

**SHERWOOD JUNIOR SCHOOL**  
**QUESTIONNAIRE FOR PARENTS AND CARERS JULY 2019**

Thank you to everyone who took the time to answer and return our questionnaire in July. As you know, we have been working very hard to improve our 'curriculum offer' for your children over the last two years including what the children learn in school, the trips they take part in and the people who come to Sherwood to work with the children. Your responses will help to further refine and shape our work this year. 43 responses were returned to school (please note that the numbers below may not total 100% as some parents only answered some questions) and we will use this as we plan our curriculum this year.

		YES (please tick)	NO (please tick)
1.	Do you think we offer a range of trips for the children?	95%	4%
2.	Do you think we have a range of visitors to speak to the children in assembly?	88%	6%
3.	Has your child taken part in one of our residential / sleepovers this year?	74%	25%
	b) If not, what was the main reason?	<p>Most parents who wrote a response were very positive about the residential trips offered to the children, but particularly the year 3 sleepover which several parents said their children loved!</p> <p>Reasons that children didn't take part included their poor behavior at home, new children to Sherwood so it was too late for them to have a place, and some children simply don't like being away from home.</p> <p>One parent commented that the year 4 trip was quite expensive for just one night away, although their child went and really enjoyed it.</p>	
4.	a) Has your child enjoyed the range of practical/making/creating activities this year?	95%	2%
	b) Do you think we offer the right balance of practical/making/creating activities?	88%	2%
5.	<b>Year 3 parents only:</b> a) Do you think the transition from Hetts Lane to Sherwood was effective?	30%	6%
	b) What could we do to make it even better?	<p>A couple of parents said it would be better to meet their child's class teacher before the start of the new term. Some parents said they would have liked more notice of dates (e.g. parents meeting / transition day / sports activity day). Most parents who commented said their child was well prepared for their move from Hetts Lane to Sherwood.</p>	
6.	<b>Year 6 parents only:</b> a) Do you think your child is prepared for the transition to secondary school?	18%	4%
	b) What could we do to make it even better?	<p>Only 4 parents commented - two said more visits and information about the Meden would be helpful, one couldn't think of anything which would make transition any better and one commented that they were glad their child was leaving Sherwood.</p>	
7.	<p><b>Miss Rees has held a variety of workshops for parents this year. If you would like us to hold a parent workshop on a specific topic next year, what would you like us to organise?</b></p> <p>A couple of parents said they would like workshops on ADHD / autism, one parent said they would like workshops on cooking. Most of the parents who commented were very positive about the workshops and found them very helpful and interesting. Three parents said they would like more information and more notice, whilst two parents also commented that it is tricky for working parents to attend workshops during the school day.</p>		

## What next?

- We are already planning and booking trips and visitors for the children this year and hope that every child will have the opportunity to take part in a trip away from school every term. We are making sure that everything is closely linked and supports every aspect of the children's learning in school. We are also very keen to offer and provide extra opportunities and experiences - for example Living Eggs (chicks!).
- We will continue to heavily subsidise all day trips from the school budget, to ease the pressure on parents (especially where there is more than one child in the family).
- We fully understand that some children simply don't want to stay away from home for the night! However, we will continue to make sure that all children are offered the chance to sleepover at school in year 3 and that, depending on the provider, we will offer as many places as possible for the residential trips on years 4, 5 and 6.
- Where previously there were gaps and concerns over the quality of lessons, particularly in our topic / afternoon sessions, we have been working hard behind the scenes to create a busy and relevant curriculum. This has included more practical and 'hands on' learning, and it is really good to see that so many parents agree we are now getting the balance right!
- We have a comprehensive transition policy with Hetts Lane and have tried to include smaller transition activities (for example, Mr Priestley does regular assemblies at Hetts Lane during the year) and bigger activities (for example year 2 children spend a whole day at Sherwood in the summer term). Having the opportunity to meet your child's class teacher is a really good idea, and this is something we shall try to include this summer.
- Our transition with Meden is also well established but tends to concentrate on the transition week in the summer term. We will certainly pass on the idea for more visits, and will let year 6 parents know if this is [possible later in the year.
- We agree with the comments regarding more notice about activities in school, and this is something we need to improve.
- Workshops held by Miss Rees were a new idea last year and were both popular and successful! We are in the process of planning the workshops for this term and will incorporate requests for cooking, autism and ADHD. We do send a flier out to all parents at the beginning of each term with dates / information about the workshops - there are also spare copies in reception. Whilst we do appreciate that our workshops may be tricky to attend for parents who work, unfortunately we are limited to holding them during the day. Moving forwards, we do now have the option of using Sherwood Acorns (our new nurture unit) and this may give us some flexibility - watch this space!

As ever, thank you for your continued support in our shared work to make Sherwood the very best it can be.