

Parental Comments made in the Parent Survey of June 2021

Covid has had an impact on everyone. How do you feel the school responded to lockdowns?

I felt the school and all the staff were amazing over lockdown. They provided work to do at home but there was no pressure for all the work to be completed if it was not possible.

Very well given the circumstances. Lots of support and flexibility.

Staff were always there to help and support the children and parents if need.

I believe the school and all the staff did an exceptional job considering the circumstances. Happy with the quick and effective response to lockdown. Home schooling work set out very well on seesaw with routine key. Google classroom was an added benefit.

Very efficiently

Brilliantly, especially the home learning the 2nd time round.

Good

Fantastic! Considering the circumstances, they all done a fabulous job. I think the school were fantastic. I cannot praise the staff highly enough.

Second time better than first lockdown. I do feel that more live contact time with teacher and class mates would have helped with mental well-being especially for children with no siblings. 15 minutes a couple of times a week wasn't close to being adequate.

Excellently

Very well and I am happy for my child to attend school and feel safe.

Well organised

Amazingly well - and I've seen a number of schools (locally and nationally). Leechpool has been among the best. The near-instantaneous feedback on work made a huge difference to keeping our child on task.

Brilliantly. The dedication and support from the staff was outstanding.

Amazingly. My children were set work each day that was varied and interesting, they enjoyed watching their teachers videos and really liked the Google teams meetings seeing their friends. The measures put in place to help protect our children have been exceptional and implemented in ways that haven't disrupted the children or made them worried about coming to school. I honestly couldn't have asked for (or thought of!) any other procedures that could have been put in place.

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I think the school provided amazing home learning resources and worked hard to stay in contact with families during this difficult time. My children were in the key worker bubble and this was so well organised.

There was great communication with teachers

The first lockdown it took time to settle in but after that it was great.

Excellent! I think we all leant together, my child always had access to her teacher and was able to gain feedback on her work. Second Lockdown with a live morning meeting was a welcome addition!

Very well good communication

Excellent. We have really appreciated the home schooling support, the set-up, variety of activities and efforts to continue some form of interaction with teachers and class

I was highly impressed of Leechpool School's response to the Lockdowns.

Extremely well

Very well. Excellent pastoral support. Phone calls, messages from class teachers and letters from Mrs Letley were amazing and very appreciated. You were putting children's and parents' wellbeing first with the right amount of school work set, thank you.

I feel the school has been amazing and dealt with COVID and the impact to staff, children and parents in a sensible manner.

Well at the start but trying to get back to normal too quickly.

Well planned and swift reaction

The school responded very well, we are super pleased.

I thought the school responded very well but during the second school closure, teaching was exceptional.

I think the school responded amazingly well. The lessons were well communicated and planned. Teacher/pupil/parent communication was faultless. Brilliant job.

Exceeded my expectations compared to how other schools responded.

very well

I think the school did extremely well. The transition to Google Classroom was a bit slow but I appreciate the staff needed to learn how to use it first which probably slowed roll out down.

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Amazingly! Fantastic range of technology used which helped to ensure my child could work independently while I was working full time from home. The Teacher was always on hand and giving advice and support and regular feedback and the work set was brilliant as it allowed us to use the resources we already had at home. Also the teacher zoom calls helped a lot and the children got to see their friends. we were very impressed

Communication was great and we were well informed. The teachers made great efforts in keeping in touch with the children including personal phone calls to ensure all was OK. I was really impressed.

Home schooling was dealt with well, there was lots of support from teachers and a result my child remained happy throughout

Amazingly well, couldn't speak more highly of all the staff and their support
Really well aside from being pretty much the only school to open up for 1 day in January

Very well

What could the school have improved on or done differently during the lockdowns? 38 responses

Nothing. I truly feel you went above and beyond during this very challenging period.

Nothing

Second lockdown was better with Google classroom and flexible Fridays. Teacher videos on how to do work were great.

It would have been nice if parents had a platform for them to ask questions to the teachers so we could of supported our children more.

Occasional telephone or video calls between teachers and parents for catch ups and to raise any concerns would have been great but I understand the difficulty in doing this when the staff were already stretched.

Very happy with everything that was in place.

Given slightly less work during the school day as it was difficult to motivate my son to do it
Less work set that required daily input.

Maybe 1-2-1 once a week?

The online learning would benefit from being in 1 place and perhaps simpler to access things. You needed to have numerous logins, numerous sites were used and unable to log on more than 1 child which was incredibly frustrating (seesaw issues not the school)

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As before, more contact, more live time as a class. You focused on setting the work but the kids needed more social support.

Nothing.

I don't have any issues at all.

The school did their best to support the children and family.

Lockdown 2 provision in particular was great. We made a couple of suggestions for improvements (e.g., a couple of online lessons were a bit long, at any rate for our Y1 child - we politely fed this back to the teachers and they responded very well)

Nothing. They dealt with it excellently.

Nothing - the way everyone responded to such unprecedented times was commendable. As much as we want to get back to normal and get on like nothing happened, something massive has happened. My child in year 1 has still yet to complete a full academic year, so everything is still new. He asked me what a sports day was. He has no idea. They have jumped year groups and this has impacted on them being ready for the next year group. Such as being emotionally ready to take on the expectations of the next year group. As they have missed the time being prepared for the next year group. Equally I understand that some children need this demand put upon them as they are more emotionally mature and ready but I think not all children are ready. It's a really difficult time to see how and where each child is at, especially after such a disruptive 13 months.

Can't think of anything.

There was a lot of work that continued from the previous day. This was hard when both parents were working so some subjects got missed on certain days and then had to try and pick them up.

Maybe more live lessons but I understand this is difficult.

Maybe live lessons for core subjects

Nothing I can think of.

I don't think there is anything

N/A

Nothing!

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My son is in year 1. I would say the live sessions via Zoom which were introduced towards the end of the lockdown were very good but maybe slightly late. Could have done with slightly a longer one or perhaps several shorter ones by different teachers.

Supported working parents with home schooling more. I found some of the home schooling work difficult to explain to my children therefore some of the work didn't get done. The teachers were very supportive and understanding

I felt that some of the work and expectations set for my year 1 child was far beyond what should be expected for a 5-year-old.

In lockdown 1.0, the teachers could have connected to the children like they did during lockdown 3.0 with video meetings with the class for a few minutes to feel connected to the school.

Getting some form of online provision quicker would be the only improvement that could have been made.

I don't believe they could have improved they are at the top of their game in comparison to other schools in Horsham With how they responded to lockdown and I felt Leechpool led the way.

Maybe some lessons online instead of class meets.... But the work provided was fine and teachers always there to help if needed

Nothing, all was done really well

As above, but honestly they've been brilliant

Please add any other comments. Thank you 22 responses

Keep doing what you're doing!

Thank you for all the amazing work all the staff have done at Leechpool you are all an amazing team. I'm proud to be a parent at this school. 🙌

Thank you to all the staff at Leechpool for all the hard work during such difficult times. Although regular communications are sent and we see the occasional traffic warden, I feel that the parking situation is of great concern outside the school. I know this is not the fault of the school but caused by the actions of a minority of parents. I wonder whether more could be done around this. Maybe more visits from traffic enforcement or perhaps the children themselves could patrol and educate/embarrass the minority in to changing their behaviour around dangerous parking.

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We would like to know more of what they are learning to be able to support/ discuss at home. Also the tiered systems used in school, for example the reading colour scheme and maths tiers explained.

Thanks for your continued support.

It's a super school. Thank you for all you do.

I am so pleased that I chose this school for my son. In less than one school year (including a lockdown!) he has come on so much, not just academically but also with his social development and well-being and this is down to the fantastic staff team!

I am extremely happy with Leechpool for both of my children and can't thank all of the staff enough for everything they have done, and continue to do, for both of them.

I think you've all done amazing and continue to do everything you can to make the school a safe, fun and great learning experience for all the students. Thank you.

During both lockdowns when the school was closed, my child's teachers were fantastic, with daily communication and extra support when needed.

Overall, I think the school has done a fantastic job over the last year. I have two very different children but they both coped well with the learning they were given. I feel extremely lucky that my children have such great teachers and attend such a brilliant school.

No comments but wanted to say a huge thank you to all the staff, you all do a wonderful job!

Our year 1 child has come back with behaviours and vocabulary that we know haven't been learned at home. We have heard phrases towards siblings such as "do [x] or I am going to put you in a wheelchair." I am not sure what to ask the school for on this as I imagine it's hard to pin point when it happens. But if there was anything you could do to address it more broadly, that would be much appreciated.

Just an all-round well-oiled machine and everyone does their bit to make the school great.

Lower KS2 homework could be maths/literacy only.

I have twins at the school, one is a typically developing child and the other has SEND - both children are happy and content at school and have come on in leaps and bounds - even with COVID restrictions. I find all staff helpful and approachable and always want to go the extra mile. I have noted that my son has not been able to attend clubs, without me supporting, this is not a criticism, but a note point and I am sure this will change as he grows and is able to support himself better.

An amazing supportive school!

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Thank you for all the tremendous work you are doing!

Leechpool is a wonderful school. Both our kids are thoroughly enjoying their time there. I do think that there could be a bit more communication about how our kids are doing. Other than the online parent consultations there hasn't been anything further. I know that standardly there are only 2 parent consultations a year and then an end of year report but I don't think that's enough to gauge how the kids are doing.

I would like to express our thanks to Miss Thaddeus and Mr Dodd, along with the rest of the staff, for helping our daughter feel supported and comfortable through very unusual times. No one ever trained to deal with a pandemic and I think the school should be proud of how well everyone rose to the occasion. Thanks as well to Mr Barden who got me doing PE with Summer in my lunch breaks; a sight to behold 😊