



## Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School

### "Nurturing curiosity and inspiring imagination"

Summer Term (2021/22)

Dear Parent/Carer

I'm delighted to say that we had 43 responses to this terms parent/carer survey, 2% = 1 response. Thanks to everyone who took time to complete the questionnaire, your views are important to help us continue to improve as well as celebrate the things we do well. There are a couple of comments in the questionnaire about things we haven't previously been made aware of. Just a reminder that if you do have any questions or concerns, in the first instance please speak to your child's key worker or the room leader. This gives us the opportunity to resolve any issues promptly. If we know, we can help.

Here is my analysis of your responses as well as replies to the comments made.

Marcia Atherton  
Head teacher

### Parental Questionnaire Analysis, May 2022

	<b>SUMMER TERM 2021-22</b>	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
1	My child is happy at Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School	76%	22%			2%
2	I think that my child feels safe at Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School	82%	18%			2%
3	My child is well looked after at Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School	82%	17%			2%
4	My child enjoys the activities at Sandy lane Nursery and Forest School	86%	17%			2%
5	I am treated like a partner in my child's education	78%	20%			2%
6	I feel informed about my child's progress	72%	26%	2%		
7	My child is making good progress at Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School	76%	22%			2%
8	I understand that supporting my child to engage in with the home learning set will support their learning and progress	72%	28%			
9	My child enjoys the home learning activities shared by nursery	70%	28%			2%
10	I am aware and supportive of the schools promotion of health and wellbeing with	72%	28%			

	children and families (recipes, workshops and tooth brushing)					
11	I think that the children at Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School are well behaved	66%	28%			6%
12	I think staff work effectively with the children to resolve conflicts	70%	24%			6%
13	I receive regular communications from the nursery about events e.g. the newsletter, Tapestry messages	72%	28%			
14	Staff are approachable and school responds well to any concerns I raise	76%	22%			2%
15	The school is led and managed well	82%	18%			
16	I would recommend this school to another parent	78%	20%			2%
17	How did you hear about Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School? (Please tick your answer)	I have had a previous child here 30%	From a friend/relative 34%	From the website 4%	Facebook 2%	Other (please specify): 30%
18	<p><b>For any 'disagree' and 'strongly disagree' please expand upon these answers</b></p> <p>It's about my child's progress. I don't feel informed through the Tapestry app and I have the impression that my child is not making progress recently.</p> <p>Staff are available to talk with parents/carers briefly at drop off and/or collection. Parents/carers wanting a more formal chat are able to request a meeting with the room leader/keyworker. Observations posted by staff are linked to areas of development and staff summaries children's learning at the end of each term. Within this termly document there is also a prompt for parents/carers to make an appointment to speak with staff should they wish. We would urge parents/carers who have any questions about their child's progress to speak to their key worker. I also published a short article in our Spring 2 newsletter titled 'How do I know my child is making progress?' which you may find helpful. If you are experiencing difficulties accessing Tapestry a member of staff is available in the staffroom each Tuesday (Tapestry Tuesday) after drop off to help, there is guidance on our website under the parents tab or please just speak to a member of staff in your child's room. If you have any other suggestions on how we can keep you informed about your child's progress please let us know.</p> <p>We also had the following comment:</p> <p>Fabulous nursery and forest school. It's a hidden gem that we need to keep telling others about. Consistent dedicated staff and Rainbow room has been amazing for G and us. We would love to see 30 hours being offered at standard for those children able to do. We would love to offer 30 hours to all children who are entitled but simply don't have the capacity.</p> <p>It is something we are currently exploring (see my response under 'What could we change or make better?') and 'watch this space!' ☺</p>					
19	<p><b>Can you give an example of something Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School has done which has made a positive difference to your child AND/OR you as a family.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Have sent PECS cards home for us to use</li> <li>2) Supported with M's toilet training. Always supportive with any issues I have inside or outside of nursery with both girls</li> <li>3) Nursery staff have always gave me piece of mind in regards to my child. With his extra needs they have always cared for him how I would and the progress he has made with the environment is fantastic. I can't thank them enough</li> <li>4) K's speech has come on a lot, more than helped with his potty training, socialising and interacting with other children.</li> <li>5) Making it an easy and understandable process for further education help. Understanding D's needs and sensory issues and helping him to self-regulate. Always gives support and advice. Nothing is too much for the staff, always chatty and friendly. Understanding D's behaviours when he's having a bad morning.</li> </ol>					

- 6) when her dad was poorly they supported me and her with this and explained things that she wanted to know
- 7) My child is now asking to use the toilet and being open with wanting to use the toilet he has become more polite and grown up since being at nursery with other children
- 8) The staff are instilling confidence in B to explore new things. She is encouraged to develop relationships with her peers and is encouraged and praised for all the little victories in her journey!
- 9) this nursery is second to none the support they have have offered me through some of the toughest times of my life has helped me and J more than I could put into words, I recommend Sandy Lane to anyone who will listen, J has come on leaps and bounds since starting, nothing is too much trouble for the staff, they always go above and beyond to help in anyway they can. I'm eternally grateful to all members of staff for everything they do for myself and J's education and wellbeing.
- 10) A enjoys every aspect of nursery and I am happy with her development since attending Sandy Lane
- 11) they did help to ease A's distress when he initially started and now he goes in to nursery with minimal tears ready to learn each day
- 12) helped B to come out of his shell he is now so much more confident and happy lots of people have seen such a big difference in B also have been given support around getting B a specialist pram
- 13) Home learning bags, helping O with speech.
- 14) F to Sandy Lane with limited speech and I feel like her confidence has grew so much with being there and her speech has come on leaps and bounds I. I can't thank the staff there for everything they have done for her so far!!!!
- 15) S can be shy at times but in feel like she has grown in confidence and is just shining in everything she does there
- 16) B's confidence in Nursery has grown, he is very comfy with the staff and now calls the other children his friends.
- 17) my child is Polish speaking and I can see improvements in English
- 18) H's behavior is much better
- 19) His feeding has improved through snack time as the staff try him with new things and slowly he is eating more independently
- 20) M has learnt a lot of new things like helping mum to clean up messes in the house, cleaning. She has become very disciplined and responsible
- 21) B loves parents session. She enjoys spending this special time with a grownup and show them around nursery.
- 22) G transitions well thanks to the consistent and safe environment & staff. G is happy at nursery and trusts staff and feels safe. He is making progress which is lovely when in a non specialist environment he was regressing as his needs were not understood. Parent groups and speaking with parents who understand has been invaluable. Support from Kirsten regarding next steps to school has been wonderful and regardless of how much time is needed to support parents she is always there and ready to listen. I feel Sandy Lane is the whole package, child and parent support in an honest, realistic and approachable way.
- 23) Helped H become less shy and to come out of his shell more around people
- 24) Supporting my daughter with her development
- 25) Helped S with his speech
- 26) Since he start nursery in September his English start be very good, now he can speak in Polish and English,
- 27) H's speech and social side are coming out a lot more with help from nursery
- 28) toilet training
- 29) i will always thank sandy lane nursery for being such a big part of F's development. He has come on leaps and bounds since starting, the staff have gone above and beyond to make sure his needs are met, they have pushed for diagnosis when I didn't know how or what to do, we really would have struggled the last few years without the staff at sandy lane. They are like family we really appreciate everything they have done for us
- 30) teaching G how to share
- 31) The staff understand the importance of routine for A and give her time to understand what's happening next. A walks into nursery with a big smile on her face. A has built a beautiful bond with the staff and it's so lovely to see how much she has come along. Sandy Lane has a warm and comforting environment.
- 32) D loves her teachers and friends
- 33) C was a clingy little lad when he first started out, Sandy Lane staff have been brilliant with him and within a week C had settled in. He loves coming every day and gets really upset when he's unwell and he can't go because he misses Jo. Sandy Lane and forest school have help me with the gusto boxes which has been amazing to receive as its helped to make a meal that the kids wouldn't normally eat. I

	<p>received a couple pair of shoes for my kids as with having a few kids can be a struggle sometimes, so was very very grateful to receive these. I love helping out on a Tuesday afternoon with sorting the school uniforms that have been placed, as it gets me out of my house and out of my own head, might only been a 5 minute thing, but it makes me feel good that I've been able to help the staff out of one little job and they can concentrate on other important tasks. I love joining in with the meeting each term to help with ideas to help nursery, and love the chats with other parents/ carers has this has helped me a little bit with my confidence. My children love going to forest school each week and I enjoy joining them when we get chance. Seeing them getting so involved in the activities and the concentration and passion on the face fills me with so much delight.</p> <p>34) The staff at Sandy Lane are gentle and nurturing and have helped my child to trust and build relationships with other adults</p> <p>35) R learned lots of new things from sandy lane forest school and she always enjoy her time in school</p> <p>36) Thanks to lot of singing and Makaton language A started to communicate with us much more</p> <p>37) It has been excellent at learning my child how to form new friendships</p> <p>38) Behavior management</p> <p>39) Staff are extremely supportive and understanding of my son. The parent group is a great way to meet other parents in similar situations.</p> <p>40) All the lovely ladies at Sandy lane have helped M so much not only learning but her confidence too</p> <p>41) It has really helped A with his social skills he's come on so much and is so much more comfortable around people now</p>
18	<p><b>How has Tapestry helped with sharing information about your child's learning and ideas home learning?</b></p> <p>1) Talk</p> <p>2) We're able to do more activities at home that we wouldn't normally do</p> <p>3) I love to see what they get up to and see how happy they are</p> <p>4) It was ok</p> <p>5) Constant updates that are lovely to see. Great picture evidence and notes about my child</p> <p>6) Because it's let us know how he's been doing, what he's been learning and it also lets us know what we need to do at home to help him progress.</p> <p>7) Good to see what he gets up to in nursery as its something i cant physically share in. Gives me ideas to do at home</p> <p>8) Good</p> <p>9) Well explained, easy to use</p> <p>10) We love having a sneak peak at activities that B is engaging in and all the fun she is having</p> <p>11) love to see what J is up to in Nursery and what I can continue at home</p> <p>12) I love receiving updates of what A does at nursery and communicating with what she does at home</p> <p>13) It has helped but I've noticed they don't upload much about what the children have done at all</p> <p>14) Not had much posted at all lately about what B has been learning or doing in nursery but I do get a really good handover everyday</p> <p>15) Helps a lot for my child</p> <p>16) I love the fact we can share home news with the teachers and see how much she is doing in nursery.</p> <p>17) Amazing</p> <p>18) Tapestry has provide information and pictures of tasks B has joined in</p> <p>19) By writing good advice</p> <p>20) Such a great help</p> <p>21) We love seeing the photos and videos of him playing and laughing during the day.</p> <p>22) Tapestry is very informative and has helped me to know about my child's progress in school. Hence, as a parent, I am able to fill the learning gaps at home.</p> <p>23) Thanks to tapestry I'm able to read beautiful learning observations about my daughter.</p> <p>24) It helps to see what steps G has made and any interest he has developed do we can embrace this and continue at home.</p> <p>25) It has helped quite a bit as we can learn and enjoy things to do to help Hat nursery</p> <p>26) Easy to look at at home</p> <p>27) To keep updated with everything</p> <p>28) Every sometimes teaches let me know by Tapestry how is my child development, thank you</p> <p>29) I enjoy seeing what H is up to at nursery</p> <p>30) I get informed without talking to a member of staff</p> <p>31) I love seeing what F gets up to when I'm not there. Tapestry also gives us ideas for activities, especially ones I've never thought to do before</p> <p>32) A has a short attention span and prefers to follow her own agenda so sometimes can be hard to carry out the home learning activities.</p> <p>33) Staff is very nicely</p>

	<p>34) We love the updates on Tapestry, we also have a look and talk together about her day.</p> <p>35) Don't get much on there about what he has done but there is good ideas for home learning it is hard to do them sometimes but he does enjoy playing and doing a lot of them</p> <p>36) I love looking on tapestry and seeing what things C is learning in the week. He loves reading his book each week, (could be same book some weeks, love how he has favourite books) He gets so involved when he's singing some of the songs he's learning.</p> <p>37) Tapestry is an easy and very accessible way to be an active partner in my child's education. It provides discussion topics that we can use at home to base creative activities round.</p> <p>38) like the home learning activities and all those story books and role play toys</p> <p>39) I am up to date with everything and it is easy to navigate</p> <p>40) Lots of ideas and recipes that I wouldn't have thought of trying</p> <p>41) M does a lot of sign language and practices at home via the videos on tapestry.</p>
19	<p><b>As a parent/carers, what do you like best at Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School?</b></p> <p>1) Nice and helpful core staff</p> <p>2) How the staff celebrate every milestone</p> <p>3) That I'm involved in their learning and get to do activities with them such as cooking and forest school</p> <p>4) His key workers and the staff involvement and understanding of my child's needs</p> <p>5) I like the fact K absolutely loves going, he loves exploring and being outside etc sandy lane allows him to do that. He loves all his friends and teachers. Every morning when he wakes up his first words are 'nursery time'</p> <p>6) How the staff treat my child, how friendly and understanding they all are. They make a fabulous team and everyone of them is appreciated.</p> <p>7) the staff and all the things the children do</p> <p>8) The kind teachers</p> <p>9) The wonderful staff who really care about the children; their progress, well-being and happiness.</p> <p>10) The staff and forest school</p> <p>11) I love the ethos of the setting and everything it has to offer</p> <p>12) Staff are friendly and always happy to help</p> <p>13) The staff really do care for B and are as proud of him when he achieves something than I am which is amazing</p> <p>14) Everything is good about the nursery.</p> <p>15) How welcoming and friendly and approachable all staff are!</p> <p>16) How friendly all staff are</p> <p>17) The atmosphere in the room is friendly and warm. The staff are approachable and helpful. I also love the outside set up.</p> <p>18) approach to healthy eating</p> <p>19) The best thing is that my child looks forward to come to sandy lane and that's the best feeling knowing your child enjoys it!</p> <p>20) Its lovely to know that when he's in nursery, he is happy and safe. The staff all look after him so well and he enjoys being there.</p> <p>21) All inclusive teaching and learning approach. I am able to participate in my child's educational programmes</p> <p>22) Forest school and the lovely outdoor space.</p> <p>23) The whole package!</p> <p>24) How comfortable it feels and how the teachers are approachable and helpful</p> <p>25) Lovely staff</p> <p>26) Knowing he's doing lots of different activities including going outside in forest school</p> <p>27) Forest school, he can't stop talking about</p> <p>28) Kind staff</p> <p>29) That my child is making progress</p> <p>30) How lovely and approachable everyone is, how understanding they are, they really have each child's best interests at heart</p> <p>31) Forest School</p> <p>32) The teachers fully understood A's needs and are patient and gave her time and support for her to come out her comfort zone. Teachers follow a child centred approach. For example when she first started at Sandy Lane A used to have meltdowns when going outdoors but now she is willing to explore all areas during outdoor play. Also the pram is A safe zone and staff let A use the pram during transitions throughout the day and in return A was more comfortable in taking part in activities. A thrives off routine and staff make sure A knows what's happening next through visuals.</p>

	<p>Sandy Lane exceeds in promoting diversity and inclusion and A is always greeted with a smile and hello every morning which is lovely to encounter. Sandy Lane has a nurturing environment.</p> <p>33) Everything, D will be very sad to be leaving soon!!</p> <p>34) I like how welcoming the staff are to everyone, and if there is any problems there is always someone there with a listening ear, they have helped me out with many things and I'm ever so grateful for everything you have done for me. Sandy Lane staff are slowly feeling like family to me now as I've been there that long.</p> <p>35) The gentle, calm atmosphere and high level of nurture provided by trauma informed/aware staff.</p> <p>36) As a parent I like about sandy lane nursery and forest school is good for my daughter because while she playing she learns lots of new things</p> <p>37) Small groups, friendly staff, lot of time outside</p> <p>38) Very friendly and lots of learning opportunities for children.</p> <p>39) The teachers</p> <p>40) Everything</p> <p>41) The facilities and staff</p> <p>42) How they keep us up to date with M's progress</p> <p>43) It's a lovely nursery and can see that A is happy to go into nursery to see his teachers and friends</p>
20	<p><b>What could we change or make better?</b></p> <p>Lots of parents said 'Nothing' in addition to the other comments below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Just keep doing what they are doing</li> <li>2) Nothing needs to change about the nursery I like everything about the nursery.</li> <li>3) I am more than happy</li> <li>4) Perfect the way they are.</li> <li>5) You are amazing</li> <li>6) Nothing as it seems lovely and helpful and a nice place to be</li> <li>7) I can't think of anything! It is excellent in all respects and will always be my first choice nursery.</li> <li>8) I don't think there's is anything to change</li> </ol> <p>We also had the following suggestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parents parking in disabled bays without a blue badge. I understand it's a busy carpark but as the parent of a sen child in a sen provision with a blue badge, it is important that access to these spaces aren't taken up by people who should not be using them. This is important due to safety, and we have disability badges for a reason.</li> <li>• Abuse of blue badge parking by nursery families makes it difficult for disabled children attending. I realise this is difficult for you to do anything about.</li> </ul> <p>We are aware that during busy periods it can be difficult to find a parking space, especially a blue badge space, due to this being a busy multi-use site. Unfortunately we aren't able to extend the car park so the staggered times for drop off and collection with the onsite PVI was established to try to reduce the number of families using the car park at any one time. Users from the different buildings on site are required to display a pass if they are staying longer than drop off or collection with the aim of ensuring only campus users are parking here and that they are parked appropriately. We also regularly patrol the car park to try to ensure people are parked correctly. To help further I have sent out reminders to other campus users. I do understand how frustrating it is when this situation occurs and will continue to all I can to alleviate this issue.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not making my child wear the wet suits on forest play on Wednesdays as he really hates them and I can see they make him upset and uncomfortable.</li> </ul> <p>We encourage parents/carers to help change the children into the waterproofs for forest school. This clothing helps to keep the children warm, dry and protects thing like their everyday coats. We understand that this clothing can be unfamiliar to some children. If you talk with your child's key worker they can arrange for you to take a set of waterproofs home for your child, it may help your child to become more comfortable and familiar with these items. Alternatively, if you would prefer to purchase something your child is happier to wear and bring this into nursery staff can ensure this is available for forest school sessions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It would always be lovely to see more sneak peaks on Tapestry.</li> <li>• H hasn't been at sandy lane for long, I would like to know more about what he's like at nursery but totally understand how many children there are and it would be difficult/impossible to keep parents updated all of the time</li> <li>• More posting on Tapestry of activities with O</li> </ul>

We all enjoy the observations and photos/videos staff post on Tapestry, and those posted by parents/carers too. As you can imagine these do take time to compile and posting more would reduce staff's key role of engaging with the children and supporting their learning and development. Staff are available for a brief chat at drop off/collection if you want to find out a little more about your child's day and for a more detailed conversation you can make an appointment to speak with the room leader or their key worker

- A recommendation with Tapestry is I can get 30 plus emails a day sometimes. I then have to delete them all. If replies from Parents or carers were set to go to staff rather than everybody, just a suggestion ☺.

Great suggestion as I understand that this can be frustrating but unfortunately this facility isn't currently available on Tapestry. We will make enquiries to see if they are able to offer a solution.

- Talk to parents more about the child's progress

Staff are always available at drop off/collection for a brief chat and if you require a longer conversation we recommend you make an appointment to speak with the room leader/key worker. In addition to the regular Tapestry observations linked to learning children's progress is formally shared with parents/carers at the end of each term. At this time parents/carers are also invited to speak with their child's key worker if there are any issues they wish to discuss although, if you do have any questions about your child's progress please don't feel you have to wait until this time, If you have any other suggestions on how we can share children's progress please speak to your child's room leader.

- my baby cries a lot when I left him at school and I wish the staff would take better care of him after my departure

Our staff are very experienced in helping children to settle in and we are aware that sometime children can appear distressed when separating from parents/carers at the start of the session. Staff are always on hand for a cuddle or to distract children. We usually find that children do settle quickly once parents/carers have left and staff often post a picture on Tapestry to show you your child is happy playing after just a short time. Please be assured that if your child continued to be upset after a short time following drop off, staff would ask to speak with you to discuss how we can help with this transition. Please speak with the room leader or your child's key worker for reassurance.

- More sensory books being sent home. He's had a couple and really enjoyed being able to interact when we read to him.

It's great to hear that the new sensory books we purchased recently have been a big hit ☺, We will continue to try to expand the range we have available in our lending library in the coming months.

- Increase provision for children with SEN so that children have more opportunities to learn and development. This would also allow more parents to work if chosen to knowing the children are safe and in the best learning environment. It's this type of support the LA need to invest in as it's this support that makes a difference to the child and families in such a positive way.

We have a set number of places in Rainbow Room and are full each year, in fact we regularly have more applications than we have places! We do offer a limited number of additional hours for children attending our Rainbow Room, as well as breakfast and after school club, but these are taken in our mainstream Garden Room to ensure we have spaces to support lots of children with SEND and their families. We would certainly love to expand our specialist provision and offer even more places to families of children with SEND. It's something we are looking into, with support from the Local Authority, and we all have our fingers crossed for a positive outcome in the future ☺