

Return to School Questionnaire for Children

Autumn term 2020

After the national lockdown, school reopened to all pupils in September 2020. As Covid rates were still very high in the community there was obviously a lot of anxiety from children and their families about this return. There were many changes made to the daily routines and so, after a period of settling in, we asked the children for their views on the return to school.

What came across very strongly was that the children felt safe because the teachers looked after them and that despite getting up early and finding the work hard, they had enjoyed returning to school.

The comments below are taken from a selection of children's responses from year 1 -6.

1. How did you feel about coming back to school when it reopened?

Children's Responses

"I feel excited, happy to be back, I love school, happy to see my friends." This was commented on in all year groups.

Children felt nervous and scared in case they caught Covid.

Some children felt nervous about going into a new class.

2. What helped you settle back into school?

Children's Responses

Making new friends, help from parents, my brother because he had been in a bubble during lockdown.

Getting away from my brother, feeling safe and having fun again.

Beginning to learn again at school and getting back in to a routine.

Teachers were mentioned in every year group.

3. What have you found difficult about coming back to school after such a long break?

Children's Responses

Missing my old teacher and not saying goodbye to year 6, using a one-way system, learning and catching up what you have forgotten.

Being in different bubbles and not with my friends, things feel different no assemblies, using hand sanitiser.

Mentioned in all year groups getting up early and finding the work hard.

4. What have you enjoyed most?

Children's Responses

Playing with my friends, meeting my new teachers, playing outside at lunchtime. My life being normal again.

Mentioned in all year groups, doing maths and PE and playing outside with friends at lunchtime and playtime.

5. Do you feel safe at school, if not why?

Children's Responses

I feel safe because;

Teachers and friends keep an eye on us, school is more hygienic than it was.

"Yes safer than anything"

Mentioned in all year groups "I do feel safe because teachers look after us".

I don't feel safe because:

Some people might have Covid, some children don't socially distance, children don't wear visors.

"Some people don't wash their hands properly."

"There are lots of children in my class and someone might have Covid".

6. How could things be better?

Children's Responses

"Everything is perfect"

Things would be better if;

Children wearing facemasks

Individual hand gel

I could hug my friends

Sit nearer friends at lunchtime.

More social distancing

Check temperatures more often.