

PERTH H.S.: QUESTIONNAIRE FOR PARENTS AND CARERS (Jan 2005)

- 1) At what stage in the school is your eldest child? Please tick.
 S1 91 S2 69 S3 87 S4 78 S5 63 S6 46 = 41% of families
- 2) How many **other** children do you have at Perth High School? average: 0.464
- 3) Do you speak any other language(s) at home? only 3 reports
- 4) Which Primary School did your child(ren) attend? 29 in total
- 5) From Section 5 onwards, a small group of approximately 15-25 First Year parents answered "Don't Know" to many questions, as they said they did not have enough experience of the school to answer. They have been eliminated but questions which attracted larger "Don't Know"s have been reported accordingly

MY CHILD	strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	don't know
enjoys being at school	18%	72%	9%	1%	
finds school work stimulating & challenging	12%	76%	11%	1%	
enjoys extra-curricular activities	14%	44%	29%	5%	8%
gets to talk to teachers about his/her work	13%	73%	14%	0%	
gets an appropriate amount of homework	7%	63%	25%	5%	
gets to talk to teachers about homework	10%	71%	17%	2%	
feels safe at school	18%	70%	9%	3%	
feels safe on school buses (please do not answer this if your child does not use the school buses)	11%	55%	22%	12%	
is bullied	2%	8%	44%	46%	
treats his/her fellow pupils well	42%	57%	1%	0%	
is treated fairly by teachers	21%	72%	7%	0%	
treats teachers fairly	32%	65%	3%	0%	
respects his/her teachers	32%	64%	4%	0%	
is respected by his/her teachers	25%	69%	6%	0%	
wears school uniform	51%	48%	1%	0%	

6) Please indicate below whether or not you agree for each of the statements.

COMMUNICATION	strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	
School reports give me accurate and helpful information about my child's progress	15%	60%	11%	2%	12%
Issuing "Cause for Concern" letters during the year to parents (in all year groups) whose children are not working well is helpful.	33%	53%	3%	1%	10%
The school is good at consulting me on decisions which affect my child	9%	51%	24%	4%	12%
I get regular information about my child's progress	4%	45%	43%	8%	
Teachers are good at letting me know about my child's strengths and weaknesses	5%	49%	31%	6%	9%
Teachers encourage my child to work to the best of his/her ability	11%	65%	12%	1%	11%
The school makes clear what quality of work it expects.	13%	68%	16%	3%	
The Parents' Newsletter is a helpful insight into what is happening in school.	19%	72%	8%	1%	
The rector's other letters give me useful information on specific issues (e.g. Parents' Nights, ICT training).	17%	74%	8%	1%	
The Parents' Newsletter always reaches me via "the schoolbag"	21%	50%	24%	5%	
The school has explained how I can support my child with her/his homework	9%	62%	25%	3%	
I check my child's homework diary at least weekly.	14%	49%	32%	5%	
The Course Choice booklets for pupils entering Third, Fifth and Sixth Year are readable and contain the appropriate information. (Please do not answer this if your child has not reached one of these stages.)	24%	69%	6%	1%	
<p>ISSUES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation • REGULAR information on progress of young people (see page 2) • Teachers' reporting on pupil strengths and weaknesses • Parents' checking of homework diaries (and, from back page comments, teachers' checking of homework diaries) 					

7) Please indicate below whether or not you agree for each of the statements.

PARENTS & THE SCHOOL	strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	
I am aware of the aims and priorities of the school	14%	79%	6%	1%	
The school has explained its policies to me.	13%	79%	8%	0%	
The school has explained what I can do to help my child's education	10%	75%	14%	1%	
I feel that the school has responsibilities towards me and my child	37%	62%	1%	0%	
I feel that my child has responsibilities towards the school community	36%	64%	0%	0%	
I feel that I have responsibilities towards the school	30%	68%	2%	0%	
Most parents show support for the school	7%	65%	14%	1%	13%
I would like to help the school in some way.	9%	68%	12%	0%	11%
I only contact the school at Parents' Evenings or if there is a problem	19%	72%	8%	1%	
I am confident that if I raise a concern the school will do something about it.	17%	65%	13%	5%	
The rector and his staff try to help pupils and parents	23%	74%	3%	0%	
The School Board is a useful aid to the school	13%	65%	6%	1%	15%
The PTA (Friends of Perth High) is a useful aid	14%	68%	5%	1%	12%
The PTA should have a stronger educational role	3%	25%	49%	6%	17%
I would like the school to take more issues directly to all parents, rather than the School Board or PTA.	13%	47%	24%	1%	15%
<p>ISSUES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Role of PTA: • Taking more issues to individual parents • Only three-quarters of parents wish to help the school in an appropriate way. Likewise, communication by parents is very limited. 					

8) Please indicate below whether or not you agree for each of the statements.

FORMAL PARENTS' EVENINGS		always	usually	some-times	never	
I am happy with the way in which Parents' Evenings are organised		16%	46%	15%	4%	19%
7p.m. meetings are arranged at a time which suits me		18%	50%	11%	0%	21%
I would attend an information session from 6.45-7pm		21%	35%	24%	6%	14%
I get a chance to see the teachers I want to see		13%	46%	21%	1%	19%
I feel welcome in the school		38%	39%	5%	0%	18%
The senior staff are helpful and welcoming		40%	36%	5%	0%	19%
The prefects help me find my way around		38%	30%	9%	3%	20%
I get a chance to speak honestly about my concerns		37%	34%	8%	1%	20%
I think that teachers tell me the truth		30%	43%	7%	0%	20%
I come away feeling I've learned something useful		23%	42%	15%	1%	19%
The following questions are for parents of S1 and S2 pupils only:			YES	NO	DON'T KNOW	
My child found the Primary 7 visit by Mr Pringle to our Primary School helpful in easing the change from Primary to Secondary			89%	4%	7%	
I found the Primary 7 Parents' evening visit to Perth High School to be useful			82%	4%	14%	
<p>ISSUES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S1 Parents' Evening was after the questionnaire. Hence, the 20% "Don't Know" rate • Need to find ways of involving parents in hearing important information about their child's stage of education. The 6.45pm meeting is not particularly popular. 						

9)

THE SCHOOL ITSELF	strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	
There is a good range of extra-curricular activities at the school	19%	70%	10%	1%	
Pupils are encouraged to take part in the wider life of the school	14%	69%	17%	0%	
The school is well-equipped	10%	77%	12%	1%	
The school presents an attractive learning environment	5%	65%	26%	4%	
The school buildings are suitable for modern education	4%	67%	23%	6%	
The school buildings are well-maintained	3%	52%	27%	5%	13%
The school is kept clean	2%	41%	36%	9%	12%
The school is well led	20%	74%	5%	1%	
The headteacher is approachable and helpful	29%	63%	7%	1%	
The rectorial staff are approachable and helpful	22%	62%	6%	0%	10%
Guidance staff are approachable and helpful	28%	64%	8%	0%	
Subject teachers are approachable and helpful	15%	66%	6%	1%	12%
Teachers set high standards for their pupils	11%	69%	7%	0%	13%
Parents are treated well when they visit the school	28%	71%	1%	0%	
School uniform is important	59%	39%	1%	1%	
The lunch hour is too long	6%	15%	65%	14%	
There are some school rules which I don't agree with (please specify in Section 9).	1%	4%	81%	14%	
Parents have a responsibility to ensure that their own children behave well	67%	32%	1%	0%	
The school takes bullying very seriously	27%	66%	6%	1%	
The school deals effectively with bad behaviour	17%	55%	14%	2%	12%
Some parents are too tolerant of bad behaviour	43%	56%	1%	0%	
The school has a good reputation in the community	28%	67%	5%	0%	

- ISSUES:**
- Cleaning
 - Maintenance
 - Strong perception that some parents are too tolerant of bad behaviour by pupils