

Dovedale Primary School

Head Teacher: Mr Nik Smith BSc (Hons) QTS NPQH
Deputy Head Teacher: Mrs Joanne Jones BA (Hons) QTS PGCE NPQH
Assistant Head Teachers: Mrs Issy Rogers BEd (Hons)
Mrs Holly Dwan BA (Hons) QTS
Mr Matthew O'Toole BA (Hons) QTS
Mrs Dee Newby BA (Hons) QTS PGCE

Herondale Road, Liverpool, L18 1JX

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www.dovedaleprimary.co.uk

May 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

Response to our parental questionnaire 2023

Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete our parental questionnaire. A total of 233 responses came in. The attached table gives you a break down of what the responses looked like against the categories. As a school we are really pleased that most parents/carers are happy with Dovedale and the education it provides.

We have looked at all the comments that accompanied the questionnaire and again we would like to thank you for all your responses. It was lovely to read so many positive comments about our school, the staff, ethos, education and care that we provide.

Where parents responded with 'disagree' or 'strongly disagree' some constructive comments were attached. For others the comment box was left empty so it is not possible to know why that response was chosen.

In response to the survey, we are going to develop some of the areas that were identified as something we can improve on. If this is not possible, practically or financially, we will explain why.

Clubs came up in many comments- not being able to get a place, not enough clubs and asking for a wider variety of clubs. There were lots of valid comments about how to secure a club place. We have tried many different times of day to release these but not one seems to have enabled all parents to access them.

Action

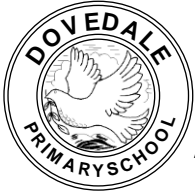
From September we will put in place a new system to try and make the clubs more equitable and aim to give every child who would like to attend a club the opportunity to have first refusal at some point during the school year. For example:

From Y3 – Y6 we are able to run an after-school sports club every half term. For the first 4 half terms a different class in the year group will be given first refusal, the booking system will stay open for a week to give parents/carers the chance to log on and secure a place. If there are still spaces after a week, the remaining places will be opened up to the rest of the year group and it will be allocated on a first come first served basis. In the first half of the summer term the club will be opened up to two classes and in the final half term, the other two classes. This seems like a fair and equitable system.

For paid clubs we will do the same thing throughout the year, if appropriate. Football clubs are easier as, if we have more children than originally planned, we can ask the club to send more coaches, which increases the spaces available.

Over the last year we have been approached by several outside companies. These have been evaluated and if we have had space in school to accommodate them they have been added to our list. If you or someone you know would like to run a club (and has/or can gain a full enhanced Disclosure and Barring Certificate) we are willing to have a conversation about them running a club.

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Space is an issue for us at Dovedale. We have our after school Kids Club provision which uses 2 of our 3 halls. So, during the winter /spring terms we only run 1 sports club so that if it is bad weather we have a space to continue the club. If we have more the children would have to come in and have activities in the classroom which is not ideal.

We are looking at the variety of clubs and hope to add more creative / art based clubs next academic year.

This term we do have a variety of clubs running, 27 in total, some of which are not full. We do hold waiting lists and generally in the past terms, all children who have wanted a place have got one.

Curriculum – on the questionnaire there were some responses saying that parents/carers didn't know what was being taught throughout the year.

Action

As a maintained school we have to teach all the subjects which are set out in the National Curriculum. We have mapped these out in great detail so that we have a curriculum that flows from Reception through to the end of Year 6. The planning ensures that all skills and knowledge are built on and revisited from year to year. On the school website there is a page for every subject we teach which contains:

- A curriculum map of the subject from Reception to Year 6.
- Progression of skills document from Reception to Year 6.
- A long term plan which sets out the learning from Reception to Year 6.

This can be found at the following link: [Dovedale Primary School: Dovedale Curriculum](#)

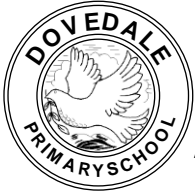
We employ specialist music teachers who deliver our curriculum to children from Reception to Year 6. P.E is taught by the class teacher and a specialist coach. French is taught from Year 3 to Year 6 by a specialist teacher so that our children have the basics of written and spoken French before they leave for secondary school. Children in Year 1 to Year 6 are taught computing from computing specialists.

We are going to look at how we can give you more information and advice on how you can support your child throughout the year.

Dovedale has high expectations of all our children and we believe this is reflected in the results we achieve at key points of national testing or assessment: the end of Reception, Year 1 phonic screening, Year 2 SATs and Year 6 SATs. Dovedale outperforms what is achieved locally and nationally. However, we do believe that we also nurture and develop our children's individuality whilst instilling a sense of self awareness, kindness and empathy, in children who are prepared for the wider challenges of secondary school and beyond.

Generally, most parents felt that they had good information about their child and their progress. We understand that some parents would like to speak to a teacher more often. This is no problem at all. Please see your child's teacher or email the office who can arrange a suitable time for you to have a phone call or face to face meeting.

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As a school we do pride ourselves on being accessible and having an open door policy. We would actively encourage you to speak to your child's teacher if you have any questions or queries. SLT are always on a gate in the morning if you would like to speak to us.

If you feel that your comments have not been addressed, please feel free to contact me and I will arrange a time to speak to you.

Yours sincerely

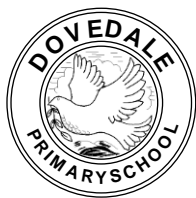
Mr Nik Smith

Mr David Bedford

Head Teacher

Chair of Governors

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There were 233 responses – percentages rounded to the nearest % so may not equal 100%

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	N/A
My child is happy at Dovedale	174 75%	24 24%	3 1%	0	0	0
My child feels safe at Dovedale	185 79%	47 20%	1 0.4%	0	0	0
Dovedale makes sure that its children are well behaved	135 58%	84 36%	4 2%	0	8 3%	1 0.5%
If my child has been bullied Dovedale have dealt with it quickly and effectively	36 15%	33 14%	7 3%	1 0.4%	18 7%	139 60%
Dovedale makes me aware of what my child will be learning during the year	110 47%	101 43%	15 6%	2 1%	5 2%	0
When I have raised concerns, staff have dealt with it properly	101 43%	76 32%	5 2%	1 0.4%	4 2%	46 20%
If your child has SEND the school gives them the support to succeed	46 20%	32 14%	2 1%	0	9 4%	144 62%
Dovedale has high expectations of my child	91 39%	96 41%	16 7%	4 2%	22 9%	4 2%
My child does well at Dovedale	142 61%	89 38%	2 1%	0	0	0
Dovedale lets me know how my child is doing	107 46%	103 44%	17 7%	1 0.4%	3 1%	2 1%
There are a good range of subjects available for my child	128 55%	85 36%	11 5%	1 0.4%	7 3%	1 0.4%
My child can take part in clubs and activities at Dovedale	108 46%	98 42%	17 7%	5 2%	2 1%	2 1%
Dovedale supports my child's wider personal development	111 48%	101 43%	6 2%	0	12 5%	3 1%
I would recommend Dovedale to another parent	187 80%	41 18%	0	1 0.4%	4 2%	0

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