

## **Marlborough St Mary's Parent/Carer Survey on Equality & Diversity January 2024**

50 responses representing 63/382 children on roll = 16%

In common with other parent & carer surveys the response level was lower than would have been hoped for. The last general parent/carers survey had 78 responses, slightly higher than the year before, which had 62.

It is perhaps unsurprising that a survey solely focused on equality & diversity would have a lower response rate in a mainly “White British” area. It was also not possible to easily set up a translation facility which may have limited a few responses.

However, it was pleasing that a good proportion of those who did complete the survey were from either a mixed or non-white or non-British ethnicity in some way (20%) or had a child who received support for SEND (22%). Some respondents identified as British or English – which leaves some doubt as to whether they are White or not. Given, that Marlborough is not a very diverse community it seems reasonable that a good proportion of these responses would be White British which is why they have been included for ease in this category.

### **Please indicate your child/children's ethnicity.**

Of the responses received:

76% identified as White British, White, British or English (54% identified as White British, 60% White British or White, 16% as British or English)

20% identified as either Mixed or non-White or non-British in some way

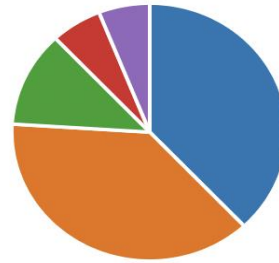
4% (2/50) preferred not to say.

### **My child/children receive support for SEND (Special Education Needs and Disabilities)**

22% of responses (11/50) replied yes.

## Marlborough St Mary's gives all children equal opportunities

Strongly Agree	19
Agree	19
Neither Agree or Disagree	6
Disagree	3
Strongly Disagree	3

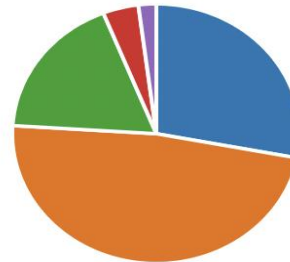


76% agreed or strongly agreed with this statement.

Ethnicity or SEND support was not particularly a driver for disagreeing with this statement (1 response from both groups)

## I feel the school celebrates diversity

Strongly Agree	14
Agree	24
Neither Agree or Disagree	9
Disagree	2
Strongly Disagree	1

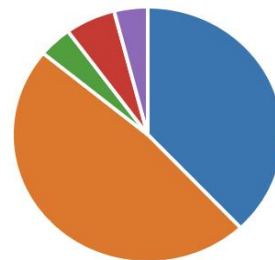


76% agreed or strongly agreed with this statement. 18% were unsure or did not know if the school celebrates diversity.

The 2 responses that disagreed with this statement had a child who receives SEND support.

## The school equips my child well for life in modern day society (promoting tolerance, values and resilience)

Strongly Agree	19
Agree	24
Neither Agree or Disagree	2
Disagree	3
Strongly Disagree	2

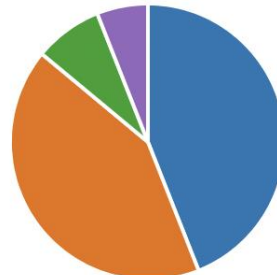


86% agreed or strongly agreed with this statement.

2 responses that disagreed with this statement had a child who receives SEND support.

## The school shows a strong commitment to ensuring the equal treatment of all its pupils

Strongly Agree	22
Agree	21
Neither Agree or Disagree	4
Disagree	0
Strongly Disagree	3

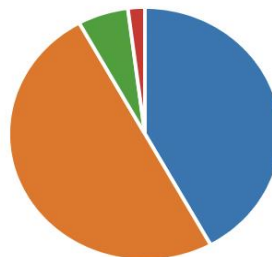


86% agreed or strongly agreed with this statement.

1 of the 3 responses that strongly disagreed with this statement had a child who receives SEND support.

## The school gives equal value to girls and boys

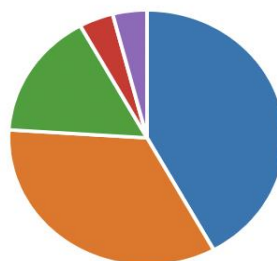
Strongly Agree	21
Agree	25
Neither Agree or Disagree	3
Disagree	1
Strongly Disagree	0



92% agreed or strongly agreed with this statement.

## The school promotes a positive view of children, young people and adults with a disability

Strongly Agree	21
Agree	17
Neither Agree or Disagree	8
Disagree	2
Strongly Disagree	2

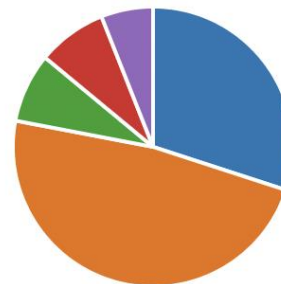


76% agreed or strongly agreed with this statement.

The 2 responses that disagreed with this statement had a child who receives SEND support.

### The school's ethos and practices are effective in eliminating discrimination

Strongly Agree	15
Agree	24
Neither Agree or Disagree	4
Disagree	4
Strongly Disagree	3

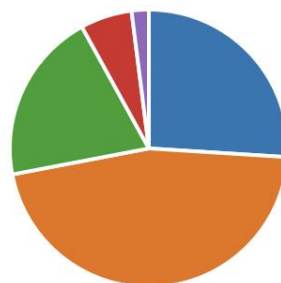


78% agreed or strongly agreed with this statement.

Of those who disagreed or strongly disagreed with this statement, 2 had a child who receives SEND support.

### Marlborough St Mary's encourages people of different racial groups to become involved in the school

Strongly Agree	13
Agree	23
Neither Agree or Disagree	10
Disagree	3
Strongly Disagree	1

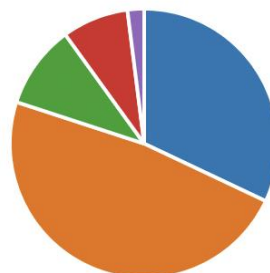


72% agreed or strongly agreed with this statement.

The majority (80%) from the group that identified as Mixed or non-White or non-British in some way either agreed or strongly agreed with this statement.

### The school curriculum covers a wide range of religion and beliefs

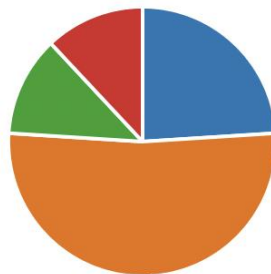
Strongly Agree	16
Agree	24
Neither Agree or Disagree	5
Disagree	4
Strongly Disagree	1



80% agreed or strongly agreed with this statement.

### The school promotes positive images of ethnic minorities in its newsletters, in it's curriculum and on its website

Strongly Agree	12
Agree	26
Neither Agree or Disagree	6
Disagree	6
Strongly Disagree	0

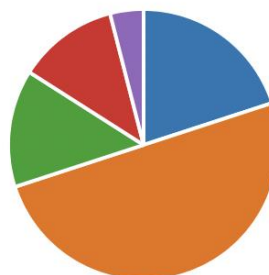


76% agreed or strongly agreed with this statement.

The majority (90%) from the group that identified as Mixed or non-White or non-British in some way either agreed or strongly agreed with this statement.

### The school promotes positive images of people with disabilities in its newsletters, in it's curriculum and on its website

Strongly Agree	10
Agree	25
Neither Agree or Disagree	7
Disagree	6
Strongly Disagree	2

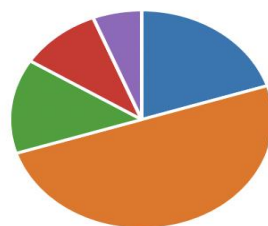


70% agreed or strongly agreed with this statement.

63% of the responses that either disagreed or strongly disagreed with this statement had a child who receives SEND support. This represented 45% of the group receiving SEND support.

### The school challenges stereotypes

Strongly Agree	10
Agree	25
Neither Agree or Disagree	7
Disagree	5
Strongly Disagree	3

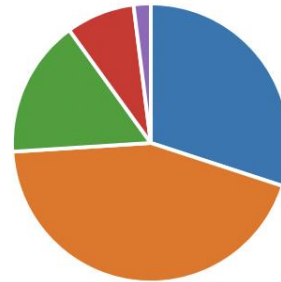


70% agreed or strongly agreed with this statement.

38% of the responses that either disagreed or strongly disagreed with this statement had a child who receives SEND support. This represented 27% of this group.

### The school challenges racism

Strongly Agree	15
Agree	22
Neither Agree or Disagree	8
Disagree	4
Strongly Disagree	1

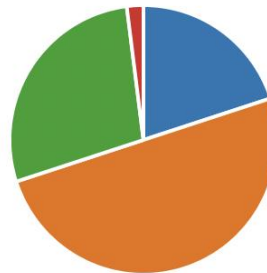


74% agreed or strongly agreed with this statement.

70% from the group that identified as Mixed or non-White or non-British in some way either agreed or strongly agreed with this statement.

### The school challenges homophobia, biphobia and transphobia

Strongly Agree	10
Agree	25
Neither Agree or Disagree	14
Disagree	1
Strongly Disagree	0

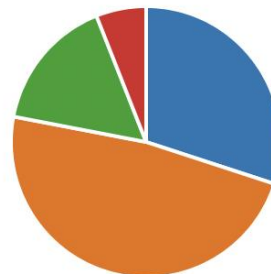


70% agreed or strongly agreed with this statement.

28% did not know or were unsure about this statement.

### The school celebrates British Values through its displays in school and information on its website

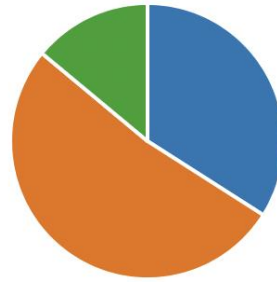
Strongly Agree	15
Agree	24
Neither Agree or Disagree	8
Disagree	3
Strongly Disagree	0



78% agreed or strongly agreed with this statement.

### As a parent and carer, I contribute towards supporting the ethos of the school

● Strongly Agree	17
● Agree	26
● Neither Agree or Disagree	7
● Disagree	0
● Strongly Disagree	0



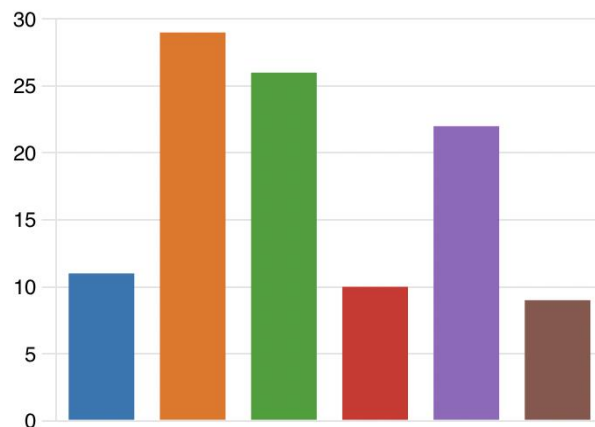
86% agreed or strongly agreed with this statement.

### Would you be able to help promote equality & diversity at Marlborough St Marys by coming in to talk to the children about either your culture, religion or disability?

Yes	7
No	43

### How can Marlborough St Mary's improve further on its teaching of equality and diversity?

● Workshops	11
● Visitors to school	29
● Educational visits	26
● More opportunities to work wit...	10
● More opportunities to communi...	22
● Other	9



More opportunities to work with local schools

More opportunities to communicate with communities in other parts of the world

## Conclusions

- Most parents were positive about how the school is doing to promote equality & diversity. The lowest number to agree or strongly agree with a statement was 70%. There were 3 statements with 70% approval which were:

### **The school promotes positive images of people with disabilities in its newsletters, in its curriculum and on its website**

Improving the website for better representation of those with SEND was an action point from an Equality Audit we undertook in the Autumn term as well as this survey and we have recently updated the website.

### **The school challenges stereotypes**

Our PSHE curriculum, JIGSAW helps to tackle and unpick stereotypes and address inequality through discussion and practical resources. For more information on what this looks like please see the PSHE page on the school website.

<https://www.marlboroughstmarys.wilts.sch.uk/page/?title=Wellbeing+and+PSHE&pid=48>

### **The school challenges homophobia, biphobia and transphobia**

28% of respondents neither agreed or disagreed with this statement, which indicates that a significant number of parents were unsure of what the school does in this space.

We track incidents of homophobia alongside racism through our safeguarding recording system and the number of incidents is regularly reported to the governing body. These areas are also covered in our PSHE programme. We use restorative justice techniques to address and help children to understand the implications of their actions and words.

- The highest number to agree or strongly agree with a statement was 92% which was: **The school gives equal value to girls and boys**
- The group most likely to be dissatisfied had children who received SEND support.

Comments received suggested some parents feel isolated from the rest of the school and that there is a lack of understanding of the challenges that they face. There was also, a feeling that more could be done to integrate the resource base children into whole school life.



We endeavour to include children from the resource base in all school activities – for example, children from the lower needs room (Oak) and some from the higher needs room (Acorn), where their individual needs permit, will attend assemblies. They have also been part of services at St Mary’s Church.

Resource Base children are nominated for the weekly head teacher awards (nominations are received from the children themselves) and are also celebrated as part of the star of the week awards like children from all other classes. This is done in a way to ensure that all children in a class will get an award at least once.

We have started using quiet hands rather than clapping during assemblies to support sensory needs.

Children from the resource base are encouraged to take part in sporting festivals and have the necessary adaptations made so they can participate in sports day.

Adaptations are made to enable children who have SEND support to attend school activities/trips eg school disco, school fair and residential trips where possible. There are also opportunities for children from Oak to be part of their year-group lessons.

We recognise that there is always more work to be done and thank parents for their suggestions and ideas. As a result, we plan to run a series of assemblies to promote understanding of SEND. For example, on Autism: to help our children understand some of their peer's life experiences.

- Questions that related specifically to ethnicity had a positive response from those who identified as Mixed or non-White or non-British in some way.

- **Marlborough St Mary's gives all children equal opportunities**

Comments in response to this question were similar to those raised in previous parent & carer surveys regarding sports festival selection. Ensuring sports festival participation for all is a school priority for 2023-24. We will continue to communicate and celebrate all children who have taken part in festivals and sporting events via Dojo.

- **The school curriculum covers a wide range of religion and beliefs**

Comments received from parents spoke about the benefit of more religious outreach, eg trips to Swindon which has more diverse religious communities (Sikh, Muslim, Hindu, Jewish). This mirrored recent governor discussions at the Teaching and Learning Committee and is an action point after the recent Equality Audit. The school is also

considering working towards an RE kite mark run by the diocese, of which one of the main criteria to reach the standard is visits to/from other faith preachers.

Although the 6 core school values of **Respect, Friendship, Courage, Perseverance, Fairness** and **Love** are based on our Christian principles, they have universal value for all faiths or non-faiths.

- There were some constructive comments and ideas alongside those (7/50) willing to help the school to help promote equality & diversity. Many mirrored the conclusions from the recent Equality Audit.

**We are really grateful to all those parents who offered to help. Please remember that since the survey is anonymous, we have no way of contacting you! Please contact Miss Derbyshire to discuss how you can help either in person (Y6 – Heron class) or by e-mail to [gderbyshire@marlboroughstmarys.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:gderbyshire@marlboroughstmarys.wilts.sch.uk)**

- Visitors to school, educational visits and more opportunities to communicate with communities in other parts of the world were the most popular ways parents felt the school could promote equality & diversity further. This mirrored recent governor discussions at the Teaching & Learning Committee.
- As part of a review of the books in the library area and the main class texts, we have ensured that books reflecting the perspective of all different cultures, faiths and SEND needs are represented.
- One parent commented “Hard to answer some of these questions as parents we don't always know how the school is championing these things”. This shows the importance of communicating out the positive work being done in school. We hope some of the points above go some way towards this alongside messages on Dojo and the termly newsletters.