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| Every child matters at Preston Grange  pgps logo.jpg  Parents Comments from survey – July 2017 |
| Everything. I think it is an amazing school. To watch the children thrive here is magical. It is such a lovely community |
| The immense community spirit throughout the whole school. The children are happy to be taught and the teachers are happy to teach them |
| I couldn’t praise the school enough. My boy has only been in the school 1 year and it feels like one big family. Teachers know all the children by name and it makes me feel so at ease as a parent sending my child to such a wonderful school |
| Wonderful school, well mannered pupils, amazing teaching standards, small enough to nurture but big enough to be heard. xxxxx enjoys her time at school |
| The school is a family environment |
| Keep doing what you are doing, it’s working. The proof is in the pudding. Amazing kids |
| Excellent teaching, brilliant school |
| I feel we have one of the best schools in North Tyneside all members are friendly, knowledgeable and approachable |
| The staff and office staff excellent with any problems no matter how small |
| This is a brilliant school. Mrs Taylor is an amazing head teacher and the teaching staff are also great. Not forgetting breakfast club and school office. Enjoy your holidays |
| Hard working staff |
| Miss Taylor should be extremely proud of her team of teachers and staff. Your hard work commitment and positive results should be recognised throughout our community more often. Thank you |
| I feel the school and staff this year should not just celebrate one thing but everything as everything my children have been a part of has been so well organised, planned and prepared for the results which have been excellent. From choir, swimming, sage, forest school, tennis, trips. Also the teachers have worked really hard around tests and SATs and our children have benefited from that hard work and dedication. |
| Inclusive and friendly atmosphere |
| I would strongly recommend this school to others. My children are so happy and achieving great standards of work |
| The children from this school stand out. They have excellent manners and encourage each other. The staff engage well with the pupils |
| Having now had two children go through Preston grange I can say the school has evolved and improved. This is testament to a great Head and teachers and the school community as a whole |
| The strong family ethos and values at PG makes it a very special school. The contribution from all the staff, children, parents and carers should be celebrated |
| Inclusiveness and diversity |
| Teachers rapport with my children |

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| The school is very friendly and welcoming. The Headteacher makes every effort to talk and engage with parents at every opportunity |
| The encouragement the school gives to each and every child to contribute and achieve and the acknowledgement the children receive for their efforts is wonderful |
| Everything - opportunities for children i.e. days out - Sage, tennis, pirate days - good variety |
| The atmosphere - the pupils are all so happy and achieving in both their academic and personal lives |
| Good SEN support |
| I am so impressed with how some bullying my daughter experienced recently was dealt with. It definitely put my mind at rest and xxxxx is very happy at school. All staff are lovely and I wouldn’t think of sending her anywhere else. |
| Great news about the improved SATS results. My son can’t wait to start year 6. He loves to be challenged |
| The hard work of the teachers and classroom assistants. The Y6 leavers celebration is also great |
| Excellent teachers and rapport with teachers and children fabulous. I have no complaints in this area |
| Each and every teacher the children have had have been fantastic |
| The staff all know the children creating a family atmosphere. Always happy to listen and help with any concerns you may have. Giving stickers and praising children for having lovely manners. Really helps embed values in the children. Receptionists always cheerful and helpful. |
| My child has been very lucky to have some great teachers and in general the school is very inclusive with older children looking after younger - lovely to see. Choice of after school clubs are great too |
| Every child is treated as an individual. My son's dyslexia was picked up quickly and special educational resources were put in place immediately |
| I love how they encourage the children to help each other out when someone is upset |
| Children are well mannered and always seem happy to be going to school |
| The calm atmosphere and lovely facilities |
| How good the football team is |
| I've had 2 children go through their schooling at Preston grange and both have done very well, had no problems and they have both enjoyed their time here |
| A very friendly and welcoming school |
| How fantastic the children are at sports and how well behaved they are when out of school to represent the school at these sports |
| xxxxxx is coming to the end of his time at PG. He has thoroughly enjoyed all his years there and has become a fantastic learner because of the skills, knowledge and resilience he has learned during this time. He will be really sad to leave. Thank you for those precious years |
| Various trips they go on- good range. Love this school and my children have always been happy here |
| I have been exceptionally pleased and satisfied with all of xxxxxx's time at PG. I have e been impressed by the quality of teaching but overall the superb, supportive and happy environment the school provides. |
| The opportunities xxxxx has had to take part in activities but most importantly the excellent staff and the high standard of education xxxxx and xxxxxx received which has been noticeable in xxxxx’s transition into high school |
| The friends of Preston Grange |
| Nursery facilities, schemes of work and planning - wide variety interesting |
| Teachers and support staff know my son. The KS2 children are so well behaved and polite when I drop my son off at breakfast club whilst the KS1 children just want to chat and tell me things. Lovely children = lovely staff = lovely school |
| Excellent time and communication |
| The sense of community and involvement for parents at the school is fantastic and a real credit to staff. The children clearly work really hard for assemblies, nativity etc |
| How much all the teachers seem to really care about the children, all the children seem really happy at the school |
| Great school and friendly Head teacher that does a lot for school and children |
| The school works hard to ensure every child feels valued and special - this is something that should be celebrated |
| Tapestry and letting parents see what happens in lessons |
| The teachers here genuinely care about the children and provide a safe positive environment for them to grow and flourish |
| xxxxxx has been given her own teacher for reading and writing due to being at a higher level. We feel so lucky that her needs have been met and she was able to keep progressing. I think that was so special. Thank you |
| Always coming up with few ideas to raise money for the benefit of the pupils. Offer lots of after school activities that all pupils get a chance to do |
| My grandson is very happy and looks forward to school every day and loves all the teachers |
| A great friendly school who all seem to know, respect and get on with each other. Mrs Knowles has been a fantastic teacher which shows with xxxxxx's progress and results throughout the year. Thank you |
| Many staff taking trips and organising events out of school reflecting truly dedicated staff |
| Xxx has been very happy at this school and I have no concerns at all with the work the teachers put in. Brilliant school, brilliant teachers |
| I would like to pass on my thanks to all the staff at the school who have helped xxxxxx to develop over the last academic year. xxxxxx has been supported with additional intervention due to showing dyslexic tendencies and the improvements made in her school work and confidence is nothing short of amazing. PG really is a fantastic school |
| My children are growing and developing very nicely in part down to the teaching, supporting and nurturing that they receive from the whole year at Preston grange. Each day I go to work knowing that my children are safe, well looked after and having fun |
| Well done it’s a lovely school |
| I think we should celebrate school day by presenting the best talents in kids on the day |
| The nursery provision is fantastic too. Great addition to the school |
| Overall I am extremely happy with PGPS. xxxx has grown so much as an individual and is so well behaved and respectful to and of others. Happy boy equals happy mum. Thank you all |
| Thanks for everything |
| It’s a lovely environment to learn in |
| My daughter has enjoyed her time here in Nursery, the teachers, TA are fantastic, and my daughters has developed greatly since attending Nursery. I am happy my youngest daughter will be attending the same Nursery in 2019 |
| Thank you to all the staff that work so hard - you all do a great job to make such a lovely school for our children |
| Thank you for providing xxx with a fantastic nursery year at PG. He has thoroughly enjoyed all aspects, made wonderful friendships and progress |
| My little one has really come so far from starting school in sept. A big thank you to Mrs Castling and Mrs Spowart |
| I love the events that teachers invite parents to- assemblies and sports day. |
| Always happy to come to school |
| Thank you to all the staff that work so hard - you all do a great job to make such a lovely school for our children. |

Other comments & feedback from survey

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| Comment or feedback | What we are doing about it |
| Please can the website be updated eg staff room - teachers still on that left a year ago. Calendar is empty | Fair comment. The staff photos are being taken and then they will be uploaded before half term. There have been a few changes in staff this term. We are onto this, and the calendar will be set up with key dates as soon as possible. |
| Homework could be more consistent. When it is set, such as the transport it was a great idea and learning tool. However it has been a number of months that homework of this nature has been set. All it seems to have been is reading. Maybe some more projects or homework sheets would have been good. In relation to Q13 when homework was set such as projects it was interesting and creative. Reading homework is not | Homework is always a contentious issue in schools; some parents don’t like too much, or feel it is difficult for their own subject knowledge, and some parents would like more homework. Trying to get the balance for all parents is tricky, but we feel that our revised system of homework is hopefully that balance. If anyone requires a copy of the homework content for each year group, please phone the office.  At the start of term, we reviewed homework across the school last month, and in the parent curriculum packs that were sent out to parents, we sent home a breakdown of what homework is done in each year group. We try to keep a balance between keeping it creative, whilst also practicing basic skills. Reading is absolutely vital in each year group.  We also sent home in the parent curriculum packs, the year group expectations for each class and a times table mat, spelling patterns etc so that parents may also do additional work with their child should they wish. |
| Q12 My response is in relation to some of the homework can be difficult and therefore requires more from parents than child. But understand this is in line with curriculum - always enjoyable and interesting |
| Most homework fine but odd homework is little difficult even for me to help. Q31 No info given to my knowledge |
| I think weekly spellings should not have been stopped and I feel some Maths and Literacy homework would be beneficial which reflects what the children are tackling at school | The children get 20 minutes of spelling teaching every morning. This is the most effective way of teaching spelling; research has found that weekly spelling tests don’t work. In January, the children will come home with a Spelling log, which they will use as part of their in-class spelling work. This will come home on a Friday, please check to see which spelling patterns they need to work on (these will be written in), and help your child learn these over the weekend.  Additionally, in the parent curriculum packs that we sent home recently, we have sent home the spelling patterns expected for each year group across school (keywords in Reception & Year 1). Please feel free to use these to help your child learn their spelling patterns at home. |
| I don’t feel sharing homework with peers is appropriate as opposed to being checked by a teacher | Teachers always check homework, even though it is not marked by them. They already have 60/90 books minimum per day to mark from teaching during the day.  We use strategies such as: peer marking when the class teacher is going through the answers together in class and also self-marking. Sometimes we send answer booklets home for parents to check answers (Y6), or finally we use Teaching Assistants and take children out of class in small groups to go through homework. So we use a variety of strategies to check homework, as we value what the children do at home. However, teachers always oversee what comes in for homework, but don’t always mark it themselves due to marking workload from the rest of the school day. |
| I think the children would benefit from more structured regular homework and parents would benefit from more communication re what the children are learning about and info if children struggle in particular areas | We spent a long time getting curriculum packs for parents together at the start of term, which give parents detailed information about what children are learning. Each half term, there will be further half-termly booklets sent home to show what they are learning. If children are struggling in any particular area, this will be highlighted by staff and sometimes extra activities are given to individual children. This is usually if a child requires additional support. |
| homework can be a chore to my son and family. We often don’t have the time to do this together properly due to busy lifestyle and my son's sporting activities in the evening. I have tried to encourage my son to do his homework independently at the after school club but there is too much distraction. Can I suggest an after school homework club for 5/6. So that extra learning can continue at school. many parents work and its difficult sitting down with your child late in the evening after a long day to do homework | We are planning to have a homework after school club (details to follow) but this will not be staffed by a teacher, and will only be for Year 5 and 6 children. |
| I don’t agree with the voluntary contribution as I know not everyone pays it. Don’t understand it says voluntary but you have to pay so it is not voluntary. I don’t mind paying for my child but should be everyone. I think is should be re-worded | It is always difficult because we don’t like having to ask for any money from parents in truth, but school budgets have been squeezed so much over recent years, that we do ask for a voluntary contribution for over and above activities that we can’t fund fully from school. It says voluntary because we can’t enforce it, however if we don’t get enough voluntary contributions, we cannot go ahead with the activity or trip and it will have to be taken down. We will in future refer it to a parent contribution. |
| My negative comments are around the lack of control regarding what is consumed via school meals. What xxxxxx was telling us he was eating, could not be regarding as healthy. In addition the healthy tuck shop appeared to be anything but with little or no regulation of what children can buy. Finally the volume of requests for monetary contributions may be an issue for those not well off | North Tyneside catering team plan healthy balanced meals, they are put together along with a dietician. Sometimes the children make strange combinations and choices from the different meal options on offer. The kitchen staff do however advise and guide the children to make sensible and healthy choices.  The tuck shop on a Friday; children should only bring 50p and are only allowed to buy two items maximum. We would love to have fresh fruit on sale, but children already get that as a snack at break time. The School Council have been given the task of analyzing what items are currently on offer at tuck shop and will go to Morrisons with staff in order to source more healthy items for tuck shops after half term. |
| Would just like to suggest nursery parents be a bit more informed if they are included in school events such as photos/ sports day etc. I.e. on newsletter/text messages always unsure if it includes nursery | With Nursery being new to school, this is something that we have overlooked in making it clear if events involve them. A valuable comment, we are onto it! |
| More photos and videos on tapestry | Nursery do minimum of one observation per week for each child, but try to do two observations if possible bearing in mind that they are only in for 5 half days. Reception staff carry out two observations per week for each child. We would love to put more onto Tapestry, but this is all that time allows unfortunately with so many children in the class and a busy timetable. |
| My only comment is playtime staff - it has come to my attention they don’t listen to both sides of a story - they only take 1 person side and tell the other child off. This to me seems very unfair and demonstrates the wrong way to resolve issues/conflict | As parents, you will only hear your own child’s version of events at school. All lunchtime staff and staff on duty at other playtimes always listen to both sides of the story, and also find independent witnesses or other children who have observed a situation so we can get to the bottom of what has happened. Children may go home and maybe tell you their version of what happened and how it was dealt with, but I can assure parents that we never just listen to one side. |
| I am concerned that twitter is available for public to view. School teaches children to be safe online however I don’t believe it is safe for their photos names and school to be so readily accessible. However if I opt for my child not to be on twitter I will not see what they have done that day, as the school website no longer gets photos uploaded. I'm would like the serious consideration to make the schools twitter account private. More supervision needed at playtimes and especially indoor play. better communication between supervisors, teachers and parents if there is an incident between pupils or any injuries. | Our school Twitter account is open, as most school accounts are for several reasons: the benefits for us are that we can promote the good work that we do in school to a wider community, and we can also link with other professionals, schools and authors etc. We do however try to use strategies that will make our Twitter account as safe as possible. We never post 3 pieces of information on a tweet; eg. never a first name, surname & class of a child for safeguarding reasons. We also check regularly who is following our school account. We actively block any inappropriate followers. We also don’t put certain children on our Twitter account, in line with parental requests. |

Tracey Taylor

Headteacher

October 5th 2017