

# Gracemount High School – Parental Survey March 2022

## You Said – We Did

In total, 163 parents/carers responded to our survey. Please see details of the responses below.

| Question Number | Question                                     | Head Teacher Response   |
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| 1               | My child likes being at this school          | <p><u>75% strongly agreed or agreed</u><br/> <u>12% Neutral</u><br/> <u>13% Strongly disagreed or disagreed</u></p> <p><b>Statement:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A key focus of our school is to continue to provide relevant, meaningful and engaging learning activities for all students built around positive caring relationships. Post-covid we understand the importance of working hard to re-engage all students in the value of education.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key actions for School Improvement Plan (SIP):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued focus on developing high-quality learning and teaching experiences through implementing our teacher toolkit.</li> <li>Continued focus on high quality relationships and developing visible adult consistencies of kind, caring and calm.</li> <li>Continued focus on developing curriculum structure and offer to ensure we meet needs of every pupil</li> </ul> <p><b>Other:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encouragement of wider range of extra-curricular experiences to promote engagement and sense of belonging with school.</li> </ul> |
| 2               | Staff treat my child fairly and with respect | <p><u>87% strongly agreed or agreed</u><br/> <u>7% Neutral</u><br/> <u>6% Strongly disagreed or disagreed</u></p> <p><b>Statement</b></p> <p>We have consistently aimed to embed our visible adult consistencies of kind, caring and calm across our school community. We understand the importance of our pupils feeling respected and knowing that they are being treated fairly. As Head Teacher it is my expectation that all adults in our school will continue to embed these consistencies.</p>  |

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|   |   | <p><b>Key actions for School Improvement Plan (SIP):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued focus on high quality relationships and developing visible adult consistencies of kind, caring and calm.</li> <li>Ensure all staff are equalities trained</li> <li>Introduce equalities training for our Pupil Leadership Team</li> </ul>  |
| 3 | I feel that my child is safe at the school  | <p><b>85% strongly agreed or agreed</b><br/> <b>7% Neutral</b><br/> <b>8% Strongly disagreed or disagreed</b></p> <p><b>Action:</b><br/> Our key school values of Responsible, Respectful and Safe are consistently promoted across our school community. Through our Rights Respecting School approach, we will continue to prioritise the need for all children to feel safe at school. All staff have been equalities trained and have taken part in refresher training to ensure that we are equipped to address any equalities/bullying issues in line with local authority policy.</p> <p><b>Key actions for School Improvement Plan (SIP):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued focus on Rights Respecting Schools with a particular focus on <a href="#">Article 29</a>.</li> <li>Continued focus on sustaining and developing high quality relationships and developing visible adult consistencies of kind, caring and calm with all staff.</li> <li>Ensure all staff and equalities trained</li> <li>Introduction of equalities training for our Pupil Leadership Team</li> <li>Reintroduce <a href="#">Mentors in Violence Programme</a> (MVP) with senior pupils.</li> </ul> <p><b>Other:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Health and Safety committee to look at all aspects of building safety including continued pupil misuse of fire exits.</li> </ul> |
| 4 | The school helps my child to feel confident | <p><b>65% strongly agreed or agreed</b><br/> <b>17% Neutral</b><br/> <b>18% Strongly disagreed or disagreed</b></p> <p><b>Statement:</b><br/> A key responsibility of any school is to promote wellbeing and confidence in young people. As we emerge from the pandemic we will refocus our efforts on ways in which we can improve pupil confidence. We will speak to pupils and parents about ways in which you feel we can support this.</p> <p><b>Key actions for School Improvement Plan (SIP):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pupil focus groups led by the key staff to discuss how the school can further develop pupil confidence.</li> </ul>   |

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|   |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parent focus groups led by key staff to discuss how the school can further develop pupil confidence.</li> <li>• Clear focus on continuing to improve attendance as a wellbeing strategy understanding that improved attendance in school can often lead to improved confidence in young people with regards to learning and socialisation.</li> </ul>  |
| 5 | I feel staff really know my child as an individual   | <p><b>64% strongly agreed or agreed</b><br/> <u>19% Neutral</u><br/> <u>17% Strongly disagreed or disagreed</u></p> <p><b>Statement:</b><br/> Ensuring we have at least one member of staff that knows each child and their family well is very important. Normally this would be your child’s Pupil Support Leader. We aim to timetable PSE to try to ensure that your child’s Pupil Support Leader teaches your child to facilitate this. We have also introduced our ASN database which gives teachers access to important information about your child if they have an additional support need. This allows them to consider how they teach your child when in class. We will continue to prioritise ensuring that we know and understand each individual child’s needs alongside working with their families. Any parent who feels that the school can be doing more is always encouraged to make contact with the school.</p> <p><b>Key actions for School Improvement Plan (SIP):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to develop the school’s ASN database and ensure all staff are accessing relevant information to supporting knowing and understanding pupil needs.</li> </ul> |
| 6 | My child finds their learning activities hard enough | <p><b>72% strongly agreed or agreed</b><br/> <u>12% Neutral</u><br/> <u>16% Strongly disagreed or disagreed</u></p> <p><b>Statement:</b><br/> Our Teaching and Learning group have worked hard this session to introduce our Teaching and Learning Toolkit. This is based on the most up-to date research and is designed to develop and more consistent and high-quality approach to learning and teaching. This includes ensuring we are providing challenging, relevant and stimulating learning experiences.</p> <p><b>Key actions for School Improvement Plan (SIP):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roll out Teaching and Learning Toolkit.</li> <li>• Focus on learning visits with identified faculties to support self-evaluation and quality assurance procedures.</li> </ul>  |
| 7 | My child receives the help he/she                    | <p><b>72% strongly agreed or agreed</b><br/> <u>12% Neutral</u><br/> <u>16% Strongly disagreed or disagreed</u></p>   |

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|   | needs to do well   | <p><b>Statement:</b><br/>We understand how important this is and encourage any parent/carer to contact their child’s Pupil Support Leader in the first instance if they feel their child is not receiving the help they need.</p> <p><b>Key actions for School Improvement Plan (SIP):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Build in opportunities next session to directly ask all parents and carers this question and respond promptly and accordingly to any issues raised.</li> </ul> <p><b>Other</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contact all parents and carers that have raised a concern regarding this issue.</li> </ul>  |
| 8 | My child is encouraged by the school to be healthy and take regular exercise | <p><b>73% strongly agreed or agreed</b><br/><b>17% Neutral</b><br/><b>10% Strongly disagreed or disagreed</b></p> <p><b>Statement:</b><br/>In line with Scottish government guidelines we continue to ensure we deliver 2 periods of Physical Education per week to S1-S4 pupils, with many pupils opting to take PE as a subject in either a “School of” option in S1/2 or as an elected subject in S3-6. We offer many extra-curricular activities at lunchtime or after school to promote wellbeing.</p> <p>Our PE curriculum ensures all pupils are taught about the physical and emotional benefits of regular exercise and we will aim to continue to promote this as part of our overall approach to supporting wellbeing.</p>   |
| 9 | The school supports my child’s emotional wellbeing                           | <p><b>73 % strongly agreed or agreed</b><br/><b>17% Neutral</b><br/><b>10% Strongly disagreed or disagreed</b></p> <p><b>Statement:</b><br/>Post pandemic, supporting our children’s emotional wellbeing has never been more important.</p> <p>All schools across Scotland have been able to introduce school counselling services and we are also working with the “Back on Track” service via Goodtrees community centre to provide additional supporting for mental health issues.</p> <p><b>Key actions for School Improvement Plan (SIP):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prioritise continued support for pupils that need access to mental health supports through engaging with partner services.</li> <li>• Train key staff in mental health matters programme and share training with all staff</li> </ul> |

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| 10 | My child is making good progress at the school  | <p><a href="#">74 % strongly agreed or agreed</a><br/> <a href="#">13% Neutral</a><br/> <a href="#">13% Strongly disagreed or disagreed</a></p> <p><b>Statement:</b><br/> Good progress is achieved through children attending school regularly and the highest quality learning and teaching happening in classroom. We also want to look at ways in which we can keep parents and carers updated more often regarding progress.</p> <p><b>Key actions for School Improvement Plan (SIP):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Further develop the effective use of assessment in S1-3 to support progress in learning</li> <li>• Focus on developing highest quality learning and teaching ensuring all staff are involved in continuous professional learning to improve practice.</li> <li>• Continue to implement our improving attendance strategy.</li> <li>• Trial more regular tracking with identified cohort of pupils.</li> </ul> |
| 11 | I receive helpful, regular feedback about how my child is learning and developing e.g. informal feedback, reports | <p><a href="#">57% strongly agreed or agreed</a><br/> <a href="#">21% Neutral</a><br/> <a href="#">22% Strongly disagreed or disagreed</a></p> <p><b>Statement:</b><br/> We are looking at ways in which we can enhance our tracking and monitoring of progress with learning.</p> <p><b>Key actions for School Improvement Plan (SIP):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluate current tracking and monitoring procedures, including consideration of more regular monitoring and tracking periods, considering any changes to systems used at local authority level.</li> </ul>   |
| 12 | The information I receive about how my child is doing reaches me at the right time                                | <p><a href="#">57 % strongly agreed or agreed</a><br/> <a href="#">21% Neutral</a><br/> <a href="#">22% Strongly disagreed or disagreed</a></p> <p><b>Statement:</b><br/> With only 57% strongly agreeing or agreeing this is clearly and an area for development.</p> <p><b>Key actions for School Improvement Plan (SIP):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As above</li> <li>• Develop a whole school approach to raising cause for concerns and communicating with home</li> </ul>   |
| 13 | I understand how my child's progress is assessed  | <p><a href="#">69% strongly agreed or agreed</a><br/> <a href="#">12% Neutral</a><br/> <a href="#">19% Strongly disagreed or disagreed</a></p> <p><b>Statement:</b><br/> We will aim to work on developing our parents and carers understanding on how we assess progress in learning.</p>  |

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|    |  | <p><b>Key actions for School Improvement Plan (SIP):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Offer a family learning session on assessment in S1-3 and S4-6 for key subject areas</li> </ul>  |
| 14 | The school gives me advice on how to support my child's learning at home               | <p><u>57% strongly agreed or agreed</u><br/> <u>16% Neutral</u><br/> <u>27% Strongly disagreed or disagreed</u></p> <p><b>Statement:</b><br/> With only 57% strongly agreeing or agreeing this is clearly an area for development. We will aim to engage with our teaching and learning school improvement group and parents/carers on this issue next session to improve our work here.</p> <p><b>Key actions for School Improvement Plan (SIP):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Direct our teaching and learning school improvement group to consult with parents/carers on how best to support learning at home.</li> <li>• Offer bespoke family engagement sessions in key subject areas</li> <li>• Begin to implement knowledge organiser and assessment approaches in BGE and share this with parents/carers</li> </ul> |
| 15 | I would like the school to organise activities where my child and I can learn together | <p><u>44% strongly agreed or agreed</u><br/> <u>34% Neutral</u><br/> <u>22% Strongly disagreed or disagreed</u></p> <p><b>Statement:</b><br/> We will work closely with our parent council and family support worker (Mrs Wilson) to offer meaningful and relevant activities for parents/carers. We are looking at ways in which we can make this a very straightforward process and encourage joint learning through knowledge organisers linked to assessment activities. More information will follow.</p> <p><b>Key actions for School Improvement Plan (SIP):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Begin to implement knowledge organisers and assessment approaches in BGE and share this with parents/carers.</li> <li>• Offer bespoke family engagement sessions in key subject areas</li> </ul>                          |
| 16 | The school takes my views into account when making changes                             | <p><u>58% strongly agreed or agreed</u><br/> <u>31% Neutral</u><br/> <u>11% Strongly disagreed or disagreed</u></p> <p><b>Statement:</b><br/> The school will engage and consult with parents and carers over key issues such as our mobile phone and dress code policies.</p>   |
| 17 | I feel comfortable approaching the school with questions,                              | <p><u>85% strongly agreed or agreed</u><br/> <u>9% Neutral</u><br/> <u>6% Strongly disagreed or disagreed</u></p> <p><b>Statement:</b></p>   |

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|    | suggestions and/or a problem  | <p>We are pleased that so many parents and carers feel comfortable in approaching the school and will continue to encourage all parents and carers to contact us as required. We understand the importance of this and welcome all types of feedback.</p> <p><b>Other:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For the parents/carers that indicated they were not comfortable (responses were anonymous) you are encouraged to contact me directly at the school to discuss this matter. I would very much welcome the opportunity to listen to your concerns and will do what I can to rectify this.</li> </ul>   |
| 18 | I feel encouraged to be involved in the work of the Parent Council                | <p><u>53% strongly agreed or agreed</u><br/> <u>32% Neutral</u><br/> <u>15% Strongly disagreed or disagreed</u></p> <p><b>Statement:</b><br/> I will work with members of the parent council on this issue and consider ways in which we can encourage more involvement from a wider range of parents and carers.</p>  |
| 19 | I am kept informed about the work of the Parent Council and/or parent association | <p><u>67% strongly agreed or agreed</u><br/> <u>23% Neutral</u><br/> <u>10% Strongly disagreed or disagreed</u></p> <p><b>Statement:</b><br/> We will aim to share the work that our parent council undertakes with all parents and carers through regular updates to our school website. We have recently developed this page and one member of our parent council has been nominated to work with our business manager on the parent council page on our website. Once updates are made we will contact all our parents/carers to provide them with the link and information.</p>  |
| 20 | I am satisfied with the quality of teaching in the school                         | <p><u>71 % strongly agreed or agreed</u><br/> <u>18% Neutral</u><br/> <u>11% Strongly disagreed or disagreed</u></p> <p><b>Statement:</b><br/> We will share our Learning and Teaching Toolkit with parents and carers next session so there is a shared understanding of how we deliver and teach lesson at GHS. By developing that understanding and asking for feedback from the young people we aim to continue to improve our approaches to learning and teaching.</p> <p><b>Key actions for School Improvement Plan (SIP):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Roll out Teaching and Learning Toolkit across all faculties in our school.</li> <li>Through planned classroom visits with identified faculties we will work collectively to support the further development of learning and teaching.</li> </ul> |

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| 21 | The school is well led and managed                              | <p><a href="#">79 % strongly agreed or agreed</a><br/> <a href="#">15% Neutral</a><br/> <a href="#">6% Strongly disagreed or disagreed</a></p> <p><b>Statement:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We will continue to do our very best with all aspects of improving our school and aim to regularly consult with you regarding the direction we are taking the school.</li> <li>The Senior Leadership Team will all prioritise continuing professional learning for all aspects related to school leadership.</li> <li>As Head Teacher I have applied and been accepted for the in the Excellence in Headship stretch programme. A national professional learning programme aimed at HT's with over 5 years' experience.</li> </ul>   |
| 22 | The school encourages young people to treat others with respect | <p><a href="#">79% strongly agreed or agreed</a><br/> <a href="#">17% Neutral</a><br/> <a href="#">4% Strongly disagreed or disagreed</a></p> <p><b>Statement:</b></p> <p>The school continues to promote its school values of Responsible, Respectful and Safe alongside its gold Rights Respecting status as often as possible with all pupils. This will continue to be promoted through assemblies and through work in classrooms.</p> <p>Specific pupil programmes include our <a href="#">Humanutopia Heroes</a> programme and we are aiming to introduce our Mentors in Violence programme next session. These are both designed to give pupils leadership opportunities in supporting better behaviour and more respectful relationships.</p> <p><b>Key actions for School Improvement Plan (SIP):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduce our Mentors in Violence programme next session.</li> <li>Further develop our Humanutopia Heroes programme.</li> </ul> |
| 23 | I would recommend the school to other parents                   | <p><a href="#">72 % strongly agreed or agreed</a><br/> <a href="#">21% Neutral</a><br/> <a href="#">7% Strongly disagreed or disagreed</a></p> <p><b>Statement:</b></p> <p>The school will aim to continue to provide as high quality and educational experience as possible and work with our community so that we can continue to make our school a place that makes our whole community proud.</p>   |
| 24 | Overall, I am satisfied with the school                         | <p><a href="#">80 % strongly agreed or agreed</a><br/> <a href="#">12% Neutral</a><br/> <a href="#">8% Strongly disagreed or disagreed</a></p> <p><b>Statement:</b></p> <p>To improve our school, we will aim to continue to focus our school improvement priorities in key areas such as learning and teaching,</p>  |

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|    |  | attendance and engagement and promoting positive behaviour and curriculum.  |
| 25 | My child's school deals well with bullying | <p><b><u>49% strongly agreed or agreed</u></b><br/> <u>35% Neutral</u><br/> <u>16% Strongly disagreed or disagreed</u></p> <p><b>Statement:</b></p> <p>We have trained all staff in equality and bullying issues and as a result have seen a considerable increase in reporting of such issues. We record all issues in line with authority policy. We feel very confident in our approach to encouraging the reporting of incidents and the managing of these. We ensure we engage with parents/carers and young people at every step to ensure there is clear communication around decision making on these issues. All our staff are equalities trained and we are aiming to train our senior pupil prefects in this area too.</p> |

**Request for contact to be made:**

14 parents requested contact from members of the Senior Leadership Team. This has been actioned through the month of May.