

# Feedback to parents on survey findings

## Claremont Fan Court Prep, Pre-Prep and Nursery

July 2023

---

This is an independent report of the main findings from the online parent survey undertaken by RSAcademics on behalf of Claremont Fan Court School over a three-week period in May/June 2023. We would like to thank all parents and guardians who took the time to respond.

The principal aims of the survey were:

- to discover what parents particularly value about Claremont Fan Court and to explore their views on its image, aims and values
- to gauge attitudes about a wide range of aspects of school life
- to understand parents' priorities for improvement

There were 141 responses to the survey which equates to a participation rate of 52% of families with a good spread across all year groups.

### Summary of findings

Claremont Fan Court Pre-Prep and Nursery and Prep School is valued by parents for the way in which it celebrates and supports each individual child. 85% of parents would recommend the school and 89% believe their child to be very or quite happy at school. Their child enjoys being at school and has made strong friendships there.

Claremont Pre-Prep and Nursery and Prep School is described as welcoming, encouraging, rounded and warm and 84% of parents rate the school's concern for their child's wellbeing as good or very good.

As in any survey of this kind, there are areas where further focus would be welcomed. The most popular areas selected as requiring improvement were facilities and equipment, sport provision, food at lunchtime and feedback on progress.

We received many detailed, constructive comments on a wide range of issues. These have all been anonymised and passed on to the headmaster to help inform decision-making and planning.

### Parental satisfaction and advocacy

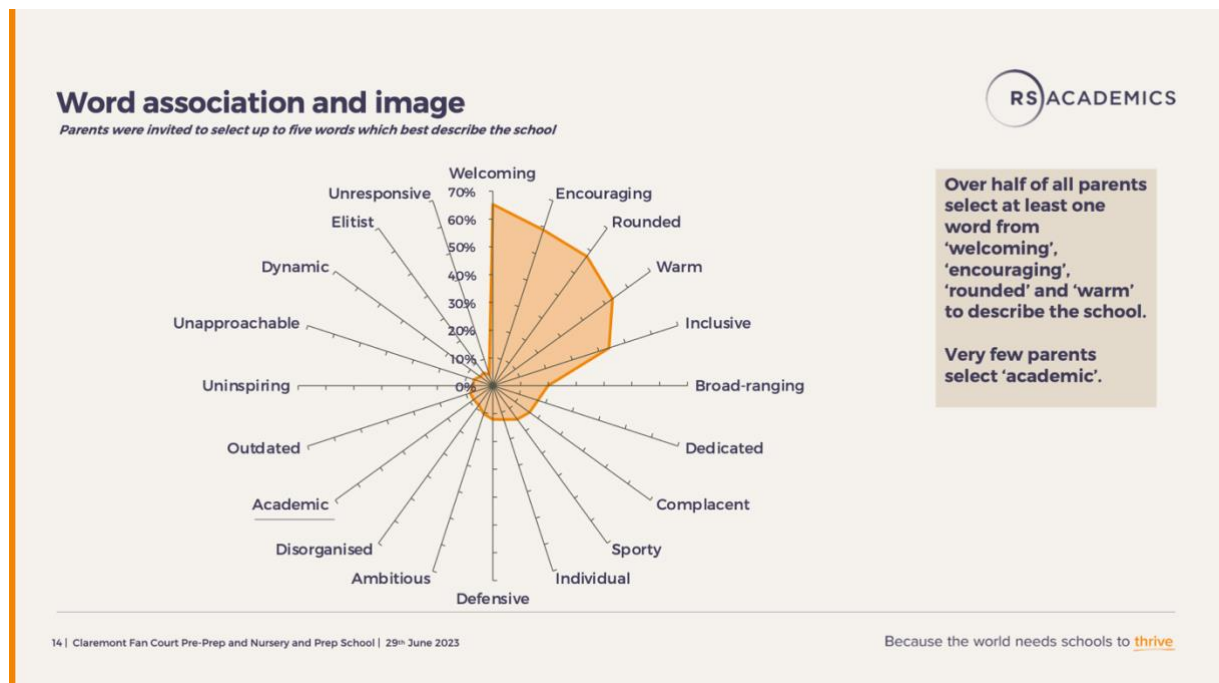
61% of parents describe themselves as 'completely satisfied' or 'very satisfied' with the school and 79% in Pre-Prep and Nursery do so. 89% describe their child as

'quite happy' or 'very happy' at school. Most parents are strong advocates of the school with 85% saying they would recommend Claremont to others.

Parents were asked why they originally chose to send their child to Claremont and there was a variety of reasons given. The most decisive factors were the fact that the school is co-educational, the atmosphere and ethos, class sizes and the fact that it offers education to 18. Claremont has exceeded expectations for a fifth of parents and met the expectations of the majority, but there are parents in some year groups for whom it has fallen short.

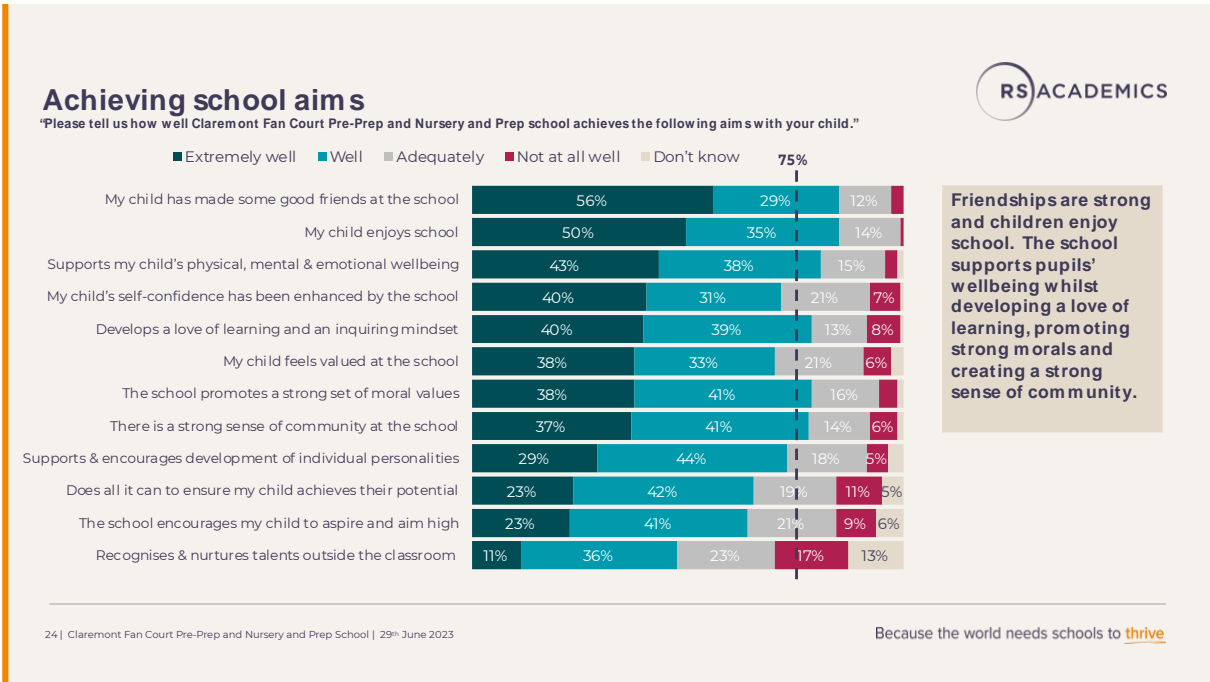
## Image, aims and values

From a list of words supplied in the survey, the most common words selected to describe the school were **welcoming, encouraging, rounded** and **warm**.



Parents really value the nurturing ethos of the school, its focus on pastoral care and the fact that small class sizes allow caring staff to treat each child as an individual and help them to fulfil their potential. Parents appreciate the 'family feel' and sense of community and the fact that the school is 'not an academic hothouse' but provides a rounded education for children of all abilities. The beautiful setting and school grounds are prized as providing a wonderful, natural environment for the children.

The school's aims were strongly endorsed by parents with the highest ratings being given to the fact that their child has made good friends at school and enjoys being there. Recognition and nurturing of talents beyond the classroom is the only aspect that fewer than three quarters of parents felt the school did adequately or well.



## Rating the school's provision

Parents reviewed the school across a wide range of features which support learning and life at Claremont Pre-Prep and Nursery and Prep School.

The highest ratings were for the quality of teaching, pupils' awareness and use of IT and the school's concern for their child's wellbeing. There were also strong ratings for pupil behaviour, the approachability of staff, the range of academic subjects on offer and general communication.

Parents at the Pre-Prep and Nursery were very positive and chose higher ratings for all aspects of the school whereas those in Year 6 are not as satisfied as other year groups and selected more areas for improvement.

In addition to the priorities for improvement (detailed in the next section), the security of the school site, policies for homework and value for money are concerns for some. There were comments regarding the range of co-curricular activities on offer and the desire for an improved booking system.

## Areas for future focus

We asked parents to identify the features most requiring improvement. The priorities selected are listed below (the figure in brackets shows the percentage of parents that selected the feature):

- Food (28%) – Parents primarily comment on the overall quality of the food, a small number mention the limited options available on the daily menu and/or the healthiness of the offering.
- Facilities and equipment (27%) - mentions of the desire for an Astro, a covered pool and improved play areas for Prep. NB Only 9% of parents in Pre-Prep and Nursery selected this as a priority.

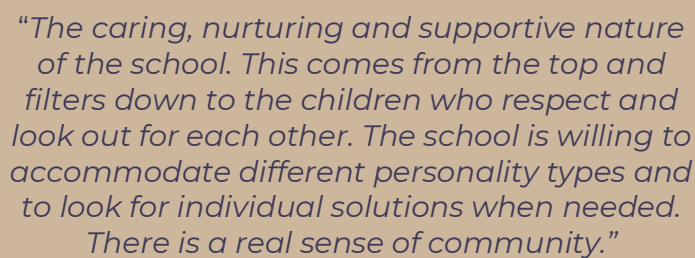
- Sport (26%) – Commentary from parents about sport focused on how the on-site facilities can limit opportunities and how they would like more matches and an inclusive approach. Sport was more of an issue in Years 4-6.
- Feedback on progress (26% overall and 37% in Pre-Prep/Nursery) – Many parents would like a longer appointment with teachers at parent evenings. Some parents feel that reports could be more personal and provide measurable data.
- Academic stretch and challenge - this feature was selected by over a quarter of Pre-Prep and Nursery parents

Parents were also asked in which areas they felt the school should invest. 52% of all parents selected sport facilities and 42% chose further investment in teaching staff. Recreational and classroom spaces were selected by nearly a third of parents.

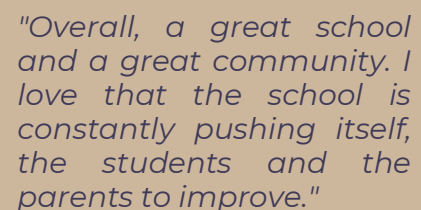
## In conclusion

Parents at Claremont Fan Court Pre-Prep and Nursery and Prep School value the school's atmosphere and ethos and focus on each individual child. They feel that their children are happy at school, have good friends, enjoy learning and are guided by a strong moral compass in a supportive community. This is evident in the testing of school aims and from parents' written feedback on what they most like and would not like to see changed.

Here are a couple of the many quotes received:



*"The caring, nurturing and supportive nature of the school. This comes from the top and filters down to the children who respect and look out for each other. The school is willing to accommodate different personality types and to look for individual solutions when needed. There is a real sense of community."*



*"Overall, a great school and a great community. I love that the school is constantly pushing itself, the students and the parents to improve."*

*Written by Sue Gutierrez, Senior Consultant, RSAcademics Ltd  
July 2023*

*Please note that all responses remain totally confidential and anonymous. Although quotations have been used as part of this feedback, they are representative and cannot be attributed by the school or any parents to an individual.*