

# National School Opinion Survey Analysis

## Parent Comments 2022

In 2022, the bi-annual National School Opinion Survey was distributed to parents, staff and Year 5 and 6 students. Hawker Park Primary School (HPPS) has 151 families, 39 staff members and 55 Year 5 and 6 students. There were 75 parent returned surveys (50%) and 27 (18%) started but not submitted; 27 staff returned surveys (70%) and 46 student returned surveys (84%). Within each survey, there were a total of 31 questions; 20 standard questions and 9 developed by the school in line with our Business Plan.

The last two questions were added by the school and gave opportunity for parents to give an opinion on what the school was doing well and an opinion on how the school could improve. As half the school's parent population did not complete the survey, the following were the opinions of only 50%.

In response to the Doing Well question, 33 of the possible 75 parents did not comment. Consequently, the responses came from 42 parents, 56% of respondents or 28% of our total population of 151 families. Many of the responses covered more than one category, hence 64 responses were recorded and 'grouped' into 6 main categories.

1. **Teaching/learning** – including, climate, play-based/EC, Mental Health, ICT, SMARTS - 23 (36%)
2. **Communication/consultation** – including Class Reps, COVID, feedback, responding to concerns - 19 (30%)
3. **Values** – 9 (14)
4. **Staff** – including Teachers and Administrators - 6 (9%)
5. **Culture** - Community Feel and P&C – 5 (8%)
6. **Environment** - Class sizes and Grounds – 3 (5%)

From the above, the teaching and learning category was the most mentioned which is understandable as teaching and learning is the school's core business. In past surveys, communication and consultation was generally of a concern and as a school, personnel focussed on this area to improve so it is rewarding to note that parents are satisfied with the school's communication and consultation processes with parents.

The third category, values, is an area that all students and staff are aware of and try to implement. To read positive comments about the school's values is gratifying with 14% being the third highest within the six categories.

In the staff category, 9% of the positive comments centred around the teachers and administration. Although this appears to be a low percentage, it should be obvious that all staff are basically involved in the preceding categories of teaching and learning, communication and consultation and values.

Within the culture category, 8% of comments pertained to the community feel of the school and the work of the P&C while the category of environment, 5% of comments mentioned the school grounds and the small class sizes, which, as a school, was a conscious decision to form.

Responses to the How Can HPPS Improve question, 36 parents of the possible 75 parents did not comment. Consequently, the responses came from 39 parents, 52% of respondents or 26% of our total population of 151 families. Some of the responses covered more than one category, hence there were 41 responses that 'grouped' into 6 main categories.

- 1 **Teaching/Learning** – including younger vs older, ICT, inclusion, connect, BFG, G&T, teachers out of class - 12 (29 %)
- 2 **Communication** - including younger vs older students, both parents - 7 (17%)
- 3 **Environment** – including seating, play areas, sails or cover for bikes, colour, fence, tired play equipment - 7 (17%)
- 4 **No Change or improvements needed** - 6 (14%)
- 5 **Programmes** – including swimming, Art, approaches - 4 (10%)
- 6 **Other** – including Kiss/Drive duty, properly fund canteen, personal negative comments - 5 (12%)

From the above 41 responses, 13 comments were constructive and could potentially be implemented subject to funding.

The 13 productive comments were: -

- Add colour to the exterior of the school grounds such as a mural / painting.
- Shade sail over existing bike racks.
- Increased variety of play areas for year groups at break times.
- Arts program - may include more artist incursions.
- Better seating & separate undercover areas for different classes to eat & play, instead of sitting on concrete & playing in rain.
- Teach students how to use useful tech e.g. Microsoft.
- Fence around perimeter?
- Having a teacher on duty at the kiss & drive.
- Improve online learning with connect so students can work from home if unwell.
- More arts integration.
- More classes accessing the BFG as part of their learning experience.
- The playgrounds seem tired.
- Undercover area for bikes.

Some of the other suggestions made included those which the school is already undertaking such as a focus on the Gifted and Talented, inclusivity and ensuring both separated parents are communicated with. Other suggestions were greater communication and continued play-based learning beyond the early childhood years and one comment referred to the Canteen.

A few suggestions were personal opinions that cannot feasibly be implemented without further discussion and information from the persons making them. From the school level, the invitation for communication is always open.

Working with the school board, an operation plan will be devised to implement constructive suggestions made by parents.