

Cardinham School

Grow your mind; aim high.

Newsletter: 31
Friday 5th June 2020

Part of Truro & Penwith Academy Trust
& The Wheal Prosper Federation



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Be the SWAN

Safe
Welcoming
All together
Nurturing



What a wonderful first two days back - thank you to all of the pupils who have been able to return. You were a credit to your families and adapted incredibly well to the few changes in routines and set ups that we now have in school. When reopening school, we always kept in mind the SWAN framework; we will continue to do so as we reflect and review our current practice. Please read below for a brief overview of this framework.

Safe

We want you and your child to feel safe, calm and re-assured, and to know that it will be okay to come back to school. We have worked on creating an environment that is and feels physically and emotionally safe for all of us. We want to build up predictability and consistency around hygiene and other safety rules which school staff will role-model noticeably, and praise your child for following accordingly. We will support any child through any misunderstandings and refer to the benefits of what we are doing.

We want to invite suggestions from you and work in partnership so that you have a genuine voice in building this new normal for your children. We want you to feel involved and invested, and to start to re-inforce these rules and messages at home in advance of the children's return. We have already created an FAQ sheet to address some of your questions; please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any other questions.

This week we have involved the children to some extent in co-creating rules surrounding playtimes; if we work with them, they will have a sense of ownership and the rules would have more meaning for them.

Welcoming

When the children return, we want them to feel excited and happy coming into school and we want them to know that we are genuinely delighted to have them back and to be able to see them again. We have sincerely missed them. They will need to know that they belong, and feel a part of things and we will do everything we can to enable this.

All Togetherness

So, how can we create these warm, welcoming feelings of care and nurture? We need to create a truly inclusive environment in which the children feel surrounded by support, and know that they can rely on all the adults around them and that we are all reinforcing the same messages and sense of togetherness.

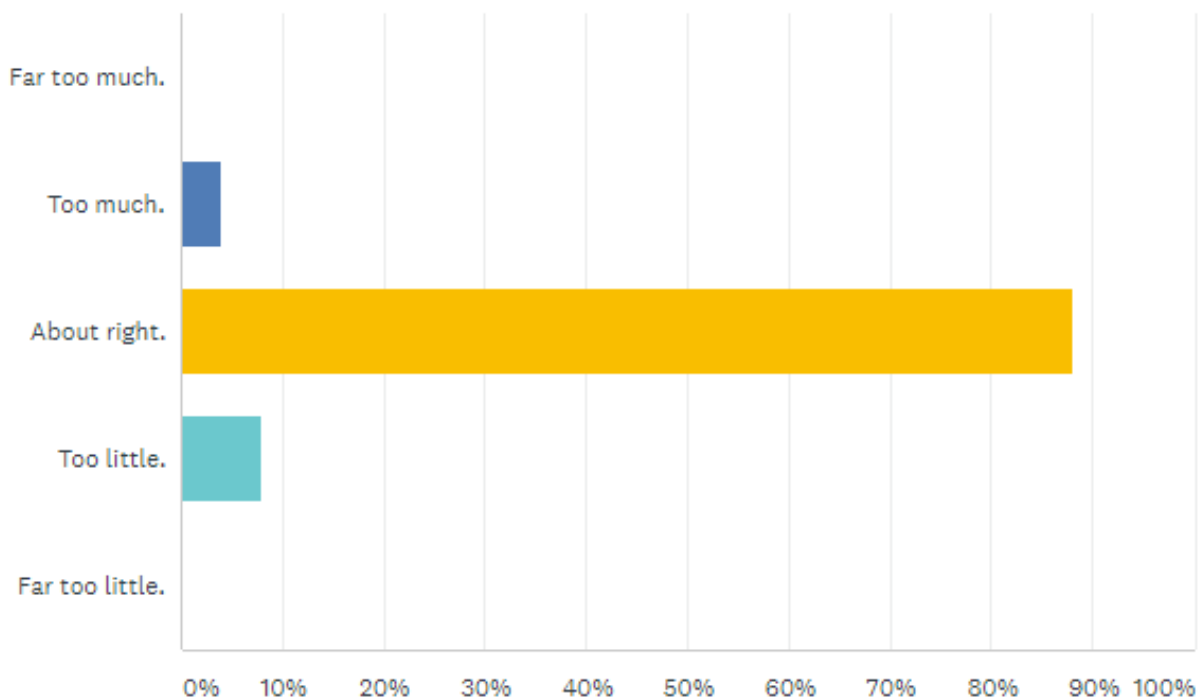
Nurturing

Recent research conducted at Reading University highlights the importance of allowing the children time and space to play and to re-connect socially with their peers. A key point is to play the long game here, and not rush ahead with trying to make up for lost time or to add intense academic pressure and stress to the children, some of whom are already in a high alert state. We will focus primarily on settling your children in, on meeting their social and emotional needs first and foremost, and on their readiness to learn skills. The general expert consensus is that we should be laying the foundations for them in terms of nurture first and foremost, not solely teaching them in the plain, traditional sense.

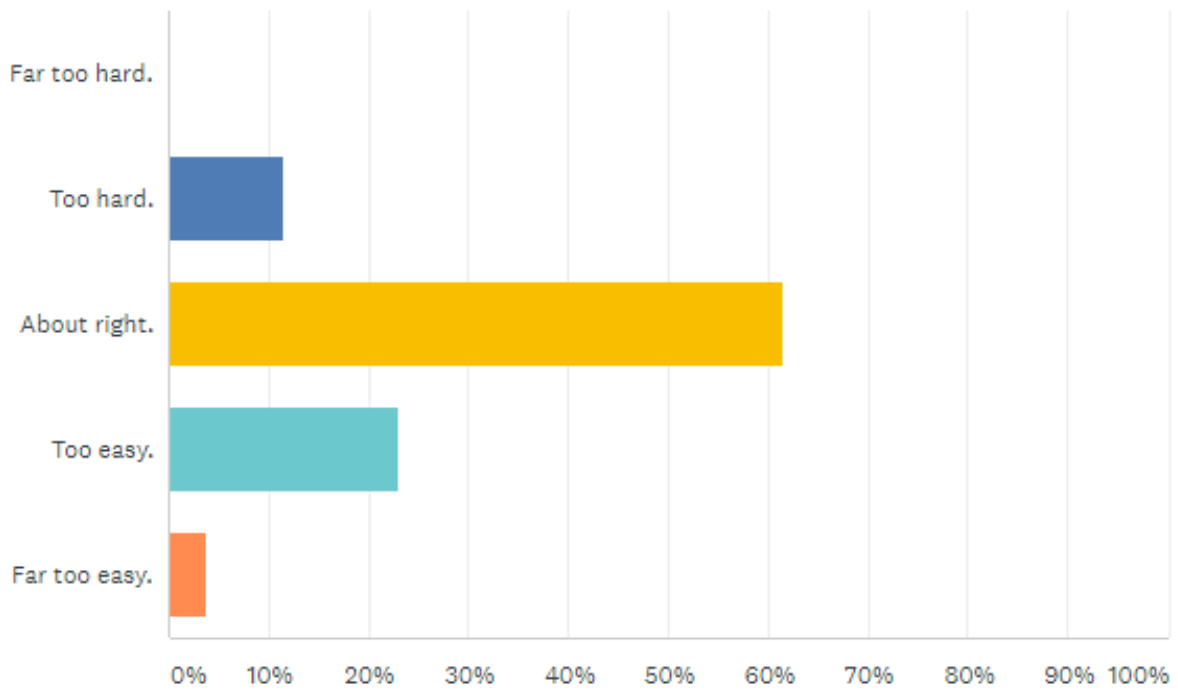
Survey Feedback

A huge thank you to those who took part in our recent survey about home learning and school support during the closures. We were thrilled to see that the feedback we received was largely positive and we have enjoyed reading the encouraging comments left by parents/carers. Below, you will find the results for each question. After, you will be able to read a quick summary that we have made about areas to focus on going forward.

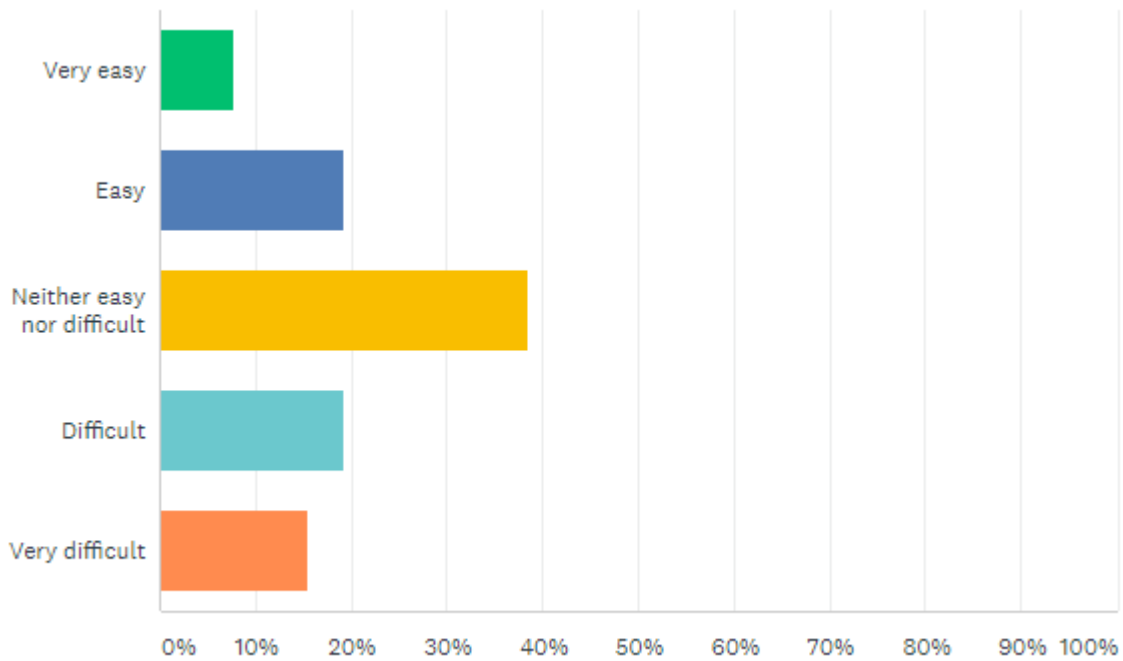
Q2 - The amount of home learning set for my child/children has been... (25 responses)



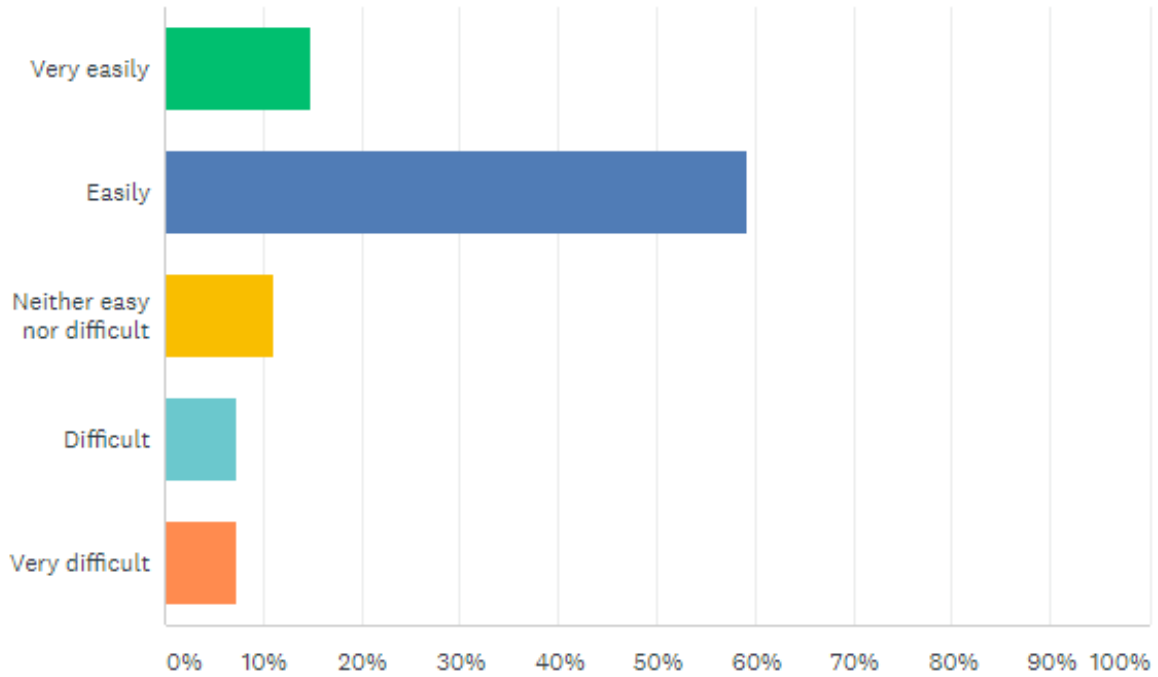
Q3 - The difficulty level of the home learning tasks for my child/children has been... (26 responses)



Q4 - How easy is it to get your child to complete their home learning tasks? (26 responses)

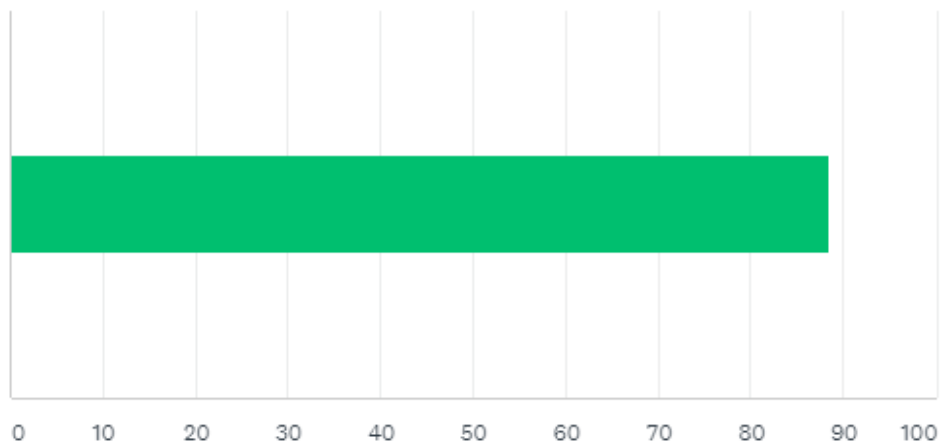


Q5 - How easily have you been able to access the home learning tasks? (27 responses)



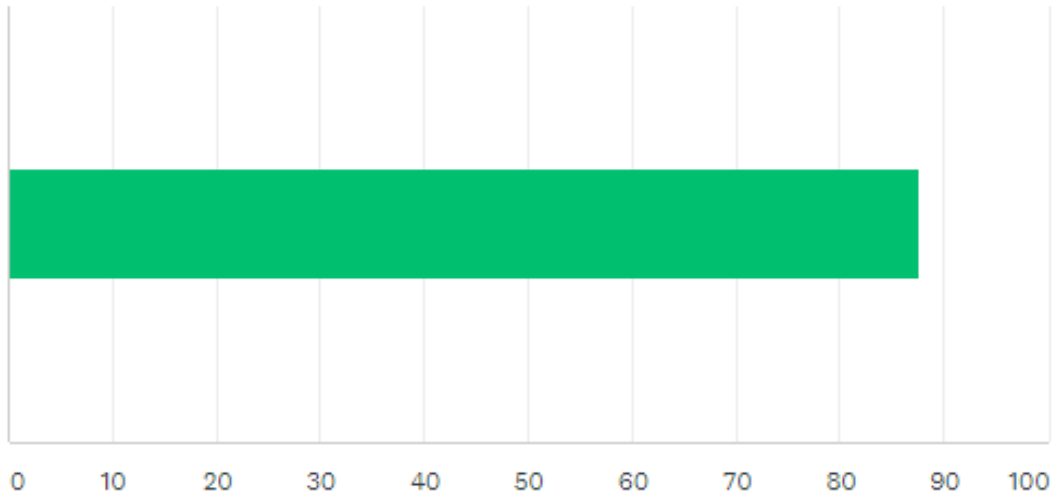
Q6 - On a scale of 0 - 100, how contactable have you found the school during the school closures? (27 responses)

Average Response: 89



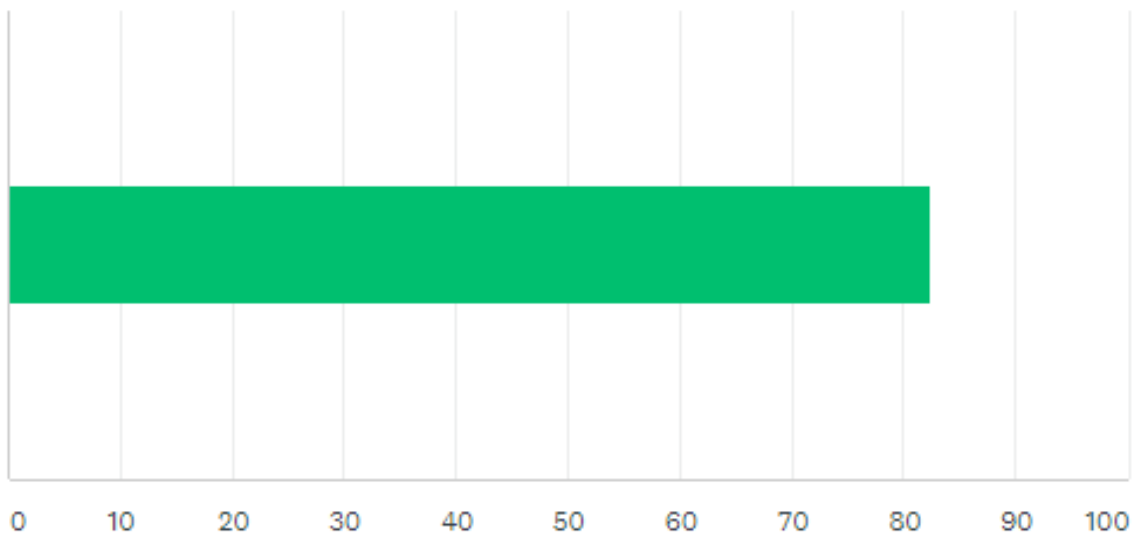
**Q7 - On a scale of 0 - 100, how supported by the school have you felt during the school closures?
(27 responses)**

Average Response: 88

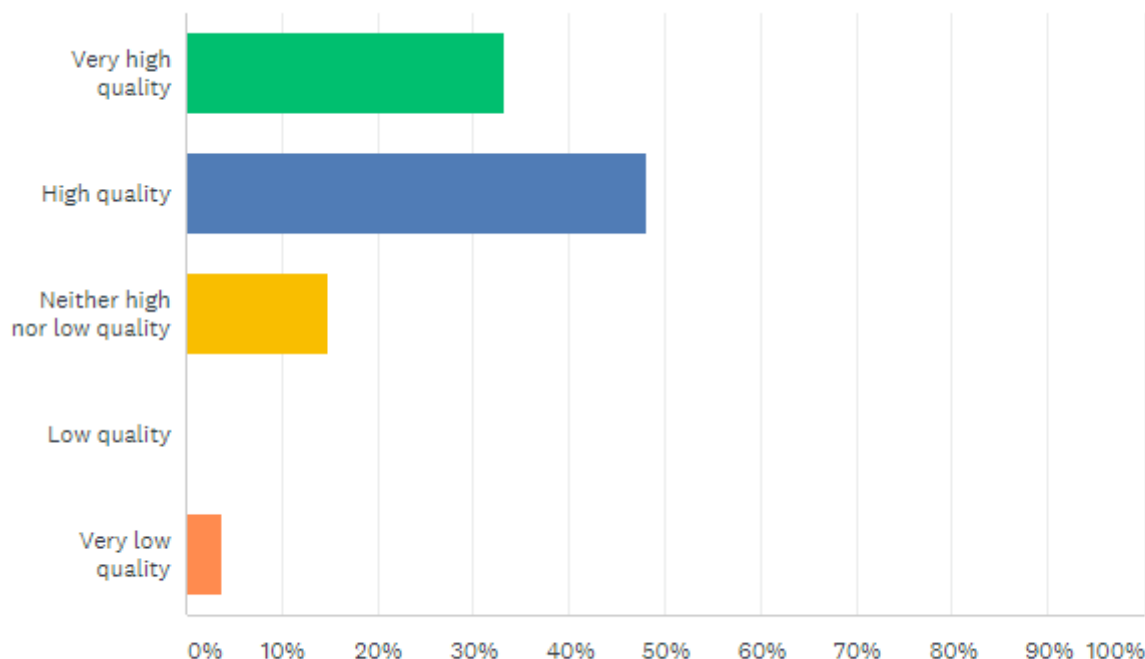


**Q8 - On a scale of 0 - 100, how connected to the staff have you felt during the school closures?
(27 responses)**

Average Response: 82



Q9 - The quality of communication that I have received from the school during the school closure has been... (27 responses)



Conclusions

As you can see, on the whole, the responses that we have received were hugely positive. We also received some lovely comments including:

"I feel the school has handled this situation outstandingly. We have been informed, supported and encouraged to communicate. Staff have been exceptional in responding to queries very promptly and showing a great interest in the health and welfare of our child - we can't thank you enough. Bravo to all!!"

Staff felt extremely proud after reading the responses so thank you for taking the time to feedback to us. Of course, there are always ways to improve practice and below are two areas that we will be working on over the coming term. **We would welcome any suggestions from you, the parents/carers, as to how we could make improvements in these areas:**

Q4 - How easy is it to get your child to complete their home learning tasks? (26 responses)

- We noticed that 35% of our families stated that it is either difficult or very difficult to get their child(ren) to complete home learning. We will be looking at ways to motivate pupils more.

Q8 - On a scale of 0 - 100, how connected to the staff have you felt during the school closures?

- The survey highlighted an average response of 82. Although still high, the average wasn't as high as the support or contact responses. We will be looking at ways in which parents/carers/children can still feel connected to the school whilst remaining at home.

Thank you again for taking the time to complete the survey!

Diary Dates	Cardinham School
Thurs 23rd July	Last day of Summer Term