



The Vineyard School Family Survey 2023

Many thanks to all those parents who contributed to our parent survey last summer. We thought that we would update you on our actions on some of the major points arising from your comments.

Your comments	Our response
We want to know how our child is doing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We hold 2 family-teacher meetings per year, one in the Autumn term and one in the Spring term and write an annual report in the Summer term on your child's progress. This is the standard offer in UK schools. • Families with children who have an EHCP or a SEND support plan have longer meetings with the teacher. • We have introduced regular 'open classroom' events every half-term (unless there is a family-teacher meeting) where families can come into school and look at their child's work. • We ran a workshop explaining our feedback and marking processes. • If you have any concerns about your child's progress you are always welcome to arrange an appointment with your class teacher or the senior leadership team.
We want to know what our child will learn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This has been one of the school's development targets for this year. • We have published an annual curriculum plan by subject and by year group on the website. • We have introduced half-termly learning bulletins which highlight what your child will be learning in the half-term. These are shared on the newsletter. • The phase news within the newsletter gives more information about what your child has been learning about and what they will learn next. • We hold family workshops on various aspects of the curriculum. We held one on RE in the Spring term; next up is RSE which will be covered at the start of the summer term. • We hold a 'meet the teacher' meeting at the start of the school year which covers topics that your child will learn. • We have added a recommended read each week to the newsletter. • If you ever have any questions about what your child is learning please contact your class teacher or the teaching and learning Assistant Headteachers on tandl@vineyard.richmond.sch.uk
We want to know how our child is doing compared to the rest of the class and nationally	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National comparisons are only available when your child sits KS2 papers at the end of Year 6. The KS1 papers, sat at the end of Year 2, have stopped this year so then the only national comparisons will be in Year 6. • It is the school's policy not to directly compare children within a class. Children develop at varying rates depending on a variety of factors. • The family-teacher meetings will tell you about your child's progress and families are given targets for their child.
We want to know what is going on in school and to be	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This has been another area of focus. • We have streamlined all the school communication into one place, the weekly newsletter. It is important that you read this every week. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This starts with the headteacher's comment about the major activities of the previous week and highlights important future events.

<p>given sufficient notice of events</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This has links to all the school phases (eg, KS1, LKS2) and what they have been doing, key vocabulary that we have covered and homework tasks ○ It includes a list of key dates for the rest of the half-term, hopefully giving you sufficient advance warning • In addition, the website calendar lists forthcoming events • It is our intention that the main channels of our school communication will be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ school website - this contains all the key information about the school (eg, staff, term dates, curriculum, policies, common forms that you may need). This also has copies of the old newsletters; ○ newsletter- this should tell you all the events to come in the next week and everything that happened last week. ○ email- these will be used for any urgent communication. • We do hope that this streamlining will make it much easier for families; please let us know if we can improve communication further by emailing headteacher@vineyard.richmond.sch.uk
<p>We want prompt replies to emails sent to the school office and/or class teacher</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We expect all our teachers to respond to emails within 2 working days. Please remember that class teachers are in class, on playground duty or attending internal or external meetings during the working day and so often cannot read their emails until late in the day. If you have an urgent query, please phone the school office and a member of the office team will make sure that your message is directed to the correct person in a timely fashion. • We ask that families use the class email address (yearx@vineyard.richmond.sch.uk) or the general office email address (info@vineyard.richmond.sch.uk) so that messages do not get lost if an individual staff member is absent.
<p>Please introduce some after-school activities for reception children</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is our experience that Reception children are tired after a full day at school and are not ready for an activity club. The extended school care offer is the best place for them and we have exciting new plans for extended school care going forward.
<p>We want the booking process for activity clubs to be less stressful</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We appreciate that the booking process can be very competitive but have been unable to find a different system other than first come, first serve. A few places are reserved for children with particular needs in some clubs. • We are trialling holding two booking days, one for KS1 children and one for KS2 children, to reduce the pressure on families. • We let families know the list of clubs at least a week before the booking system goes 'live'; bookings are made before the start of each term so that families know their commitments for the term in advance. • We operate a waiting list system for some of our more popular clubs; we also try to set up more sessions of the most popular clubs. • We continue to work on our club offer and we welcome feedback of new club suggestions.
<p>We want more sport and music</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Vineyard subscribes to a Richmond schools initiative that enables schools to compete against each other, either socially or competitively depending on the event, and we enter an appropriate team. • Children get the opportunity to participate in teams in their PE lessons. • Our extra-curricular programme gives children a wide range of sports, and other activities that they can try. • Following family demand, we have increased the opportunities for group music and have recruited a new music teacher. We run choirs, assemblies, private music lessons and instrument groups, led by our music teacher or Richmond Music Trust.

<p>How do you ensure that more able children are challenged sufficiently?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have appointed two teaching, learning and curriculum leads. One of their roles is to ensure that all children are set ambitious targets for their academic progress. • In mathematics and English, each lesson is set with a wide range of teaching objectives covering the range of abilities within a class. • We have a wide range of pupils from all different starting points and challenge them all appropriately.
<p>Please tell us about the school's approach to managing children's behaviour</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school's approach to managing children's behaviour is detailed within our Behaviour Policy which is available on the school's website. • Staff training sessions have worked on tightening up the consistency of the application of this policy. • The school's approach to bullying is detailed within the policy. If you feel that your child is being bullied, please speak to a member of the headship team. • We have high expectations for children's behaviour. • Some children will always find it more difficult to control their behaviour and school adults know and discuss with the SENDCo the expectations that we should apply for these specific children. • We held a workshop for families on our expectations for pupil behaviour and the robust systems in place in school.
<p>Please introduce homework</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We introduced homework in Spring 2023 following family feedback.. • We aim for a manageable and effective programme which also allows children time to participate in after-school activities, have some 'down time' and develop good work habits. • We have introduced a weekly book recommendation in the newsletter. • The phase group bulletins within the newsletter highlight key vocabulary, spelling themes and maths practice suggestions. • We offer occasional projects such as Black History Month competitions, writing competitions, maths challenges and science fair projects for those families who want to do more. • Homework is most effective when it includes adult-child conversation so we believe reading a book and discussing it is the most important homework for our primary school aged children.
<p>How does the school ensure my child's wider personal development?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children's wider personal development comes from the opportunity to gain exposure to a wide range of experiences. Families are, of course, the primary source of such experiences. However, we aim for all Vineyard pupils to have the opportunity to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ follow a curriculum in each subject which is broader than the national curriculum enhanced by visiting speakers, trips or other experiential learning experiences, such as our geography field trip day which is based in the local area; ○ engage in and represent the school in a wide range of sporting, musical and other activities, either within school hours or after school; ○ attend a wide range of extra-curricular clubs held at school; ○ develop their leadership and community skills, eg, by being nominated for the Green team, school council, offering school tours to visitors, acting as a role model for younger pupils; ○ participate in school assemblies, Christmas concerts. • We monitor attendance at after-school clubs and ensure that every child has the opportunity to participate in a club of their choosing.