

# New Joiner's Questionnaire 2020

## Summary (24/02/2021)

On an annual basis we issue a 'new joiners' questionnaire, in order that I can review what we do and look to improve where we can. This is it! Please respond to as many questions as you feel able, and with as much detail as you like. I look forward to reading them all!

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### 1) How did you hear about us? e.g. Already local, On-line search, word-of-mouth recommendation? 8 responses

- Friends
- Word of mouth
- All children attended Nibley House Nursery so we were aware of the school.
- Local and word of mouth
- children already at the school.
- Older child already attending
- Sibling at school
- God guided us to North Nibley though a year of prayer for a house to come up that we could afford, we attended the village church and they explained that the head teacher was a Christian and their involvement in the school, was another answer to prayer and a door opening.

### 2) Was there anything in particular that drew you toward us? 8 responses

- Small, friendly, local
- Location, and small classes
- Siblings attendance. Originally it was the positive feelings from being shown around; NN being a faith school; and the small school size.
- Small local school atmosphere. Recommended
- The community feel of the school. Lessons were interactive. Headteacher knew all the pupils and they seemed genuinely pleased to see him come into the classroom and were excited to show him what they had been doing.
- Older child already attending
- Always hear good things
- God being present in the school with lovely work being displayed, with a Christian head teacher, which will greatly influence how the school is run.

## AFTER JOINING

### 3) How well did we welcome you? 8 responses

- Very
- Very
- Well enough in the circumstances: it was obviously quite a trying time all round!
- Very well given the pandemic!

- Very warmly.
- Given the difficult circumstances this year it was done very well and efforts to get parents together via zoom and correspondence via email was good. Allowing kids/parents to have some time in playground meeting Miss Allen was much appreciated and helped when discussing what school would be like.
- Zoom meeting was useful but it was a difficult year to meet other parents and get to know (Child's) classmates
- it was very welcoming, although strange with COVID was managed really well.

#### **4) How well did we manage the 'administration' of joining a new school? 8 responses**

- Very
- Seemed very well during uncertain
- It was rather tricky circumstance this year. I think a few messages didn't get through/ some info was not clarified to the new joiners. Since we were not new there were no issues for us. Having set up a WhatsApp group, new (and indeed existing) parents were able to clarify anything they were unsure of, which worked well and gave newbies a chance to meet other parents, which otherwise would have been hard with the social distancing regs etc). In normal times most of the info needed would have come through visits to school in the preceding Summer term.
- There were a few email issues but resolved quickly
- All the required information was disseminated in a timely fashion with the opportunity for questions.
- Good - but was already aware of what was involved. Generally always clear communication from the school.
- There were a lot of forms to complete and I remember thinking that it wasn't sure who needed them and when. But it was perfectly manageable.
- It was quite straight forward v helpful receptionist would of been nice to have easier contact with the class teacher before, but we understand it was all different because of COVID.

#### **5) Was there anything we could have explained better in person or in publications (including on-line)? 8 responses**

- No- all fabulous
- Nope
- Perhaps a clarification of key info such as start times in an email to reception parents. There was quite a lot of online info sent altogether, and it could maybe be a little clearer and easier to follow, ie uniform and PE kits seemed to be recurring questions I heard.
- School start times and collection times were not very clear initially
- No
- I don't think so - as a parent of school already I had a good grasp of what to expect and they way things work.
- It would be helpful to know who the teachers are in each class and have an opportunity to meet the TAs as well as the main teacher, since the children spend a lot of time learning with them too.
- It was a lot of reading and that's not my strongest point, maybe a short basic guide to things like uniform bullet point, and what they can wear, what they need to bring, times for pick up, a bit more notice as we had already ordered a lot of the expensive uniform before realising there was second hand available with a donation or they

could wear supermarket own brand things too. It also took us a good 3 months to work out what class 1 was and when reception is and isn't referred to as Class 1, and that there is older ones in reception class at times too.

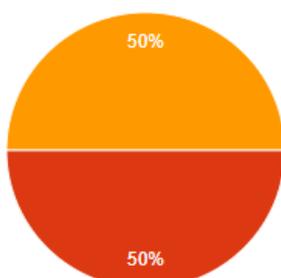
#### 6) Were there any pleasant surprises? 8 responses

- The reception (child) had in her first day from the children and parents
- Sanitisation procedures
- Class one and two being able to play together at break time. Being allowed to enter the room on the first day (rainy) to support a very nervous child. And lovely class of children!
- Teachers all very friendly and love the frequent updates about progress
- Free fruit?!
- Not a surprise as I think it is just part of the fabric of the school and all who work there - continual kindness, interest and encouragement of staff towards the children and parents.
- No, but we have (Older child) in year X.
- It was lovely to see how quickly routine happened which helped (child) to settle. Lovely crafts and play time. Lovely staff all very helpful. it was lovely getting to know the other mums before coming through having a watsapp group.

#### 7) To what extent does your child/do your children feel settled? 8 responses

- Exceptionally
- Very well
- Pretty fully, though (child's name) would still prefer to be at home! Obviously they won't feel fully settled until the whole school is allowed to be together.
- Like a duck to water she misses school at weekends!
- He's very settled.
- He skipped in on day one and has continued to be as excited about going every day.
- They are very settled now. (Child) had a few wobbles in the first half-term, which the teachers dealt with very effectively by talking to the children and parents as appropriate.
- (child) feels very settled now, took a little while to communicate a few problems initially but is now happy with a range of friends. We do worry sometime that the reception children are allowed in the main big playground with the much older children, so will hear things that are said/games that aren't suitable for her age, but understand that is how it is and is supervised, we try and encourage her to tell the member of staff on duty if she doesn't like something or feels uncomfortable.

#### 8) How well is your child doing? 8 responses



- Not as well I / we expected
- As well as I / we expected
- Better than I / we expected

Not as well I / we expected 0  
As well as I / we expected 4  
Better than I / we expected 4

**9) Do you feel there is sufficient opportunity for you to 'get involved'? 7 responses**

- Yes
- Tricky with Covid, but very well informed
- The current regs prohibit much integration, sadly.
- Yes.
- Yes - under normal circumstances via FONNS and reading support. The school is a very welcoming environment to all and very appreciative of help.
- It is always nice to know what the children are learning each week, meaning the general topics. During lockdown we learnt such a lot about how things are taught and it enabled us to support them more easily. If we know, for example, animals are being talked about, then we can get books from the library and visit the zoo etc to broaden their interest.
- Yes for sure with home schooling!

**10) We welcome any other comments you may have. 6 responses**

- We were really concerned about (Older child joining mid-year) joining year X after being at (AT ANOTHER SCHOOL) for so long and having so many strong friendships that we thought would have a huge impact on her. Everyone has made her very welcome and she absolutely loves it. She has made wonderful friends and loves going to school. Thank you all.
- N/A
- Clearly we have to follow guidelines but we feel sad that there hasn't been a chance for the Welcome Assembly, or the representative Pebble, or the buddy system (having a year 2 "sibling" buddy might have worked in addition?). Thank you for working hard to keep everything going.
- Not at this time.
- We think the school does a wonderful job of supporting the students and building their confidence, particularly noted when (Child) spoke in the Nativity play. Something that we weren't sure would happen this early on.
- Sorry it has taken so long, I couldn't get the hang of dojo until home learning! I was wondering if they have done the pebbles yet before lockdown? as it is in the welcome video P isn't sure if they have. Thankyou for all your are doing.