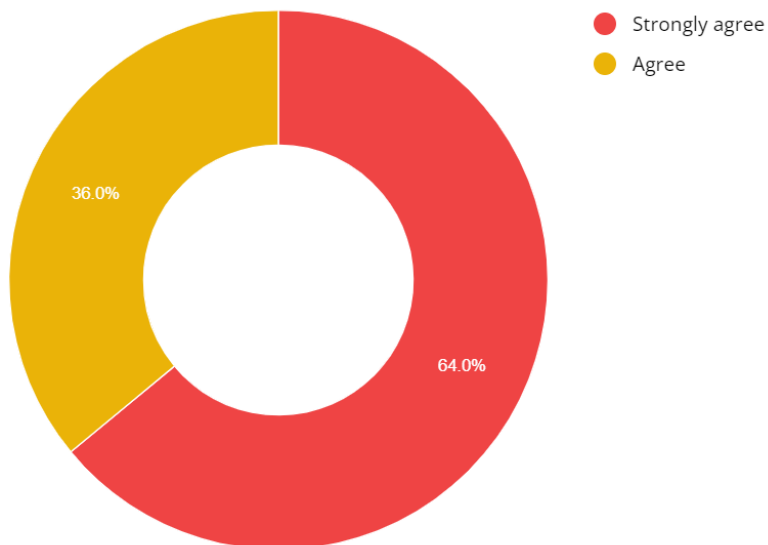
Pupils are well behaved at school.



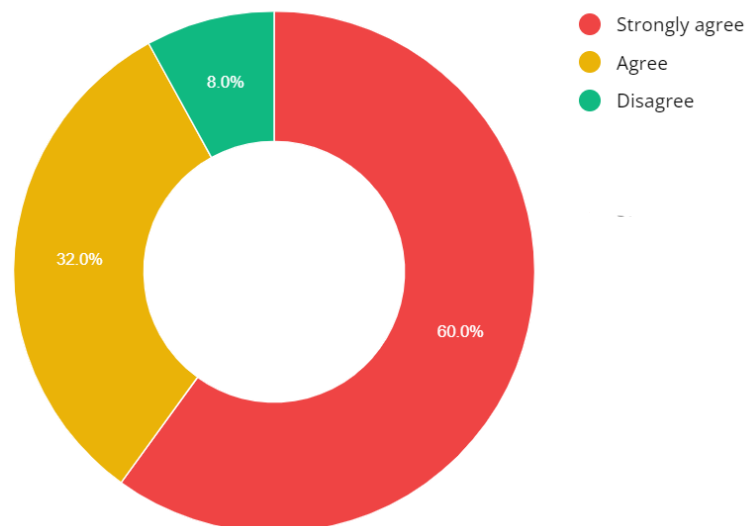
Bullying issues are dealt with effectively.



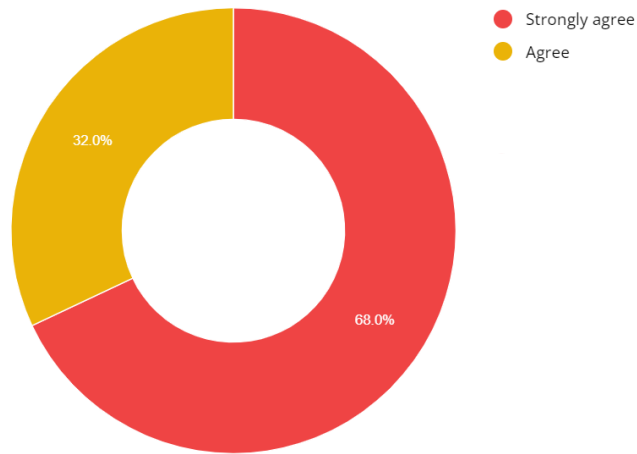
The school is well led and managed.



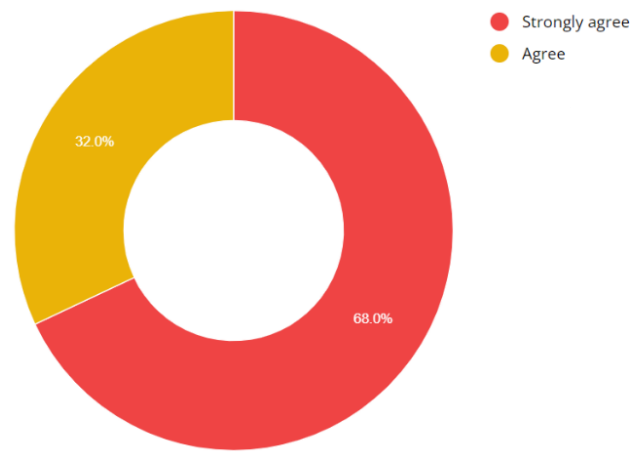
The school responds well to any concerns which I raise.



My child gets all of the support they need to succeed (not only academically).



I would recommend Kettlethulme St James Primary School to another parent.



What are your thoughts about the way school communicates with parents?

Excellent. I enjoy the weekly newsletter but also using school spider. If I have any concerns I can email and I get an almost instant response. I also think there is great communication with any health issues such as a head bump for example.

It's good, I really like the newsletter.

School and home are one family. We all communicate well.

The newsletter, emails and School Spider app keep me well informed and able to keep up events at school.

Excellent, the newsletter is great.

There's a lot of evening/weekend contact which can feel a bit too much - having tighter boundaries about only writing and responding to emails in work hours could benefit all. The long weekly newsletter must take a lot of work too; a weekly or monthly summary of important dates would be fine.

Effective.

Communication is good, we love the newsletter and reminders of changes, events etc are very useful.

Perfect! Don't change it :))

Having the weekly newsletter is wonderful. A great communication tool to find out what's happening, but also helps to plan what's coming!

Very fast feedback.

Email works well but I think in some cases SMS would be more effective.

I like the weekly newsletters - although the highlight is sometimes on all the fun. Parents don't really get to see how robust the assemblies, for example, are.

The newsletters are excellent, and we appreciate the personal emails with any specific updates. Issues are dealt with promptly and good associated communications.

Great communication. The weekly newsletter is such a great read and keeps all parents up to date with school happenings! Email works very well too.

Excellent

Spider App is great for payments. Newsletter pics are always enjoyed.

Brilliant communication, we have school spider, emails, newsletters and social media.

Good but I don't really like the spider app.

Via email mainly is fine yes.

Always amazing. Emails are answered very promptly. I always feel whatever the issue, we can contact school and will get a helpful reply.

What are your thoughts about school lunches?

Excellent - great home cooking and variety of meals. Good to offer salad with every meal also!

They are great, my child is a very fussy eater and adaptations are made to ensure they have something to eat daily, they are already trying new textures and tastes.

Well prepared veggie options

Nice variety of food. It would be nice to know what my child does at lunch times on occasions

Great!

School lunches are great. The children always tell me how much they enjoy them.

Ok

The current summer menu wasn't on the website, but the children filled me in about the small changes from the spring to summer menu. It is not clear if there is a back-up option if the children don't eat what's on offer. Our children take packed lunches on days where they are not keen on particular foods. This has worked really well for us. There is a good range of dishes and the children say they enjoy them. They say that Fridays are "a real feast"!

Great.

My son is not keen on school meals. We tried packed lunches but had a few problems. He is accommodated extremely well by dinner ladies who know his likes and dislikes – for example today he had a turkey sandwich.

The staff appreciate the importance of healthy eating and ways to encourage children to eat. Thank you.

My child says that the vegetables can sometimes be overcooked and the food isn't always as good as it used to be.

We think the two week rotation doesn't provide enough variation to the menu

My child loves them and loves that there is an alternative if you're not keen on that day's menu. It's very healthy, also accommodating good old family favourites:)

The support regarding my child requesting safe foods has been wonderful. We are very happy that the 'no pressure' environment around meals and it has helped them to feel comfortable to quietly try new things.

My child loves school dinners.

They are too small for the price - my children don't eat all the meals. There is a lack of variety - I don't like the two week rotation, children are bored of gammon which has appeared on the menu for several terms. There is no custard with cake.

They are fine.

Excellent- delicious. Really supportive response to gluten free diet for my child.

I like the way that the children help to choose the menu every term.

I feel if a dish isn't popular it needs to change.

My children have enjoyed them in KS1 but they're too expensive for our family's budget to continue in KS2.

What do we do well?

Supporting my children to grow into the best people they can be.

You are excellent motivators for both academic and non-academic areas. You provide great sports opportunities particularly for a small school. You are excellent at bringing together the students and parents as one family.

The newsletter is fantastic. It gives real insight into what the children are doing each week, meaning us parents can discuss topics and try and be involved in what they are doing. We are really impressed with how the children's interests are incorporated into their learning. Firstly, with my child's love of the Titanic, when the class teacher set up the iceberg for all the children to play with. Secondly suggesting my child helps with a Movie Making Club. How amazing that they get to do these things in their school setting.

Know my child and understand him whilst remaining very professional.

Wonderful attitude, give the most important thing in life, knowledge and the skills to communicate.

Extra-curricular events and activities are varied, opportunities for older children to participate in a wide range of activities are fantastic.

My child has been supported.

You do your best to keep positive happy minds for the children you have a very good planned weeks although they can get overwhelming sometimes. The school is well looked after inside and outside there is the wonderful new playground and gazebo – both are fantastic. You try hard to keep making the children happy. The curriculum is good.

Everything! If I could press a higher button to strongly agree, I would! We do have the best school in the country, fact! Inclusion is your strongest attribute. This comes across in everything you do.

Providing variety and experiences. Communication. Safety and child wellbeing. Inclusivity. Care and nurture.

I love that the children are experiencing so many outdoor activities and sports as well as talks by parents and ex-pupils, all of which may inspire them and give them the confidence to try new things.

My child's teacher has been incredible and we feel lucky our child had her! The small class sizes are such a privilege. Grounds are lovely. School vibe is lovely.

The children's wellbeing is put front and centre. You get the sense that the Head is extraordinarily passionate about her job and genuinely cares about the children's wellbeing and education. You can see that a lot of effort is put into fostering the children's interests, love of learning and providing a stimulating and compassionate environment for them.

Pretty much everything! Great focus on health and wellbeing as well as academic progress.

So many things! What don't you do well? The energy of the staff is incredible, so many wonderful activities on offer, staff are so caring it really does feel like an extended family. Our children are so very happy there.

Supporting the children to be the best version of themselves

Everything!!!! Fantastic ideas, energy, empowering the children, setting them up for their next school. Couldn't ask for a better Primary school.

Building well rounded children.

Everything- really can't fault anything. Especially supportive and caring environment.

Making the school feel like a family and all the extra-curricular activities, Forest School, White Hall, free after school clubs, teacher involvement in events, listening to parents suggestions and getting everyone involved, but mostly every child feels valued and the pastoral care is amazing.

How could we be even better?

Whilst we appreciate it is a C of E school, further balance of discussion about other religions and beliefs (including no religion) would be beneficial from our point of view.

Nothing! Put your feet up!

For us, having the availability for out of school care until 5:30pm would be a huge bonus.

We couldn't! We all work together with my son's overall well-being as a priority.

Different access at pick up: If the gate to the yard was moved back into the playground a few meters there would be more space to pass by parents/kids.

Offer after school provision until 5.30/6pm. More notice of events so working parents can make arrangements to attend.

Sometimes the days can be overwhelming if too much is going on and not much notice had been given. My child sometimes finds busy days hard and he comes home overwhelmed. Can children opt in and out if not suitable for them? If you can do day trip's and residential's more towards the weekend this would be better. For the children that get overwhelmed could you think for them to enter and leave by their classroom each day?

More consideration could be paid to how much school adds to parents' mental load. The diary can feel packed with new things to remember each week, new events to prepare for, participate in and pay for. Sometimes it can feel like school forgets that busy parents have a lot of competing demands on them e.g. multiple children, family members to care for, stressful jobs, other commitments etc and that school is just one part of a family's life. More consideration could be paid to how expensive school can be for low-income families. There are lots of appeals to buy things for the PTA, there are daily snacks and weekly ice-cream that children nag their parents for, new expensive uniform being 'encouraged' etc. The disco has never previously cost more than a £1 but had to be £4 this year to cover an unnecessary and expensive DJ. £62 for a one night residential is a really big chunk of money for some families.

Can't think of anything!

More singing and music in Reception.

Showcase our school more, increase social media posts, add more content to the website and review the website as there are a few things out of date such as the prospectus that has the old head teachers details etc.

Not sure! You're great already!

Any other comments?

A big thank you for all your hard work.

Thank you x

Thank you for everything you are doing, can't fault a thing.

Very kind knowledgeable and understanding staff . Excellent bespoke training found for staff and I am always involved in planning and decision making where appropriate- Thank you again.

I don't like the changes of the teachers after Covid and I'm not happy that my child is going into Year 6 and doing their SATS this year.

We will be sad to leave you, you truly are a magnificent team! 100% best school in the country!

Our child is very happy at Kettleshulme and we believe that is due to the teaching & management. Thank you for taking care of our most precious family member so well.

I would always highly recommend the school and the staff

You are doing a fantastic job!!!

This has been the most fabulous year for our children. They have both grown and developed so well since being at your school. Their attitude to education has had a complete transformation. They come home enthusiastically and always have lots to say about their day. We worried so much about them when they started as they were quite stuck in their ways, but they have smashed it! They utterly love school and only ever talk about it positively. We're so grateful to everyone at the school for giving our children the individual, varied and positive experiences they have.

The PTA are great at raising funds but I feel the focus is just money orientated and goes against some of our school values.

Thank you for everything you are doing. My child loves their teacher so much – they couldn't have had a better start to their schooling.

Fantastic school!!! I wish every child could experience it. All you could possibly want for your child!

We love Kettleshulme, we are so pleased we found this school, and feel so involved and welcome.