

ST JOHN'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND (VA) FIRST SCHOOL

"Together we will give our children
the roots to grow, and the wings to fly"

Christchurch Street East,
Frome, Somerset BA11 1QG

t: 01373 462251

w: stjohnsfrome.co.uk
e: office@stjohnsfrome.co.uk
Headteacher: Mrs Teresa Gilbert

30 June 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Every year, since 2021, we have conducted an online survey, providing an opportunity for parents and carers to feedback their thoughts and experiences with St John's First school, Frome. All the survey results are available on our website ([2021](#), [2022](#), [2023](#) and [2024](#)) and we communicate annually how we think the school has addressed some of the feedback so that *together we will give our children the roots to grow, and the wings to fly*.

It has been another busy academic year for St John's First school, with lots of wonderful trips and events in school for children and families to enjoy. Some highlights include:

- A new outdoor reception area which includes a construction area, sensory pathway and sandpit, a new bike and scooter store, and redecoration of the school hall.
- Installation of the pirate ship outdoor play area in the garden – celebrated with a grand opening on Pirates at Sea Day.
- A fantastic performance of *A Journey Through the Ages* by Year 3 showcasing their learning of history and geography.
- Key Stage 2 completing the London Marathon Challenge to walk/run 2 miles each day, doing laps of the playground a total of 54 times.
- Year 4 developing their confidence, perseverance and determination skills at Kilve Residential.
- A whole school celebration for the 80th anniversary of VE Day with children coming to school in war period clothing or 'red, white and blue' to enjoy a day of learning about VE Day and celebrating its commemoration.
- Termly role model awards and Headteacher awards.

Last academic year (2023/24) we used results from the Ofsted Parent View survey conducted by Ofsted as part of their inspection in April 2024. There was a total of 51 responses and from the information gathered the school said they would:

- Seek views of parents and carers to support the school development taking place.
- Continue to develop communication between home and school around the support for pupils who have SEN.
- Communicate with parents and carers about the developments taking place within the school curriculum and finding more ways to involve you in your child's learning and
- Continue to provide a wide range of opportunities in school.

To address this, the school has done the following:

- Asked parents for views on how best to inform them of the learning taking place in school and ways that they can support their children through requesting viewpoints on how best to achieve this.
- The SENCo has been available to parents for meetings and enquiries, and many have requested this time.

- Support courses for parents of children with SEN have been promoted for parents to access.
- The SENCo has organised a regular coffee morning supported by Parent Carer Forum.
- Invited parents into school to view their child's learning with them – this was well attended and will be a more regular feature next academic year.
- Invited parents into school to support with trips and to take part in the Big Draw.
- Launched subject curriculum pages on the school website and sign-posted parents to these through the school newsletter.
- Communicated ways to support children with their learning (especially reading) through Class Seesaw messages, letters and discussions at Parent Meetings and while parents were attending The Big Draw.
- A choir club has been started to enrich musical experiences further.

Thank you so much to everyone who took time to provide feedback and complete this year's parent/carer's survey - we really appreciate your time and input. We had 101 responses (52%), significantly higher than the 53 responses from last year. We are pleased to report that 88% of respondents said they would recommend St John's CE VA First School, Frome. The top three responses this year were:

1. 95% said that their child can take part in clubs and activities at our school.
2. 94% said that the school makes them aware of what their child will learn during the year and
3. 92% said that their child feels safe at our school.

We are looking forward to building stronger relationships between the school, parents, carers, and governors in the coming academic year, 2025/26 and incorporating your feedback. If you have any issues or concerns about your child, please do arrange a meeting with Mrs Gilbert to discuss further.

Yours faithfully,

The Governing Board



At St John's CE VA First School the health, safety and wellbeing of every child is our top priority. We expect all staff, governors, parent/carers and visitors to share this commitment to safeguarding our pupils.

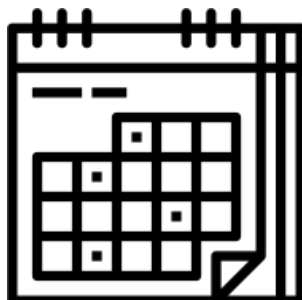
Highlights

The following analysis shows the combined percentage of the top *strongly agree* and *agree* answers. Full disaggregated results are available at the end of this report. When *strongly agree* and *agree* answers were combined, 6 of the 13 questions scored 90% and over (see below).



95%

Q12: My child can take part in clubs and activities at this school



94%

Q5: The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year



92%

Q2: My child feels safe at this school



92%

Q10: The school lets me know how my child is doing



90%

Q1: My child feels happy at this school



90%

Q9: My child does well at this school

Last year the top three responses from Parent View were: the school makes the parent aware of what their child will learn during the year (98%); the school lets the parent know how their child is doing (96%) and their child can take part in clubs and activities at this school (96%).



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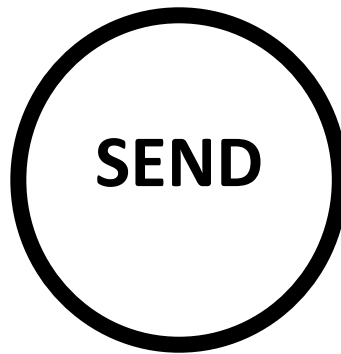
Areas for improvement

The following questions received the highest overall response when *strongly disagree* and *disagree* were combined. The statement that respondents disagreed with most (15%) was that if their child had been bullied, the school did not deal with it quickly and effectively. Conversely, 47% of respondents said their child had not been bullied.



15%

4. My child has been bullied, and the school dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively.



14%

7b. My child has SEND, and the school gives them the support they need to succeed.



13%

6. When I have raised concerns with the school they have been dealt with properly



10%

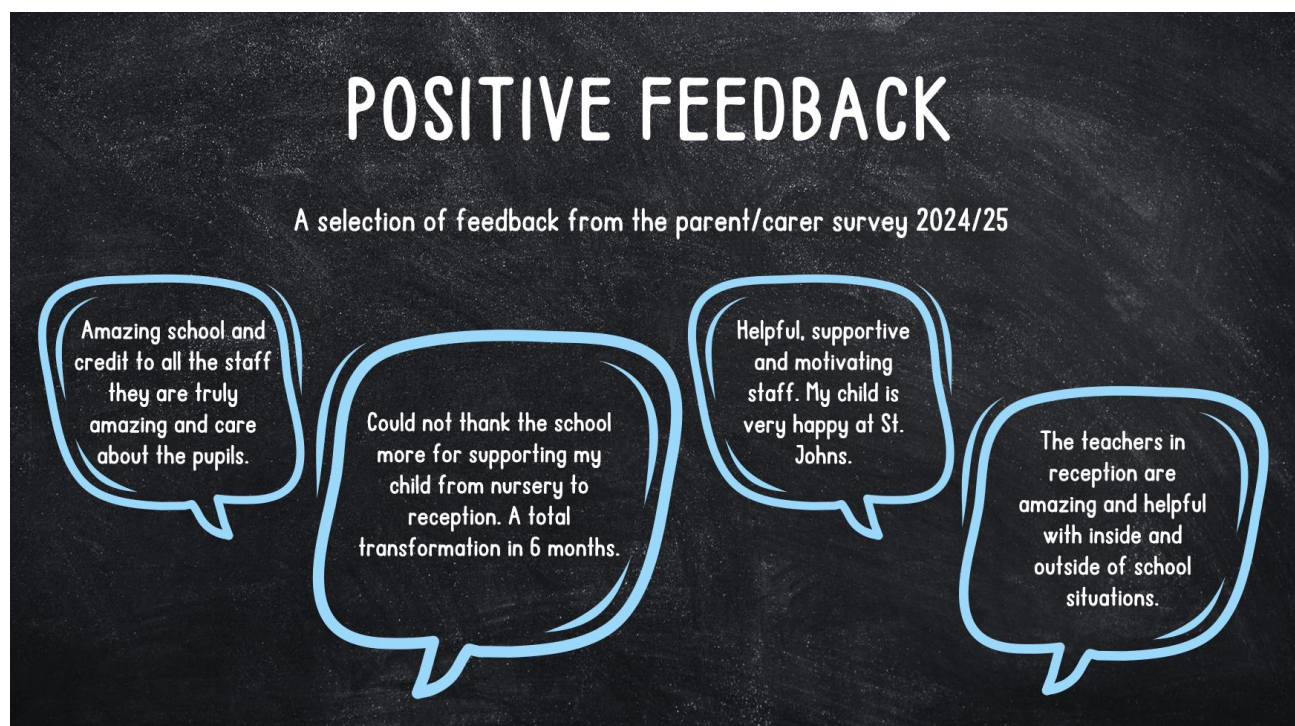
8. The school has high expectations for my child.



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Feedback

We received additional written comments and feedback - below is a selection of positive responses.



The following are aggregated comments on areas for improvement:

- Timelier and stronger communication between the school, teachers and parents on pupils' learning, curriculum, upcoming events. More information/projects to encourage learning at home for those parents that want to.
- Clearer communication on funding gaps for school trips and alternative options to secure any additional funding, if required.
- Better communication on progress and documents for SEND pupils such as learning and support plans.



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Overview of results

Ofsted Parent View questions	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	N/A	Yes	No
1. My child is happy at this school.	45%	45%	7%	1%	2%			
2. My child feels safe at this school.	43%	50%	4%	3%	1%			
3. The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved	23%	61%	12%	2%	3%			
4. My child has been bullied and the school dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively.	10%	23%	6%	9%	6%	47% (my child has not been bullied)		
5. The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year.	40%	55%	5%	1%	0%			
6. When I have raised concerns with the school they have been dealt with properly	21%	44%	11%	2%	3%	19% (I have not raised concerns)		
7a. Does your child have special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND)?							26%	74%
7b. My child has SEND, and the school gives them the support they need to succeed.	25%	34%	13%	2%	27%			
8. The school has high expectations for my child.	23%	53%	9%	1%	14%			
9. My child does well at this school.	32%	58%	5%	1%	4%			
10. The school lets me know how my child is doing.	34%	58%	6%	2%	0%			
11. There is a good range of subjects available to my child at this school.	32%	57%	4%	1%	6%			
12. My child can take part in clubs and activities at this school.	38%	57%	3%	0%	2%			
13. The school supports my child's wider personal development.	27%	54%	8%	1%	10%			
14. I would recommend this school to another parent							88%	12%



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