



**Stockingate, South Kirkby, Pontefract, West Yorkshire, WF9 3DP**

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**Email: [skaoffice@watertonacademytrust.org](mailto:skaoffice@watertonacademytrust.org)**

**Website: [www.southkirkbyacademy.org](http://www.southkirkbyacademy.org)**

**Headteacher: Mr Adam Potter**

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Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023

## Family View Survey Results

Dear families,

Thank you if you took the time to fill out our survey that I have been going on about over the past couple of weeks! The survey closed on Friday (8<sup>th</sup> December). Your feedback helps us to know what we do well as a school and what we need to do to get even better. Around a fifth of the school population responded to the survey.

Of course, this survey is not the only time I collect feedback – there are frequent opportunities at our events, such as the SKA Exhibition, Meet the Teacher meetings and achievement assemblies, plus an ‘open door’ policy where you are able to speak to school staff and senior leaders usually without the need to book an appointment.

I am writing to share findings from the survey, signpost information that I think may have been missed by some families and also explain what we have done in response to comments in the ‘you said, we did’ section. I therefore hope you find this letter useful.

### What we do well at South Kirkby Academy:

- **95%** of families who filled out the survey recommend South Kirkby Academy – this is something we are extremely proud of as a school.
- The vast majority of families (**92%**) either agree or strongly agree that their child is happy at school.
- The vast majority of families (**95%**) also agree or strongly agree that their child feels safe at school.
- **95%** of respondents agree or strongly agree that school ensures all children are well behaved.
- When bullying does happen, families agree or strongly agree that it is dealt with quickly and effectively. Only two families are not satisfied with how bullying has been dealt with. **57%** of families state their child has not been bullied.
- We communicate curriculum coverage with families and families are aware of what their children will learn throughout the year – **92%** agree or strongly agree they are kept informed.
- Of those families who have raised concerns, (**90%**) agree or strongly agree that these have been dealt with properly.
- Of the 9 responses linked to SEND, 1 family does not think their child is supported.
- Only one respondent disagreed that the school has high expectations for their child.
- The majority of families (**87%**) agree that their children do well at the school. 2 families disagreed and some did not know.
- School lets families how well their child is doing (**84% agree and strongly agree**). Some did disagree with this and some did not know.
- **76%** of families agree or strongly agree that school supports their child’s wider personal development.
- **ALL** families agree or strongly agree that their children have opportunities to take part in clubs and activities at the school.

I am sure you will all agree that this shows how dedicated we are as a school to providing the best possible outcomes for your children and you as families at our school.

Our ‘offer’ as a school has continued to improve and these results show an improvement since our April Ofsted Parent View survey when we had our inspection leading to a ‘Good’ outcome.

On the next page, I have highlighted points where we did not perform as well, signposted additional information and stated any changes to practice that will now occur as a result of this survey.

For those who left individual comments with information linking to their answers, school staff will be in touch with individuals to resolve the issues highlighted.



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**What we could do even better – ‘you said, we did’:**

**Some families disagree or do not know where to find information about what their child will learn throughout the year.**

*We share half-termly curriculum newsletters for each year group highlighting key learning that will be covered throughout the half-term. The links for these are usually shared through the MCAS App. In response to this and to ensure this is not missed, I will also start including the link to these on the first newsletter of each half term – all linked letters are hyperlinked and are saved as PDFs so they can be opened on any device.*

*Our curriculum newsletters can be found [here](#). The website link is at the top of the page. Once you are on the website, click ‘Curriculum’ and ‘Curriculum Newsletters’.*

*We hold half-termly SKA Exhibitions, where families are invited into school to see what the children have been learning that half-term. Make sure you book your place to see what your child has been up to, look in their books and take part in some learning yourself! Our next SKA Exhibition is on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023.*

**Some families disagree that school lets them know how their child is doing or do not know how their child is doing.**

*We hold two ‘Meet the Teacher’ meetings each academic year. I have changed these so we have afternoon sessions for each year group and also an evening session to ensure families can agree a mutually convenient time to meet with their child’s teacher to discuss how they are doing.*

*We send home three school reports in each academic year (one at the Christmas holidays, one at the Easter holidays and a longer more detailed report at the Summer holidays). This includes attainment information linked to teacher assessments and testing, grades for effort in individual subjects, attendance, punctuality and a few carefully written targets.*

*There is a ‘window’ of time after each report is handed out for you to meet with your child’s class teacher, provide feedback about the reporting process and meet with a member of Senior Leadership Team if required.*

*We hold half-termly Achievement Assemblies and weekly Celebration Assemblies to celebrate all things SKA, including academic achievements.*

**Some families did not understand why certain learning interventions – such as phonics – were taking place as they had not been notified and had found out through their child.**

*In the New Year, we will start sending home letters when your child is accessing an intervention – such as phonics – to support their learning, with advice and opportunity to speak to your child’s teacher or a member of the Senior Leadership Team about the decision to provide this support.*

**Some families did not agree or did not know whether the school supported their child’s wider personal development.**

*Personal development at South Kirkby Academy was judged to be ‘good’ when Ofsted visited in April 2023. To achieve Good, school’s must:*

- *Have a curriculum which extends beyond an academic focus*
- *Have a curriculum which supports children to be confident, resilient and independent*
- *Have a high-quality pastoral support offer*
- *Ensure children are prepared for life in modern Britain and understand how to be responsible or active citizens that contribute positively to society*
- *Effectively promote equality and diversity*
- *Prepare their children for future success in education*



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*There are many ways in which we fulfil each of these points which I will not include in this letter as it will be far too long! Please do get in touch if you would like to find out more information about how we support your child's personal development.*

**It is sometimes difficult to keep track of communications from school as different methods are used.**

*I take on board that we do share through a number of different platforms including the MCAS App, Facebook, Twitter, text message and some teachers also use class Dojo.*

*Moving forward:*

- *All letters will be shared as announcements through the MCAS App. These will also be uploaded to our school website.*
- *Some communications will then be shared through Facebook or Twitter to simply remind families however these messages will have already been shared through the MCAS App in the first instance.*
- *Some messages which are class or child specific may be delivered by your child's class teacher through the Class Dojo App.*

I would like to thank you again for filling out this term's survey – your feedback is invaluable – and thank you for reading this lengthy letter!

Best wishes,

Mr Adam Potter  
**(Headteacher)**