

# Parent Engagement Survey: Findings



Ark Blacklands  
Primary Academy

December 2017

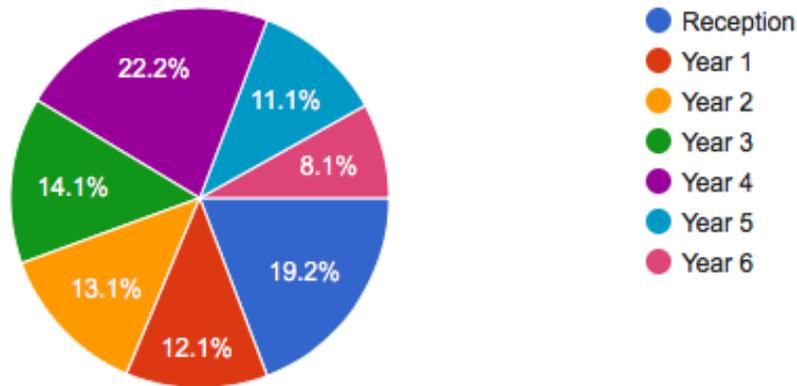
# Objectives & Methodology

- We initiated a survey to find out how involved parents feel in school life generally and more specifically with their children's learning.
- The key objective of the survey was to identify ways that the school may be able to improve communication and engagement with parents so they can more effectively support their children's learning at home.
- Parents were sent a link to a Google forms online questionnaire. Computers were available throughout parent consultation week and paper copies were available at the office. The survey contained 12 questions with spaces for written comments.
- Respondents remained anonymous.

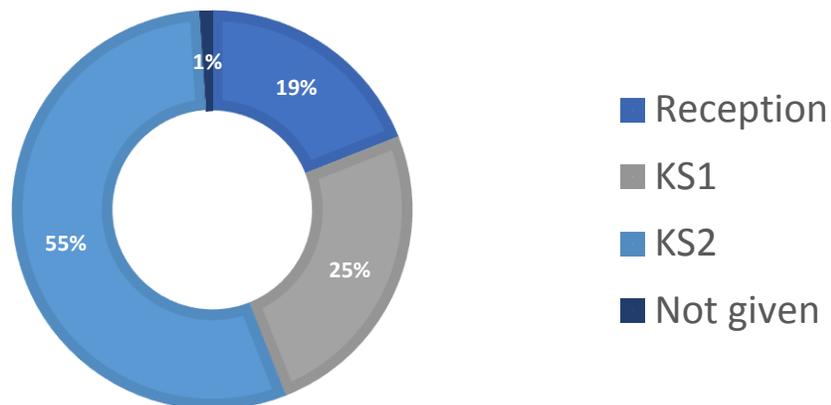
# Responses

I have a child/children in year :

99 responses



## RESPONDENTS BY KEY STAGE



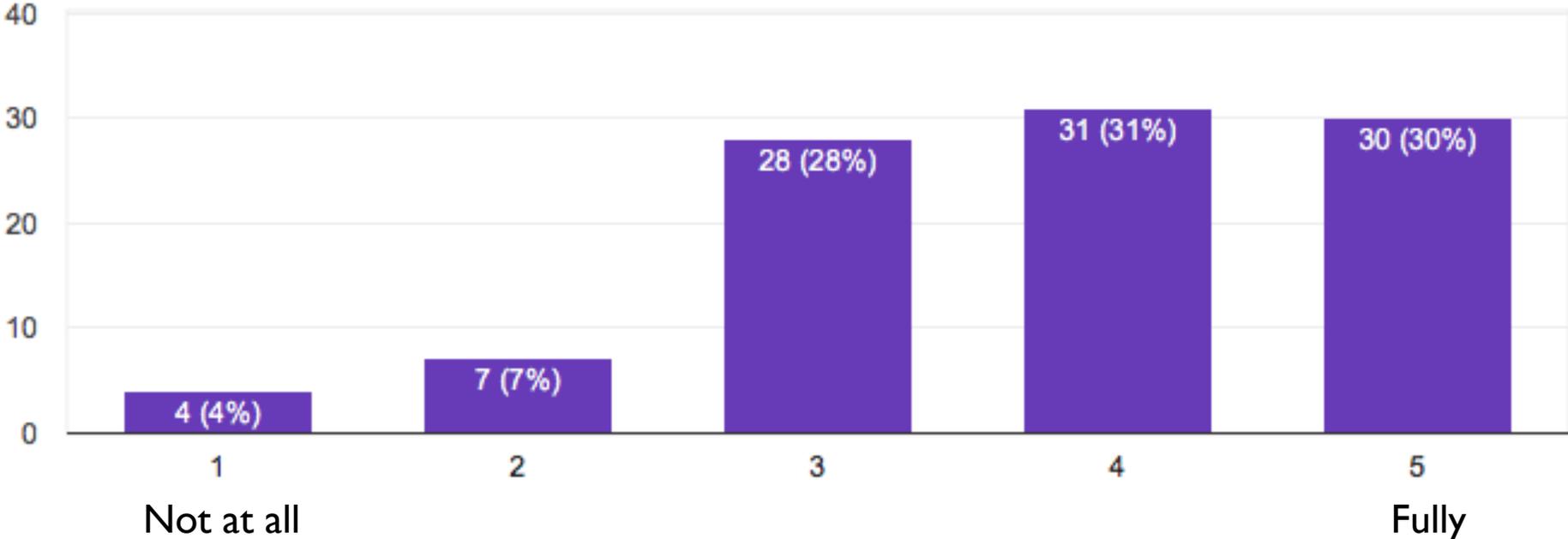
- 100 parents/carers completed questionnaires
- Over half of respondents had children in KS2
- Note: At the time of the survey, Reception, Y1 and Y2 had 90 children per year and Y3 to Y6 had 75 per year.

The large majority of respondents feel quite to fully involved in school life.

Only 11% did not feel very involved

Q1. To what extent do you feel involved in school life at Blacklands?

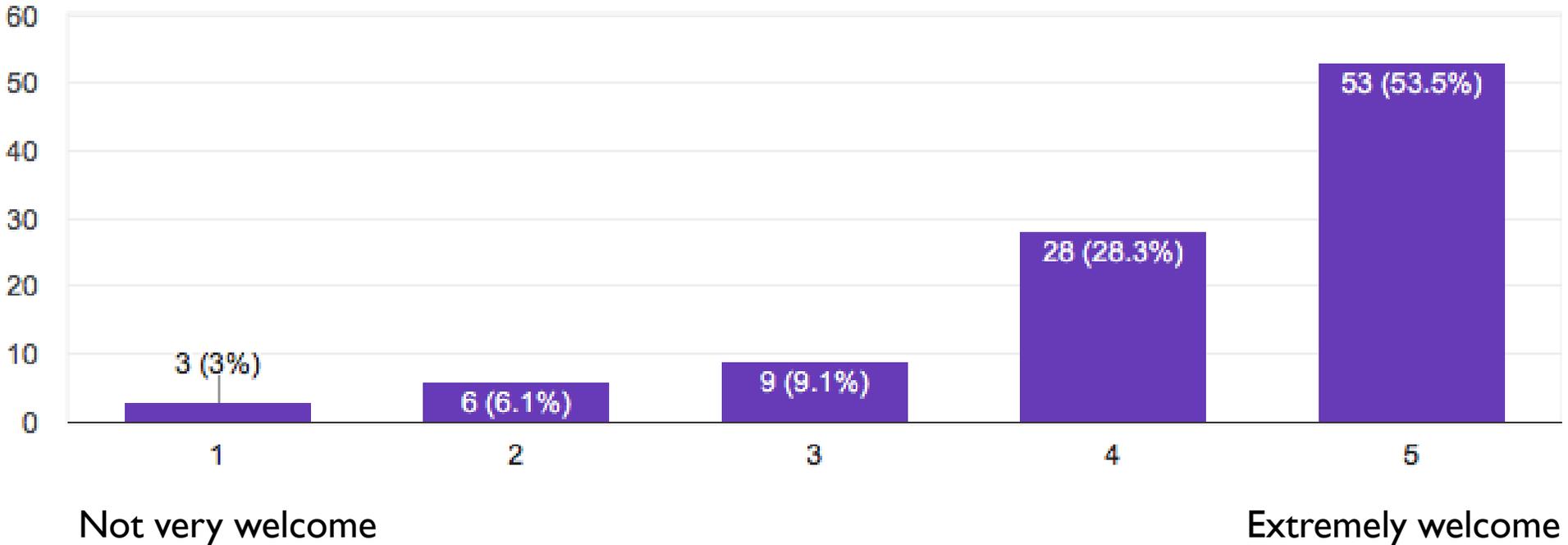
100 responses



# An even larger majority of respondents feel welcome when they visit us at school.

Q2. Do you feel welcome by the school whenever you visit?

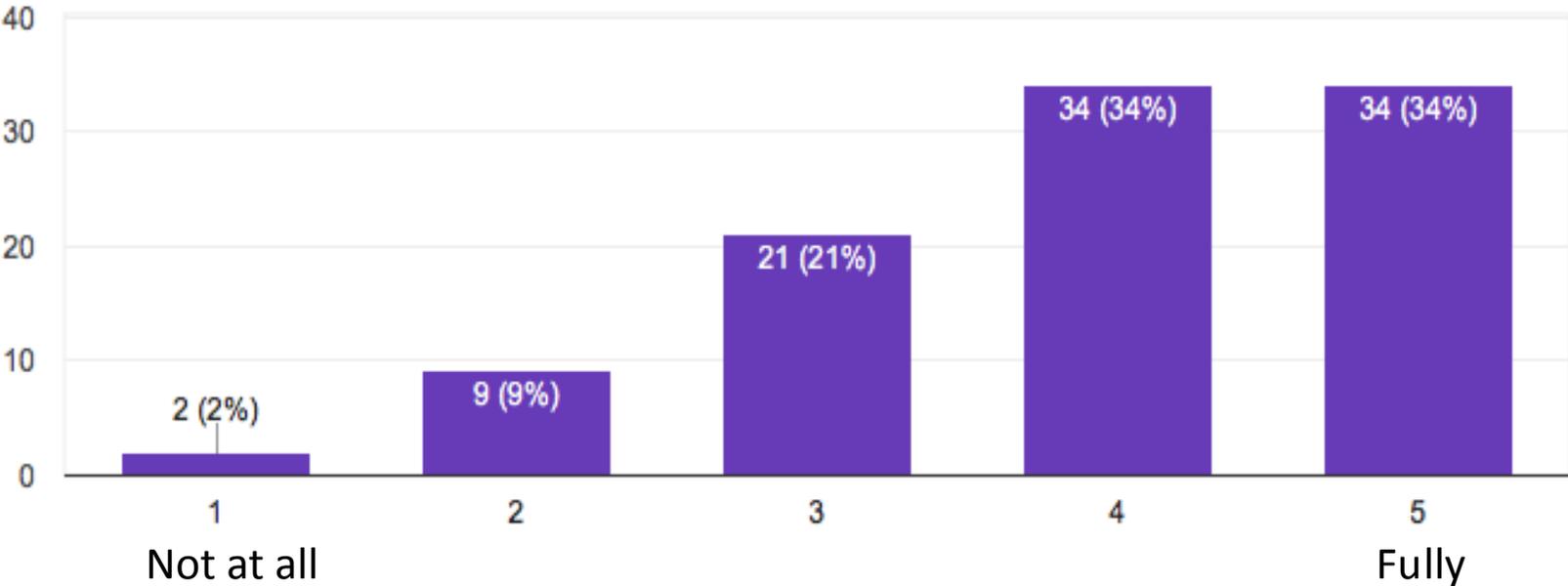
99 responses



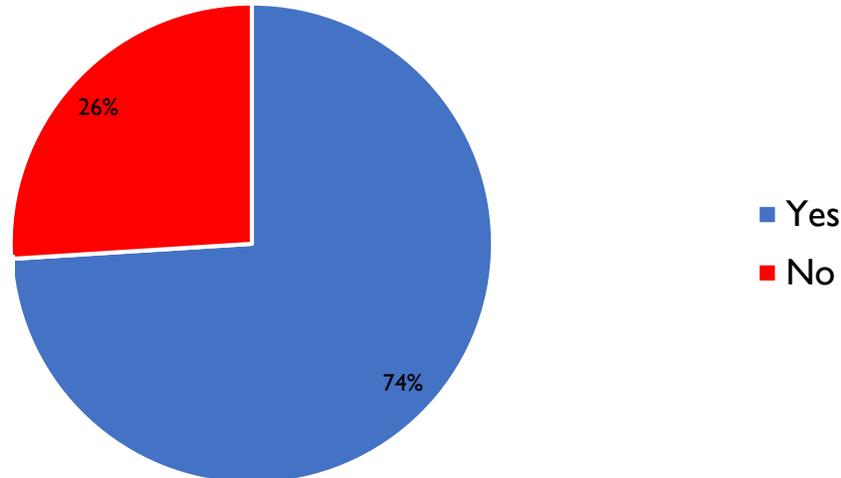
# The majority of respondents feel well informed about how their children are progressing in their learning...

## Q3. How well informed do you feel about the progress your child is making at school?

100 responses

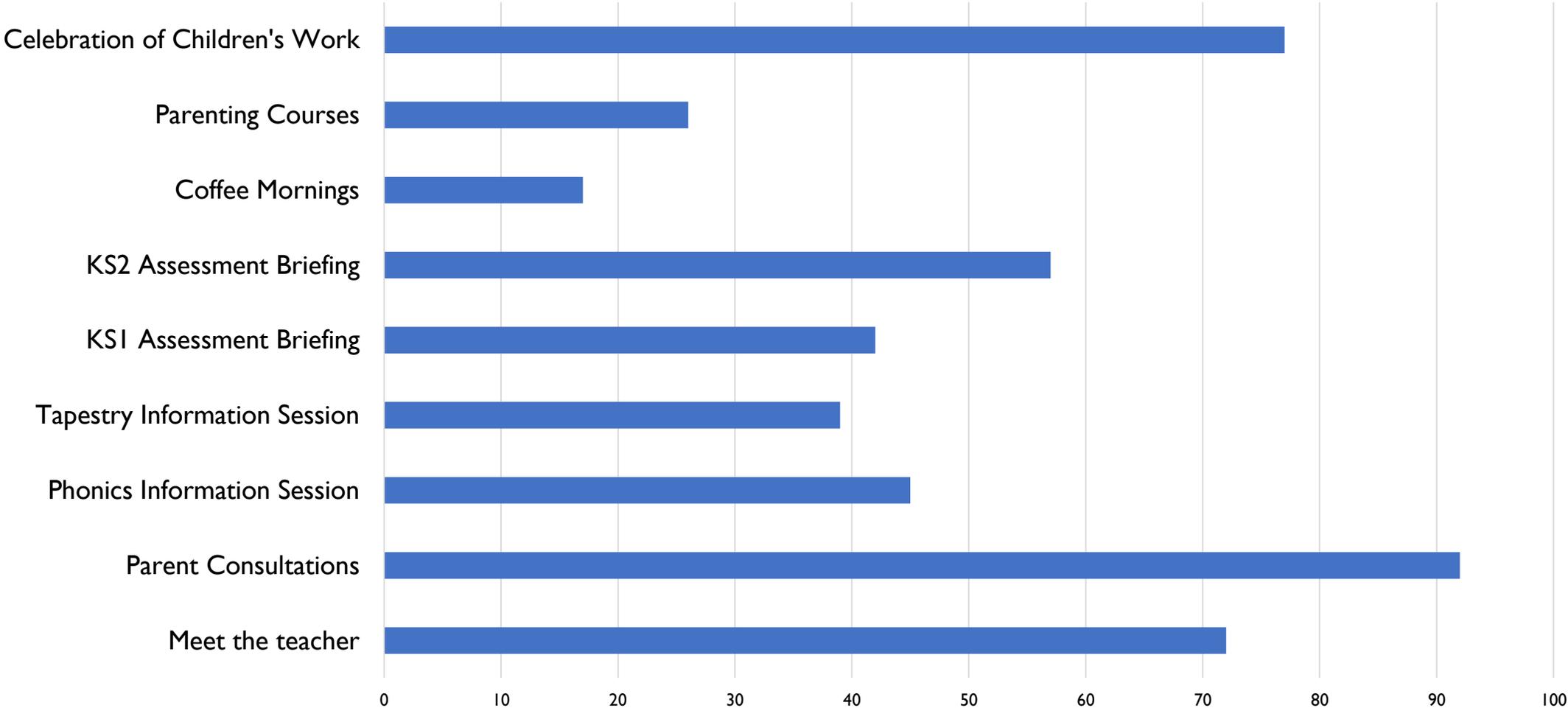


## Q4. Do you think the school provides parents with sufficient information to enable you to help your children at home?



Almost three quarters of respondents feel able to help their child at home with learning.

# Parents/carers indicated that they would find these events in school very useful...



# **Q6. Some other suggestions respondents made for other events in school...**

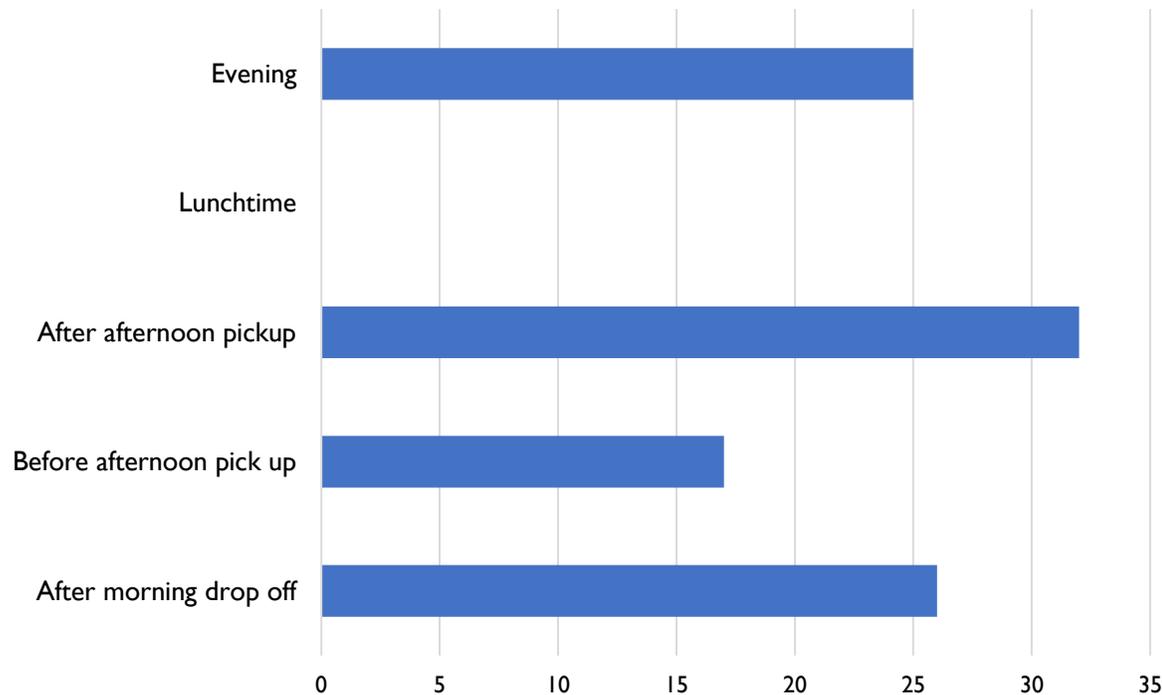
**35 parents left additional comments or suggestions.**

**Key themes were:**

- A large number of respondents requested more opportunities to come into school to celebrate children's work
- Offering more than one time/date for information sessions to allow working parents to attend
- More help for parents/carers where English is not their first language
- More frequent updates and feedback on children's progress

# Parents have varying preferences for times to come into school, and most have limited flexibility

What time is most convenient for you to come into school?



## Key Findings:

- 100% of respondents expressed a preference.
- After afternoon pickup time is slightly more favoured than morning or evening slots – this may explain lower attendance at some events.
- Timing of events could significantly affect attendance; poor attendance does not necessarily mean lack of interest!

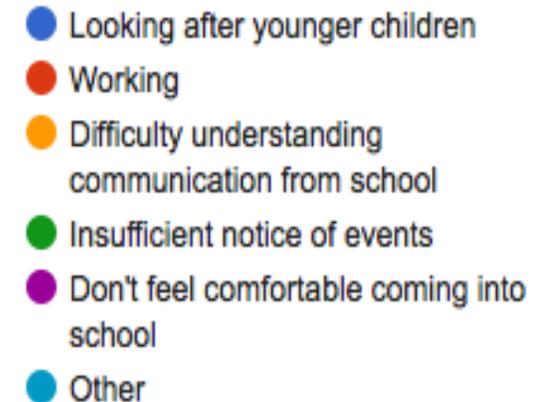
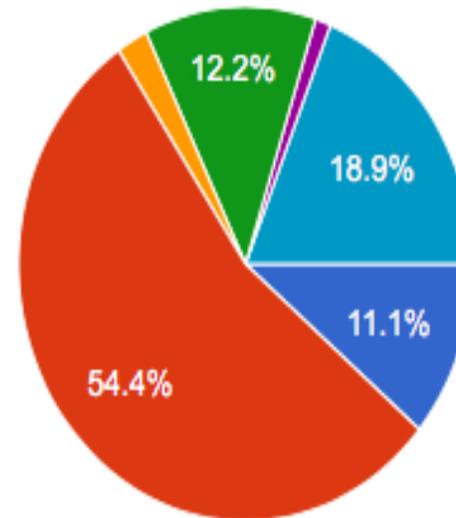
# Over 50% of parents surveyed say their work prevents them coming into school

## Key Findings:

- We have a high proportion of working parents who need more notice of events to schedule time off.
- We need to ensure we give as much notice as possible of all events to maximise attendance
- Parents with younger children find it difficult to attend events

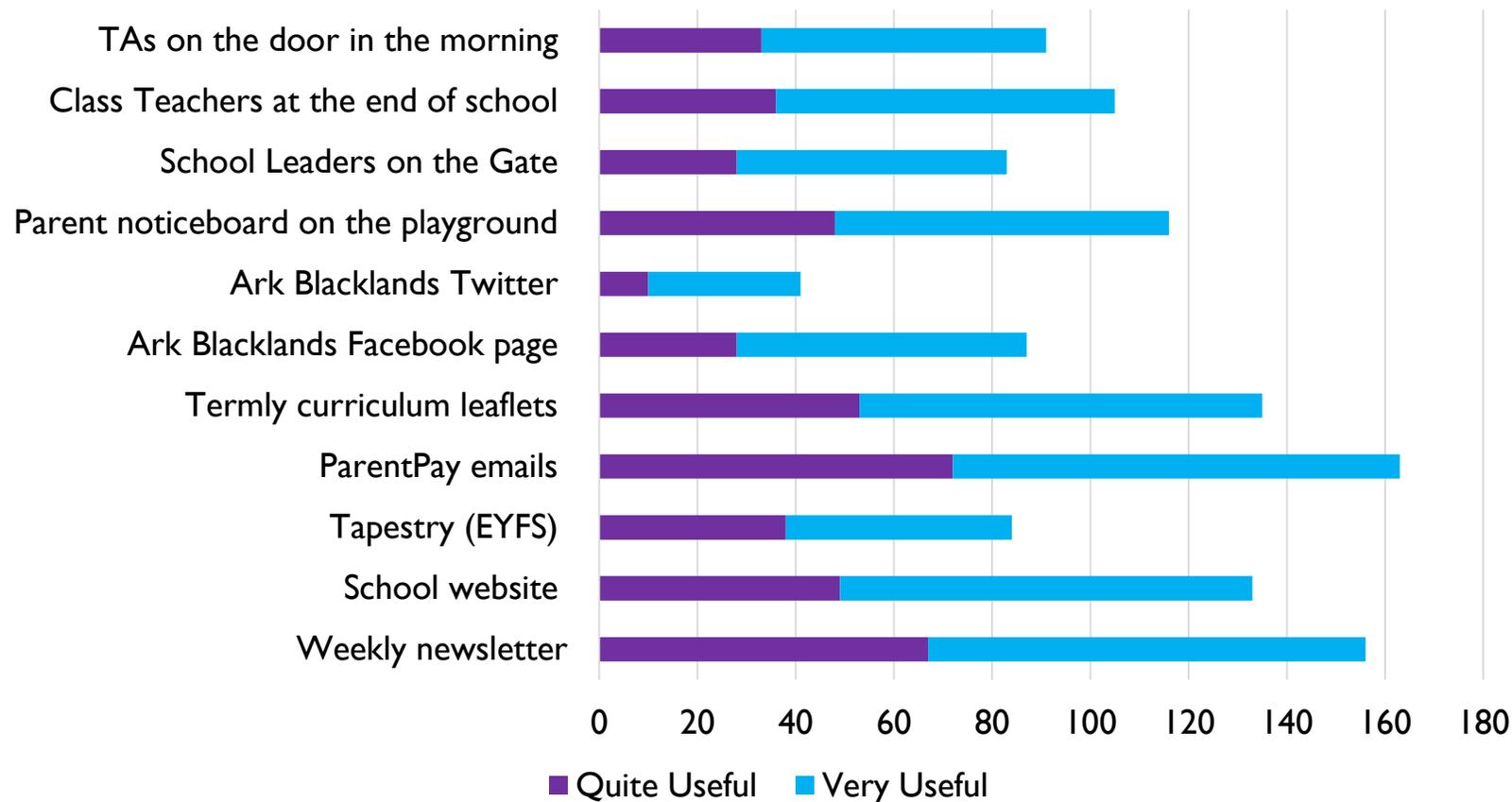
Q8. What prevents you from coming into school?

90 responses



# Respondents indicated that they found these methods of communication most useful...

How useful do you find these methods of communication?



## Key findings:

- A large number of respondents find the weekly newsletter and ParentPay emails very useful.
- Almost all EYFS respondents found Tapestry useful.

# **Q10. Some other suggestions respondents made to improve communication...**

**31 parents left additional comments or suggestions.**

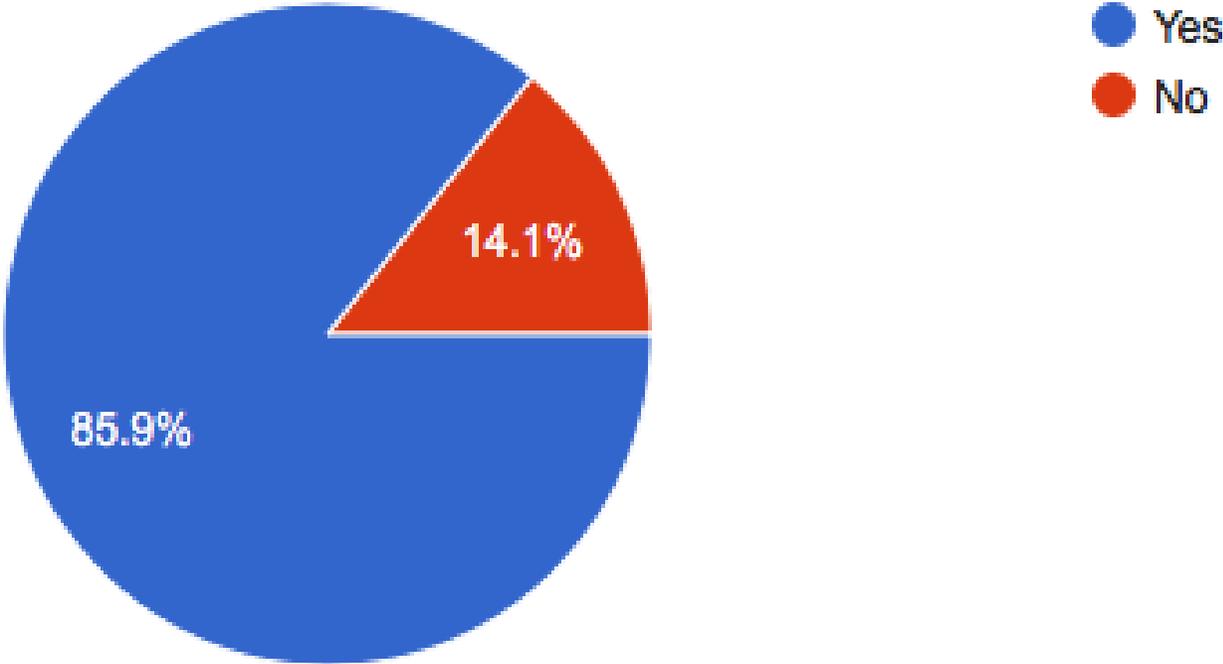
**Key themes were:**

- Several parents commented they were happy with the level of communication
- The use of online communication does not reach all parents
- Paper copies of the newsletter and other letters were requested
- Introduction of SMS/text messages was suggested by some parents
- Several parents requested to attend assemblies
- Some parents requested more frequent parent/teacher consultations

# A large majority of respondents feel that the school responds well to any concerns raised.

Q11. Do you feel the schools responds well to concerns you raise?

92 responses



# Strengths:

- Parents are very positive about how welcome they feel in school and about the progress their children are making
- Parents enjoy receiving the weekly newsletter
- Many parents feel well informed about children's progress: we will continue to provide curriculum information each term and provide more detailed information for parents about their child's progress at the next parent consultation
- Almost 90% of parents feel their concerns are well handled by the school

# Opportunities – what can we try now?

- Not everyone can access online material from school which affects communication negatively:
- Continue to provide a weekly newsletter ensuring some printed copies are available in the school office
- Look into the possibility of having a text message service for parents
- Parents/carers cannot attend events for a variety of reasons:
- Ensure we give as much notice as possible for school events to allow parents to make necessary arrangements to attend
- Offer after school / early evening sessions for parents
- Parents/carers would like to be able to speak to teachers before school:
- Unfortunately this is not possible as teachers are in class welcoming children each day
- We will review entry into KS1 corridor in the mornings
- Remind parents that teachers are available after school and that 1-1 meetings can be arranged through the school office
- Overwhelmingly, people would like to be able to come into school to celebrate their child's work
- We are already discussing ways in which we can do this across the school and will advertise these opportunities in the new term