



## Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School

### "Nurturing curiosity and inspiring imagination"

Autumn Term 2 (2021/22)

Dear Parent/Carer

I'm delighted to say that we had 50 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.

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

Marcia Atherton  
Head teacher

### Parental Questionnaire Analysis, November 2021

	<b>AUTUMN TERM 2 2021</b>	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
1	My child is happy at Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School	94%	4%			2%
2	I think that my child feels safe at Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School	84%	14%			2%
3	My child is well looked after at Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School	90%	8%			2%
4	My child enjoys the activities at Sandy lane Nursery and Forest School	90%	10%			
5	I am treated like a partner in my child's education	80%	12%			8%
6	I feel informed about my child's progress	80%	20%			
7	My child is making good progress at Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School	76%	22%			2%
8	My child enjoys the home learning activities shared by nursery	50%	32%	2%		16%
10	I think that the children at Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School are well behaved	62%	32%			6%
11	Staff work effectively with the children to resolve conflicts	68%	24%			8%
12		86%	14%			

	I receive regular communications from the nursery about events e.g. the newsletter, Tapestry messages					
13	Staff are approachable and school responds well to any concerns I raise	88%	12%			
14	The school is led and managed well	86%	12%			2%
15	I would recommend this school to another parent	92%	6%			2%
16	How did you hear about Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School? (Please tick your answer)	I have had a previous child here 34%	From a friend/relative 26%	From the website 6%	Other (please specify): 32%	
17	<p><b>For any 'disagree' and 'strongly disagree' please expand upon these answers</b></p> <p>We had one 'disagree' which was related to home learning:</p> <p>1)D won't always join in with the home learning with me or just point blank refuses to focus on the activity. <i>We appreciate that not all children will choose to engage in each of the home learning activities offered and letting your child's key worker know if this is the case is really helpful. Staff aim to offer motivating activities for every child and look forward to seeing home learning Tapestry posts. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's engagement in the home learning provided please speak to their key worker.</i></p>					
18	<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> <p>1) A learnt how to spell her name within a matter of weeks of starting at Sandy lane</p> <p>2) G is now having his sensory/educational needs met and he has become a lot calmer when at home because of this</p> <p>3) From day one both boys and myself have received so much support. I was always listened too when I had a problem or question with the boys or needed extra help. Staff helped without hesitation. Staff always go that extra mile.</p> <p>4) They have done everything positive towards my child.</p> <p>5) M has always been there for me to talk to about any concerns and she strives to make Nursery the best for our children. I think M is an outstanding Head Teacher.</p> <p>6) Helped my daughter to progress. Great support</p> <p>7) D absolutely loves her time at nursery at comes home each day excited to tell us about what she's learnt or done. It's so nice to listen about her day and a nice way to get us all talking and watching her little dances.</p> <p>8) C has become close friends with another child. Unfortunately that child has been off poorly for past two weeks. When L started becoming upset about missing her friend sandy lane staff helped L to play with other children. Improving her social skills and helped her feel happy again.</p> <p>9) Been so welcoming when E was upset for the first couple of weeks leaving me.</p> <p>10) Just the simple fact that he learn to share and take turn made a difference in M's development, because we were having some difficulties with him before he started nursery. He didn't share and he cried a lot. Now is more relaxed in sharing things with others.</p> <p>11) Always supported me with any issues I have with B ie his eating or sensory needs and always given new things to try and kept up to date about what he's eating in nursery</p> <p>12) Staff have been hugely welcoming to B, putting her at ease and engaging her in activities.</p> <p>13) K would not leave my side or speak to anyone but me K comes out of nursery very happy and full of confidence sandy lane has helped K to become himself</p> <p>14) O receives specialist care and high support from staff.</p> <p>15) Been supportive and understanding of C's attachment issues</p> <p>16) L is very happy here, she's always got lots to talk about when she comes home about her day. Staff are very approachable. Just a lovely environment.</p> <p>17) A-R is always talking about the fun her and her teacher K have, she always calls K her best friend so to see her love she has in school she brings home with her and is always smiley &amp; happy every day without fail.</p> <p>18) Improve on the home learning activities</p> <p>19) My child has become much better with eye contact and interacting with me at home better</p>					

	<p>20) They've been extremely helpful and understanding during T's physical problems, and have always been accommodating when he's been poorly and/or spent quite a lot of time off. They have always supported his learning and continue to work on areas he's struggling with, he's coming on leaps and bounds because of the work Nursery are doing with him. As a parent that struggles with anxiety, the nursery has always been friendly and approachable, and every time we've had issues they talk to us and help us to understand what's going on. We feel really supported by this.</p> <p>21) Given 1 on 1 to my son to make him feel safe and happy</p> <p>22) Its given us the confidence to know he is happy and safe outside the home environment.</p> <p>23) M and K have organised it so that there is another staff member present at the end of the day so that M can be with E-S if she is struggling to stay sat down ☺</p> <p>24) Gave our Son a chance.</p> <p>25) Calm, consistent and caring approach. Highly skilled staff. Positive difference is G smiles going into nursery and knows the staff in his room and happily goes off to start his day. It's wonderful that G is not distressed in nursery. When G is 'sad' staff are amazing and look at factors/ reasons for this abs implement calming strategies to help him. Attending Sandy lane has made a massive difference to G &amp; us as a family knowing he enjoys it and staff are able to support us in learning different ways of supporting G's needs.</p> <p>26) I feel that A has a very good relationship with his teacher and that puts my mine and my families mind at ease after spending so much time isolated during Covid 19. It brings me so much warmth to know that he enjoys what he does in nursery and has a good relationship with his teachers and friends.</p> <p>27) Been very supportive with F development and try their very best to liaise with parents to work out what's best for children</p> <p>28) Helped with H's speech and encouraging him to push himself to resolve problems.. for an example when he tries to do something in the forest school instead of just asking for someone to help him they encourage him to try resolve the problem himself</p> <p>29) Helped my daughter settle in very well and making friends. And potty train</p> <p>30) I have so many. The most recent, getting everything ready for D from the educational psychologist, ehcp referrals, reports and so on. Plus all staff are very understanding and supportive and realise raising and caring for an additional needed child can be tiring. Always there to give support and a friendly smile.</p> <p>31) She has become more confident</p> <p>32) His communication has improved</p> <p>33) My child is Romanian, since he went to kindergarten he has learned to speak English, to go to the toilet alone, to learn good manners, and much more. Thank you very much for your help</p> <p>34) I feel like R is coming out of his shell more since he has started nursery</p> <p>35) I love home learning . This is my opportunity to spend some quality time with my child and learn together as a family. B loves to share her home learning with all children in her class. .</p> <p>36) The staff at Sandy lane have supported me and my children through one of the hardest times of my life they are all amazing people who truly care for myself and my children's welfare</p> <p>37) Very good nursery and staff</p> <p>38) Started to speak more</p> <p>39) Have good advice when needed &amp; easy to speak to. Encourage confidence in the children. Fantastic nursery/ forest school.</p> <p>40) Wild variety of activities such as yoga, learning about other cultures</p> <p>41) Making friends and learning</p> <p>42) Forest school classes</p> <p>43) Ever since S has been at nursery he is so much better at sharing as he is an only child he's never really had to share, it makes play time between S and I fun!!</p> <p>44) Yes</p> <p>45) Offered support and guidance heading in the right direction with referrals etc.</p> <p>46) Big progress within my child she coming on great all ready for next year</p> <p>47) She has built some amazing relationships with children her age</p> <p>48) It's so nice to be updated on the progress of our child and he is always coming out happy and you can tell that he is comfortable</p> <p>49) Since COVID I didn't take my child out as much and she loves socialising with children her own age and loves her independence</p>
19	<p><b>How has Tapestry helped with sharing information about your child's learning and ideas home learning?</b></p> <p>1) Gives good ideas and links to work alongside.</p> <p>2) We're able to see G take part in activities that he wouldn't normally do</p> <p>3) It's great to be able to contact staff out of school hours with both boys homework or things they are proud of and want to share. Staff always respond and praise the boys.</p> <p>4) It's positive about the tapestry app good way how to see what my does in and out of nursery.</p> <p>5) Tapestry is easy to access and updated by staff on a regular basis.</p>

- 6) Been easy to use
- 7) Tapestry has been amazing, I love seeing what D has been doing daily. We love looking at her pictures together and we love seeing her big smiles and having so much fun with her friends.
- 8) Absolutely fantastic. The amount that is shared with parents is brilliant. Gives upcoming planning and helps share ideas about home activities. Good to use to communicate with staff . And has been used to encourage parents to be involved with children's education and attend meetings.
- 9)Tapestry is fab .I love seeing what E has been learning and doing in nursery, and sharing things we have been doing at home.
- 10) It helped a lot because we try to repeat what he does in nursery and add more information in, we have more time at home. We try to teach him a lot throughout picture and crafts.
- 11) I don't think I've ever seen any home learning and it's lovely to see updates on things B has enjoyed and done in nursery gives us ideas of things we can do at home together
- 12) I love the updates and insights shared through Tapestry of B's progress in nursery. It is also a lovely way to support learning at home with activities that are linked.
- 13) Tapestry is an amazing way to share K's progress in nursery and at home.
- 14) I am able to see what works for O at nursery and replicate this at home.
- 15) Makes sharing easily accessible
- 16) It's a lot quicker and easier to communicate. It encourages Lottie at home as I say should we show your teachers and friends and she loves that.
- 17) I'm not a big fan off tapestry, I would much prefer some home learning sheets as try to limit the kids from being on a computer and like to interact more. (please see the response to this comment in the 'What could we do better' section below)
- 18) It gave instructions
- 19) It's nice to see what the children are doing
- 20) Tapestry has been absolutely amazing, not only for seeing how much he's enjoying himself but to give us ideas on what we can do at home with him. We have taken ideas off of tapestry often and T has loved them every time.
- 21) Otherwise I wouldn't be able to visualise what he's done without seeing the photos and videos
- 22) We love seeing the photos and videos... more please!
- 23) We love to see what E-S has been up to at nursery, it's really nice to see her enjoying her time there.
- 24) Yes
- 25) When we see something George has progressed with or enjoyed we can try this at home.
- 26) It has been amazing to see what A has been up to in nursery and I think it's really good that I can put on what A is doing at home as so the teachers are familiar with what he doing at home and can engage with him further as can I at home with him as I don't think I would get to know half of what he does in nursery.
- 27) I worry about F at nursery so being able to see him when I'm at home is great I love being able to see him having fun it puts my mind at rest
- 28) Keeps us parents on the same page so H is getting the same learning from home and nursery
- 29) Yeah a few ideas
- 30) Seeing what D takes part in / plays with, helps me to buy similar items for home.
- 31) Yes, I love seeing photos of her online enjoying herself
- 32) We see things he enjoys at nursery and try to recreate the experiences
- 33) I get to see so much of what R gets up to and I love it, it helps me to feel better.
- 34) It's very easy and useful. I can communicate with the teachers and upload any learning my daughter is doing at home. .
- 35) It's lovely to see what he enjoys doing away from the family home
- 36) Helps
- 37) I can see from the pictures what is he doing
- 38) Makes you feel very involved in your child's education. I love seeing her pictures! But I sometimes do struggle to log in.
- 39) I love the idea of sharing photos of my child's nursery life, they will be nice memories.
- 40) Its great to see what my son is doing in nursery and reading the teachers reviews about how he is doing
- 41) Really helps
- 42) Amazing I love it, I feel involved and love seeing updates of Sammy at nursery
- 43) Yes
- 44) Good to see what children are up to in class as I don't always get an answer when asking about things they had done that day.
- 45) Yeah great keep updated
- 46) Gives activities to try at home
- 47) It's helped by just simply letting us know how our child is getting on in nursery as it is a big step for him

	48) Love seeing pictures of my child enjoying herself and seeing what she has done so I can show her and try to talk about it with her and always asks if she liked it and her reply is always yes
20	<p><b>As a parent, what do you like best at Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School?</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Love the forest school! To be honest the whole provision is amazing and A absolutely loves coming to nursery.</li> <li>2) I like how my child is treated as an individual and how well looked after he is.</li> <li>3) Each staff member has different qualities that they bring to the boys leaning. You are all amazing. The boys have come on so much since being with you.</li> <li>4) I like everything about sandy Lane nursery and forest school.</li> <li>5) That R is happy at nursery and that he gets to do all sorts of different things from Forest School to celebrating Diwali.</li> <li>6) Rainbow room is great and B and S are lovely</li> <li>7) Everything- Everyone is very welcoming and friendly and I think that it's gave all my children the best start before starting big school.</li> <li>8) Honestly everything.</li> <li>9) Think it's an excellent nursery the forest school is amazing and E loves exploring there.</li> <li>10) I like that it has a forest school. It improves the childs mood and that they can imaging that they are in an adventure.</li> <li>11) The support B gets from each member of staff is amazing I can tell he really enjoys being there and is supported in every aspect</li> <li>12) The staff - they are simply outstanding. Knowledgeable and incredibly caring, providing a wonderful environment for children to develop and learn.</li> <li>13) Sandy lane is one of the best choices I made for K all staff are amazing and are easy to approach for whatever reason.</li> <li>14) How well informed I am about O and how staff are supportive of him.</li> <li>15) The whole set up. Friendly and professional staff and a child led approach to teaching.</li> <li>16) How happy L is and the support I have if needed.</li> <li>17) How loving and caring the school is. Every teacher is always full of smiles and helping support the little ones with potty training and learning. And do it in such fun ways to make the kids want to do it more.</li> <li>18) Forest school</li> <li>19) Kind teachers</li> <li>20) I like that the teachers/staff are very transparent. They let us know everything we need to know about T's day, and they're very helpful if we are having any issues.</li> <li>21) The friendly caring staff</li> <li>22) The staff and how they take care of him.</li> <li>23) That the children get to enjoy lots of different activities</li> <li>24) Great set up and lots of space.</li> <li>25) Everything is wonderful! The environment is amazing however wouldn't be as amazing without the highly skilled, approachable and great staff.</li> <li>26) I love that A he the opportunity to go to forest school and have access to outdoors so much.</li> <li>27) Friendly welcoming and feel like part of the family</li> <li>28) The staff are amazing</li> <li>29) How much my daughter enjoys it and the staff are easy to talk too</li> <li>30) The way my child is cared for and his needs understood. D is very laid back but recently been lashing out and head banging, the staff understand him and support him throughout.</li> <li>31) All the activities the children do</li> <li>32) The staff, they are so helpful and I feel extremely confident that they love their roles in the children's lives</li> <li>33) The quality and gentleness of the staff, the help offered at any time and about anything</li> <li>34) I love the updates on tapestry and seeing the activities R gets up to.</li> <li>35) Teachers engagement with my daughter. They overall knowledge about her likes and dislikes. I know that my child is safe and very well looked after while I'm at work.</li> <li>36) Everything I honestly can fault a single thing I think forest school is what really makes this nursery stand out in the crowd</li> </ol>

	<p>37) All school and staff so good  38) That they make my child excited to come to school  39) Everything! Great activities, lovely staff, lots for the children to do. Keep parents involved.  40) Would definitely recommend.  41) The whole setting  42) The staff, and the school as a whole  43) Teacher give lot of attention to children, A really enjoy time spending in nursery  44) The forest school, S adores the outdoors. It's brilliant  45) Nice people  46) Welcoming friendly approachable staff. So much for the children to do, including Forest School.  47) Everything staff placement can't fault anything  48) The fact she gets to go in 5 days a week it gives her a routine  49) That the staff are approachable and seem really lovely and kind  50) Everything is fair between all the children. Never wet or dirty sometimes dirty from playing but that's what she's there for. R is always happy once she's in her class and always seems to have a good day.</p>
21	<p><b>What could we change or make better?</b>  Lots of parents said 'Nothing' in addition to the other comments below:</p> <p>I don't feel anything needs to be changed!  Nothing you are all amazing I couldn't ask for better  Nothing at the moment. It's perfect like that  There is no changes needed everything sandy lane does is excellent.  At this moment in time there isn't anything I feel that could be improved  Honestly nothing comes to mind.  You are brilliant  I don't think there is anything to change or make better  I think everything done at this Nursery is bang on the mark for everything my child and previous children have needed</p> <p>We also had the following suggestions:</p> <p>More blue badge spaces for parking.  Make the parking a little bit bigger  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. Users from different buildings on site are required to display a pass if they are staying longer than drop off or collection to ensure only campus users are parking here and that they are parked appropriately. We also regularly patrol the car park to ensure people are parked correctly. Unfortunately we don't have the facility to extend our current parking area at this time.</p> <p>Sometimes there's a mix up with clothes but that's it.  I know you will appreciate that often children have the same coats or hats and as well as sweatshirts, if your child wears our school uniform. Staff do their very best to ensure any items are returned to their owner and we ask parents/carers to help us by writing their child's name in everything!</p> <p>Maybe trips to different places if possible. Some nurseries have small animals like hamster / fish help children with their PSHE development.  We use our minibus to take small groups of children on short trips to further their interests as well as community walks and over the year all children have these opportunities. Already some children have been to the local library, the supermarket to buy ingredients for cookery and The Puddle Project and we look forward to many more trips in the coming months. The idea of a nursery pet is lovely but as we are only open in term time we would need to carefully consider who</p>



would look after any animal when the school was closed. All our staff work so hard I know you will agree that they deserve a well-earned break during their holidays ☺

I would say do more home learning as sheets or task to do rather than online. But I do love Tapestry to see what A gets up to in school which is fantastic to see.

We all love to log in to Tapestry for the photo updates and observations posted by staff. In addition to the range of home learning bags which we are now able to send home we use Tapestry to share home learning ideas with parents/carers. These are things like collecting leaves and making an Autumn picture, going on a Gruffalo hunt, a short video of the Makaton signs of the week or finding out facts about how Harvest is celebrated. Tapestry is used to share these ideas as it's quick for parents/carers to access and we can ensure everyone receives a copy. We are also trying to reduce the use of paper in nursery and printed copies can easily get lost. If you would prefer to receive a paper copy of the weekly home learning please just speak with your child's key worker who will be happy to help. Staff also post a link to the story being shared with the children that week to enable parents/carers to revisit the story at home but if you prefer not to share stories on line you could always visit the library or you may have the book at home.

Tapestry seems to be quite delayed when you upload something it doesn't always show until days later.

Instructions on how to get the most out of Tapestry, e.g. how to upload photos of him doing activities at home that are relevant.

We weren't aware of any delay with Tapestry so thank you for pointing it out. Let's hope it's just a short term issue but it's something we will monitor. To help you add your own posts to Tapestry our nursery website <https://www.sandylanenurseryandforestschoo.co.uk/> contains information on how to upload photos and write posts. You will find it in the 'Parents' tab under 'Tapestry'. If you are experiencing any delay or difficulty with Tapestry please speak with your child's key worker who will be happy to help.

**Offer extended private hours in the rainbow room**

Happily Rainbow Room is full each year meaning that we can support lots of children with SEND and their families, however this means that we don't have the space to offer any additional paid for hours for children attending. We do have a limited number of breakfast club, after nursery and 30 hours places available for all children. We would certainly love to be able to offer extended hours in rainbow room but simply don't have the pupil places available at present.

**More stay and play days**

I know how popular these sessions are and we are really pleased to be able to re-establish them this year. We start to offer sessions as soon as staff are confident children have settled in to the nursery routines and can manage changes to these. So far this Autumn term we have invited parents/carers to forest school sessions, healthy eating cookery sessions, grandparents gardening session and invitations have been posted on Tapestry for our Christmas Stay and Play. Staff have also planned a number of parent/carer and child workshops and stay and play sessions for the rest of the school year. We will be sharing the dates for these events in the half termly newsletter and on Tapestry. If there are any other sessions you would like us to include please let your child's key worker know and we will try to include them. We look forward to seeing lots of you at the next stay and play session ☺

**Getting in and out of Garden Room through crowded parents/carers and children stopping to take off and hang up coats.**

We are aware that this area can get congested which is one of the reasons we have a staggered start in the morning, allowing children to arrive between 8.30am/12.30pm and 8.40am/12.40pm. It is helpful for children to take off their coats at the start of their nursery session as many need help and parents support is appreciated. If you have any suggestions on how we can improve things please speak to your child's key worker.

