



Barrowby Church of England Primary School

Reception Questionnaire 2025

Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you for completing the survey regarding your experience of your child starting here at Barrowby CE Primary School. We had 12 responses from a possible 34. 8.33% = 1 response.

We asked the following questions:

Is this the first child in your family to attend Barrowby School? Yes 75%
No 25%

Before you applied for a primary school place:

Did you look at the school's website before you applied? Yes 92%
No 8%

Did you find the website useful? Yes 83%
No 8%
N/A 8%

Did you visit the school before applying for a place? Yes 67%
No 33%

Did you find the visit helpful? Yes 67%
N/A 33%

Did you feel that you had sufficient information about the school before you applied? Yes 92%
No 8%

Thank you for your comments.

It is pleasing to note that the majority of parents felt they had sufficient information about the school prior to applying for a place. Most families engaged with the school's website, and the vast majority found it helpful in informing their decision.

For those who visited the school before applying, every respondent reported that the visit was beneficial in helping them understand the school environment and ethos. With 75% of families being new to Barrowby School, it is particularly positive that the available information—both online and through in-person visits—successfully supported parents during the application process.

The Induction Process

Did you attend the Induction meeting for parents/carers? Yes 100%

Did you find the meeting helpful? Yes 100%

Did you find the information pack useful? Yes 100%

Did you find the forms easy to understand and complete? Yes 100%

Did your child enjoy the induction sessions? Yes 100%

Did you feel that these sessions helped your child to be ready for school? Yes 83%
No 17%

Thank you for your comments.

We are delighted to see that 100% of respondents: Attended the Induction Meeting, Found the meeting helpful, Found the information pack useful, Found the forms clear and easy to complete and Reported that their child enjoyed the induction sessions. These results reflect the hard work of staff and the value of building strong partnerships with families from the very beginning of your child's school journey.





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It is reassuring to note that the majority of parents (83%) felt that the induction sessions helped their child to be ready for school.

Our induction sessions are carefully designed to support both children and their families as they make the transition into Reception. These sessions include: Play-based activities that help children become familiar with the classroom environment, opportunities for children to meet others who will be joining the school, helping to build early friendships and confidence, time for children to explore routines in a relaxed, nurturing way and a welcoming chance for parents to meet staff, learn about the school and ask questions.

We truly appreciate your feedback. It is extremely pleasing that the vast majority of families found the overall induction process helpful and supportive in preparing their child for school.

We continue to review and refine our induction programme each year to ensure that children feel confident, secure and excited for the start of their learning journey – and that parents feel well-supported throughout.

Starting School

Did you find arrangements on your child's first day helpful?	Yes	100%
Do you feel that your child has settled into school life well?	Yes	100%
Are you satisfied with the level of home-school communication?	Yes	92%
	No	8%
Is your child enjoying school?	Yes	100%

Thank you for your comments.

It is extremely encouraging to note that all respondents felt that the arrangements in place for starting school were helpful and effective, and that every child has settled into school life well. We are also delighted that 100% of parents report that their child is enjoying school.

During the first term, parents have a wide range of opportunities to come into school, meet staff, and engage in their child's early learning experiences. These include: Induction Weeks, Harvest Festival, Parent/Teacher Consultations, Reception Curriculum Workshop, Family Games Night, Christmas Service and Reception Christmas Assembly. These events are designed to give meaningful insight into school life and help establish strong relationships between families and staff.

As a school, we continually aim to communicate in a clear, effective, and timely manner. We offer a wide range of communication channels, including: letters, School Newsletter, Facebook updates, School website, Open-door policy for quick conversations or concerns, Pre-arranged meetings with staff, Parent/Teacher Consultations, Annual Reports, Children's Reading Records, which we encourage parents to use as part of regular communication with teachers. We recognise that most parents (92%) feel satisfied with the level of home-school communication. We remain committed to reviewing and improving this continually.

We also feel it is important to clarify our approach to sharing day-to-day classroom activities. Unlike some settings, we do not use Tapestry or similar online portals for routinely posting photographs or daily updates. This is a deliberate choice. Creating, uploading, and managing photographs throughout the school day significantly reduces the amount of time teachers can spend with the children. Our priority is always to ensure that staff are engaged in: high-quality, face-to-face teaching, direct interactions with the children, and supporting pupils with meaningful, purposeful learning tasks. This approach aligns with our goal of helping children become Creative, Respectful, and Independent learners, and ensures that teaching time is used where it matters most – supporting each child's progress.



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Parents are encouraged to use the range of communication and engagement opportunities available, including attending consultations, reviewing their child's work, and reading newsletters and annual reports. Combined, these channels provide a clear and comprehensive understanding of how each child is developing and thriving at school.

Quality of Education-Parental Support/ Consultation

Did you attend one of the two Parent/Teacher Consultation Evenings?	Yes	100%
Were you happy with the standard of work in your child/ren's books that you saw at Parent/ Teacher Consultations?	Yes	92%
	N/A	8%
If you attended a Parent/Teacher Consultation , did you find it useful?	Yes	100%

Thank you for your feedback.

We are pleased that 100% of parents attended one of the Parent/Teacher Consultation Evenings and that all who attended found their meeting useful. It is also very encouraging that 92% of parents were happy with the standard of work they saw in their child's books.

One parent commented:

It was comforting to be able to look at the work that is being done in school as they are not forthcoming with information about the school day at home.

We completely understand this feeling. Many young children share only small snippets of their day—or sometimes nothing at all—once they get home. This is very typical at this age, and it can leave parents wanting more insight into what happens during lessons.

For this reason, our Parent/Teacher Consultations are designed not only to update you on academic progress but also to give you the opportunity to see your child's work first-hand. Being able to look through their books provides a clear picture of the learning taking place, the progress being made, and the skills being developed across the curriculum. We are pleased that families find this reassuring and informative.

We will continue to ensure that consultations provide high-quality opportunities for parents to:

- Review classroom work
- Discuss progress and next steps
- Gain a deeper understanding of the learning taking place
- Ask questions about how to support learning at home

Thank you for recognising the value of these sessions and for your continued partnership in supporting your child's education.

Behaviour & Attitudes

Does your child feel 'happy, valued and loved' most of the time	Yes	100%
Does your child feel safe at school?	Yes	100%
Do you think there is a good standard of behaviour?	Yes	100%

Thank you for your comments.

We are delighted that 100% of parents report that their child feels happy, valued and loved, feels safe at school, and experiences good standards of behaviour. These outcomes sit at the heart of our school vision.

We strive every day to create a nurturing environment where children feel secure, respected, and ready to learn. Knowing that families see this reflected in their children's experiences is hugely encouraging and reaffirms our commitment to helping every child grow into a creative, respectful and independent learner.



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Personal Development

Does your child's class teacher and other staff support/look after your child well?	Yes	100%
Does the school meet your child's particular needs?	Yes	100%
Do you think the teaching at Barrowby School is at least good?	Yes	100%
Do you think the school helps you as a parent to support your child's learning?	Yes	100%

Thank you for your comments.

The responses show exceptionally strong parental confidence in the school's work to support children's personal development. All parents (100%) feel that their child is well supported and cared for by their class teacher and other staff, that the school meets their child's individual needs, and that the teaching at Barrowby School is at least good. Parents also unanimously agree that the school helps them to support their child's learning at home.

These results reflect the commitment of the whole school team to nurturing each child's wellbeing, meeting their unique needs and ensuring high-quality teaching and learning.

It is pleasing to note that parents recognise the hard work that takes place every day and the positive impact it has on their children's educational and personal development.

School Events

Have you attended/ or planning to attend a church-based event? E.g Harvest Festival, Christmas Service	Yes	100%
If you have attended a Church based event did you enjoy it?	Yes N/A	83% 17%
Did you attend the Family Games Night organised by FOBs?	Yes No	17% 83%
If you attended the Family Games Night, did you enjoy it?	Yes N/A	17% 83%
Did you attended the Reception Curriculum Workshop?	Yes No	58% 42%
If you attended did you find it useful?	Yes N/A	58% 42%
Did you attend the Reception Christmas Assembly?	Yes No	92% 8%
If you attended the Christmas Assembly, did you enjoy it?	Yes N/A	92% 8%

Thank you for your feedback:

It is pleasing to note that parents value opportunities that connect them with their child's learning and the wider school family.

Parents also shared very positive feedback about the quality of events. One commented that activities are "organised really well; you can tell great thought and hard work goes on behind the scenes, and they're great opportunities to see what is going on at school." Another parent reflected on the Reception Nativity, saying it was "just perfect," noting that it was paced in a way that allowed the children to be engaged and enjoy the experience without it becoming overwhelming.



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Such feedback is greatly appreciated and highlights the value of providing meaningful, well-planned opportunities for families to share in school life and celebrate their children's achievements.

One parent commented:

"It would be nice to be invited into school to a non-rehearsed event. For example, to learn alongside our children or do an activity with them in class."

Thank you for your suggestion. We understand the appeal of being able to come into school for a more informal, non-rehearsed event where families can join in with learning or classroom activities. These experiences can feel meaningful for parents, and we appreciate that request.

However, we do not currently offer in-class activity sessions of this nature for the following reasons:

Our classrooms are carefully structured to help children feel secure, focused and independent in their learning routines. When additional adults enter the room, even for positive reasons, it can significantly change the atmosphere. Many children become distracted, overly excited, shy, or unsettled, which disrupts the natural flow of teaching and learning for the whole class.

A key part of our Early Years and school vision is helping children grow into creative, respectful and independent learners. Having parents working alongside them during lessons can unintentionally limit this independence, as children naturally turn to their parent for help, comfort or attention rather than developing confidence with staff and peers.

Not all parents or carers are able to attend sessions during the school day. Offering in-class learning events may disadvantage families who work, have siblings at home, or have other commitments. We want all children to have a fair and consistent learning experience.

Our priority is always to maximise high-quality teaching time. Planning, preparing, and managing in-class parent sessions takes staff time away from delivering the carefully-sequenced curriculum that supports children's progress every day.

Although we don't run in-class learning sessions, we do offer a wide range of opportunities for parents to engage with their child's learning and school life, including:

- Workshops (such as the Reception Curriculum Workshop)
- Seasonal and church-based events
- Parent/Teacher Consultations
- Assemblies, performances, and celebrations
- Open-door conversations with staff
- Regular updates via newsletters, Facebook, and the school website
- Opportunities to look through children's books at consultation evenings

These experiences are designed to keep parents connected without disrupting children's daily routines or the consistency of the classroom environment.

Wrap Around Care

Have you used our Breakfast Club and/or After School Club?	Yes	42%
	No	58%

Were you satisfied with this provision?	Yes	42%
	N/A	58%

Thank you for your comments.

It is pleasing to note that all those that use the provision are satisfied and speak highly of the provision.

Home/ School Communication

Have you set up your child/ren's Arbor Account?	Yes	100%
Have you been able to navigate the Arbor App to find the school communications?	Yes	100%
Would you like some further support in using the Arbor App?	Yes	17%
	No	83%
Do you read the weekly newsletters?	Yes	92%
	No	8%
Do you follow the school at Barrowby CE Primary School on Facebook as a means of staying up to date with school events??	Yes	83%
	No	17%
Do you use the school's website on a regular basis?	Yes	50%
	No	50%
Do you think the school keeps you well informed?	Yes	100%
Do you think the school responds to your concerns in a timely manner?	Yes	100%

Thank you for your comments.

Parents report that the school's communication is clear and timely, with 100% feeling well informed and receiving responses promptly. All families have successfully set up and can navigate Arbor, and most read the weekly newsletter (92%) and follow Facebook (83%) for photos and highlights; website use is evenly split. We will maintain our multi-channel approach, encourage families to follow Facebook for weekly snapshots, and provide light-touch Arbor support for the 17% who would like further help.

We appreciate that many parents find the Arbor app provides clear, regular communication and therefore do not always need to use the school website. Arbor is our main platform for day-to-day updates, and we are pleased to hear that families feel well informed through this system.

To ensure all parents are aware of what Arbor offers, the app allows you to:

- *Receive all school communications in one place*
- *View messages and notifications from the school*
- *Check attendance information*
- *View your child's school reports when published*
- *See details of clubs, visits, and consents*
- *Make payments (where required)*
- *Update personal details such as contact information*
- *Access key calendar dates*

Arbor provides quick, timely updates and is designed to make communication simple and accessible for all families. Alongside Arbor, the school website remains an important reference point. While it may not need to be visited regularly, it contains:

- *Curriculum information*
- *Policies and statutory documents*
- *Term dates*
- *Newsletters*
- *Useful forms and guidance*
- *Information about events, clubs and wider opportunities*

Together, Arbor and the website ensure that families have access to both immediate communication and comprehensive school information whenever they need it.

We recognise that while the website contains lots of useful information, it can sometimes feel busy. We have recently reviewed the site to improve navigation and ensured that key information is now no more than two clicks away. We will continue to refine and streamline the website so it remains easy for families to use.

We appreciate that parents receive a lot of information, and we recognise how important it is for communication to be clear, accessible and easy to action—especially on mobile phones, which most families use.

We are always looking for ways to improve usability, and we are grateful for suggestions about adding clickable calendar dates and making letters more smartphone-friendly.

As a school, we work hard to ensure key information is delivered in a straightforward format through Arbor and our weekly newsletter, and we are continuing to refine how these communications are presented.

We have recently reviewed our communication systems, and further improvements—particularly around mobile-friendly design—will be explored as part of our ongoing work.

Leadership & Management

Do you think the school is well led and managed?

Yes 100%

Thank you for your feedback:

The survey results show exceptionally strong confidence in the leadership and management of the school, with 100% of parents agreeing that the school is well led and managed. This reflects the consistent, visible leadership across the school and the strong operational systems that support pupils and families.

Parents also shared highly positive feedback about the way the school responds to concerns and communicates with families. One parent commented that "the school is managed to a very high standard," noting that leadership is proactive in addressing concerns and sharing timely information. They also highlighted the valued administrative support provided in school, describing notifications as relevant and much appreciated.

This feedback reinforces the strong partnership between home and school and reflects the caring, child-centred ethos recognised by families.

It is particularly pleasing to hear that parents feel the school team shows a genuine "caring" approach that does not go unnoticed.

Based on the feedback received from the Reception 2025 Questionnaire, the school will take the following actions to continue strengthening provision, communication, and parental engagement:

- continue to support parents who would like additional help navigating the Arbor App;
- continue refining the website structure, ensuring all key information remains no more than two clicks away and improving smartphone usability where possible; and
- explore enhancements to digital communication, including clearer formatting for mobile devices and the feasibility of adding clickable calendar dates to key letters and updates.

Once again, I thank you for your cooperation and assistance and look forward to working with all the stakeholders of our school, striving to enhance even further our provision and opportunities available to all.

Yours sincerely



Mr L Batey
Head teacher