



HEADTEACHER
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Parents Survey – Spring 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

I would like to thank everyone who took the time to complete our annual parent survey before the Easter break. Your feedback is invaluable in helping us continually improve and ensure the best possible experience for all our children.

I'm pleased to report that we received 110 responses to the survey, our highest yet, and we are delighted to share that the overall feedback was very positive, with the majority of responses marked 'Strongly Agree' or 'Agree' across all areas. Some of the most praised aspects of our school included:

- Teaching Staff and Community - The dedication, approachability, and nurturing environment provided by our teachers and support staff were widely celebrated.
- Reading - Rapid reading progress, library initiatives, the return of the reading record books, our DEAR (Drop Everything and Read) time, visiting authors and book sales, and the Stay & Read sessions were particularly valued.
- Engaging Curriculum and Provision - Our broad and stimulating curriculum, the effective PTA, and range of extracurricular clubs were highlighted as real strengths.
- Leadership - Many of you commended on the positive leadership of the school
- Pastoral Care - Parents noted that children are thriving, happy, and well-supported at Butlers Court.

We are so grateful for your feedback and ongoing support; Butlers Court would not be able to offer all that it does without the partnership and collaboration of the whole school community.

We also appreciate your constructive comments, and are exploring how we can improve in the following areas:

Road Safety and Parking on Grove Road and Wattleton Road

All schools experience issues with traffic congestion and parking; an ever growing population and schools not designed to accommodate the increasing number of parents who drive children to school contribute to the challenges we face. This is a particular concern for Butlers Court with the two larger secondary schools very close by and I'd like to thank those who offered to be involved in a School Travel Planning Group to focus on this area. In the meantime:

- We are working with the local council, our neighbouring schools and residents to improve parking enforcement.
- Exploring options for a crossing patrol and additional parking markings and restrictions.
- Dialogue with M&S regarding parking arrangements.

SEN Provision

As you may have heard in the media, SEN provision is becoming increasingly challenging for all schools. We are facing more diverse needs from children, reduced specialist support and an ever more restricted school budget. This means we are unable to train staff as much as we would like to, recruit additional staff or even replace colleagues when others move on which impacts the provision we offer. We really appreciate the comments we received around the support we provide for these children, and the praise for our team. We are always exploring how we can improve our provision by:

- reviewing our SEN identification and intervention processes.
- considering how to make Learning Plans clearer and more personalised.
- exploring affordable and practical opportunities for additional SEN training and resources for staff.

Allocation of Performance Roles and Pupil Responsibilities

Many of our pupils enjoy taking on roles of responsibilities, and we ensure that there are democratic processes to ensure all children have the opportunity to put themselves forward for one of these roles if they wish, while also learning about sharing out these roles fairly. We are very mindful of children's wellbeing during these processes, and make sure that consideration is shown to all those involved and that children do not feel ignored.

Following some of the feedback we have received we will review our approach to allocating some of our responsibilities and cast roles, rotating some for instance if appropriate, and possibly include more behind-the-scenes opportunities for children at our performances.

School Lunches

We have a very good relationship with our hot school meal providers Dolce, and we meet regularly to discuss the quality of the meals provided, portion size and menu variety. We must emphasise that Dolce, and all schools, are obliged to adhere to the [DFE School Food Standards](#) which advises all schools and catering companies on children's portion sizes and menus. I will share our parent feedback when I next meet with the Dolce area manager, however I also encourage all parents to contact Dolce directly if you have any specific concerns. I must add that I eat a hot meal with the children in the dining room at least once a week, and I am always really impressed by the quality of the meals and particularly how much they have improved since they have been prepared on our school site.

Extra-Curricular Clubs

I'm pleased that so many of you were positive about the number of extra-curricular options we have for our children. I'm sure you will join me in thanking all those school staff particularly who volunteer their time after school, in the evenings or at the weekends to provide the wonderful enrichment opportunities we are able to offer our children here. That being said, we are always looking to increase our offer, and we were pleased to introduce a new running club, an additional chess club, two new Computer Xplorers clubs and two new Claire Andrews dance clubs this year.

We will continue to explore options to broaden our extra-curricular offering, particularly in arts, drama, music, and non-sport activities, as some of you have mentioned. We do ask that if there are any parents who would be keen to get involved in our extra-curricular programme or anyone you may know or an agency who would be interested in organising a before or after school club at Butlers Court, please let us know.

Playtimes

While breaktimes can be great fun and their favourite time of the day for some children, we recognise that breaktimes can be challenging for some others. The playground offers valuable opportunities for play and social interaction, but we understand that some children can become overwhelmed by the busy environment, while others may find it difficult to regulate their emotions during unstructured time.

To support all children, we are exploring ways to provide calm spaces and alternative activities during breaktimes to support children who need them. This could include quieter areas where children can take a break from the busier playground, or calming activities that provide a different kind of play opportunity. Please bear with us as we explore the spaces and staffing available to ensure we can offer appropriate support while maintaining our duty of care to all pupils.

Please keep an eye on our weekly newsletters where we will keep you updated on how we are working on these areas.

Thank you again for your thoughtful feedback, encouragement, and active involvement in our school community. As always, we appreciate working together with parents to make Butlers Court the very best it can be for every child.

Yours sincerely,



Mr S. Butler & Mrs A. O'Dornan
Headteacher & Chair of the Governing Board