



## Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School

### "Nurturing curiosity and inspiring imagination"

Spring Term (2024-25)

Dear Parent/Carer

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, with a sample of your responses and my replies to the comments made.

Marcia Atherton  
Head teacher

### Parental Questionnaire Analysis, Feb 2025

		Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
1	My child is happy at Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School	77%	23%		
2	I think that my child feels safe at Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School	90%	10%		
3	My child is well looked after at Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School	90%	10%		
4	My child enjoys the activities at Sandy lane Nursery and Forest School	87%	13%		
5	I am aware of what my child is learning in nursery e.g. through Tapestry posts, classroom displays, conversations with staff	77%	20%	3%	
6	I feel informed about my child's progress e.g. through Tapestry posts, newsletter, classroom displays, conversations with staff	67%	30%	3%	
7	My child is making good progress at Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School	70%	30%		
8	I understand that supporting my child to engage in with the home learning set will support their learning and progress	87%	13%		
9	My child enjoys the home learning activities shared by nursery (home learning bags, lending library, Tapestry, weekly home learning)	71%	24%	6%	
10	I am aware and supportive of the schools improvement plan ( shared in the Autumn term newsletter, displayed in the entrance and available on the schools website)	80%	20%		
11	I think that the children at Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School are well behaved	67%	3%		

12	I think staff work effectively with the children to resolve conflicts	Not aware of any conflicts 71%	Agree 29%	Disagree	
13	I receive regular communications from the nursery about events e.g. the newsletter, Tapestry posts, School Spider messages, posters around school	80%	20%		
14	The school is welcoming, staff are approachable and school responds well to any concerns I raise	83%	17%		
15	The school is led and managed well	83%	17%		
16	I would recommend this school to another parent	93%	7%		
17	How did you hear about Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School? (Please tick your answer)	I have had a previous child here 19%	From a friend/relative 45%	From the website or Facebook 14%	Other 22%
18	<p><b>For any 'disagree' and 'strongly disagree' please expand upon these answers</b></p> <p>Recently I rarely get any tapestry updates on D's, I think I have had one in two weeks. D isn't able to tell me what he has been doing at nursery.</p> <p>Staff use Tapestry to share information about the focus for learning in a child's room and will post some observations of activities they have engaged or if there has been a special event or visitor. We do not post daily or weekly Tapestry observations for each child as the focus of staff is to engage with the children and support their learning. Staff are always available for a brief chat on collection or, if they feel a longer conversation is needed, we encourage parents to make an appointment</p>				
19	<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>It's a lovely nursery E has come on so much and lives all aspects of leaning especially hello time with we have implemented at home  Amazing with A when I'm in hospital with E x  He learned toilet training in nursery school. He learned to express himself in nursery school. He learned to communicate with friends in nursery school.  Building friendships with other parents and my son has made lots of new friends  Help with English because my daughter speaks mostly Polish.  They have been very supportive and helpful with myself and my child with regards to an ongoing issue. The staff have gone above and beyond to make sure that we are happy supported and safe. And I am very grateful for this. Any worries I have I know I can talk to any of the staff and be supported.  Everything listed at  Supporting child for good habits like toilet training, hand wash etc.  Share and care  Supporting, managing behaviour, speech and language  We used to spend hours managing B stripping, including in public. It was suggested by the staff we try a swimsuit backwards and it has changed our lives...and theirs too I imagine! Their experience and knowledge is invaluable and even the smallest suggestions have been so helpful. So grateful to you all!  G is now considering others, he cares about how they feel and shows respect. I believe Emma encouraged G a lot—he remembers what Emma told him to do and says, 'Im a big boy now. Thank you everyone for your effort, I appreciate it.  R loves going to nursery and playing with his friends &amp; his speech is coming along so much since starting.  Parent groups/meetings are great to share experiences with others.  Working with other children- dancing/playing on low apparatus. He will now engage and focus on adult led activities.  Staff were very patient with W for his visit to Father Christmas as was FC. It was nice to share this experience. It was nice to share pumpkin picking with W.  Parent groups (coffee mornings)  C has made great progress in his all round development since been at Sandy lane, His speech is starting to develop and willingness to try new activities is fantastic  Building a sense of community  Support with language ( English is not our first language)  Av's speech has come on massively since joining yourselves and she's starting to tell us what she's been doing and is happy when leaving. She loves the nursery and we are so grateful for the amazing teachers/staff.  They've been very supportive</p>				

	<p>Speech Getting the right referrals in place for A. I finally feel like he's being listened too. I enjoy the relationship I have with staff in the room and feel comfortable to discuss any needs. It has opened D up to socialisation, D struggles with this sometimes. D's speech has greatly improved in the short time he has attended nursery. Nursery benefits D as he does struggle with social and emotional behaviours and I think being in a nursery environment is slowly but surely helping him. Very supportive with helping L settle into nursery and the forest school. They've been very supportive Speech Very supportive in every problem i have had with help with ehcp and advice with other areas</p>
20	<p><b>How has Tapestry helped with sharing information about your child's learning and ideas home learning?</b> Love seeing photos of activities and fun they have in rainbow When I'm away from A at hospital it's nice to know what he has done x The nursery school contributed greatly to the development of self-esteem So nursery can see how my child learns in different environments I observe what my daughter's day looks like at the nursery and what progress she is making We really enjoy looking on tapestry and seeing where B is up to and what he has been doing its a very good app to support us at home with his home learning. Yes Good In Tapestry I can always find helpful information how to play and learn my child I can show W what he's been learning and we then try it at home It has been great to see what the focus is at nursery so we can continue that at home. We get to see what they've been playing in nursery and that gives us ideas to do at home too Its great to see what our child is doing in nursery and any small successes/milestones he reaches. It has helped us to see what kinds of activities C enjoys doing at nursery, so we can replicate these at home. As a family we love the Tapestry app, we love hearing and seeing all the lovely things C does at nursery also for us it's nice to share things C gets up to when not at nursery as C is able to do that for himself at the moment Gives Ideas of activities for kids at home Perfect! I've found it very helpful When I get updated it shows me what activities D enjoys so I can implement at home as I like to provide a similar environment at home, we do a lot of messy play and tuff tray activities at home and tapestry gives me new ideas. Perfect! It's nice to be informed of what he has been learning at nursery, so we can do similar activities at home and consolidate his learning</p>
21	<p><b>As a parent/carer, what do you like best at Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School?</b> Bonds E has Staff and love and care our boys receive All teachers help us with everything we wonder about. My child comes home exited every day to tell me about his day at nursery What I like most is that the child has time to learn face to face with the teacher I can't fault any of it! Everything Good School and staff Good Atmosphere. My daughter loves this place How helpful and cheerful all the staff are I am never made to feel shame about B and his behaviours. Whilst I'm aware that sounds quite sad, that has not been our experience always prior to Sandy Lane. I love how genuinely loving and caring the staff are and they make it so clear the children's best interests are always at heart. Everything, they care every individual I like that all the staff are polite and friendly and even staff that aren't in R's class say hello to him an know him by name, R feels comfortable going into nursery Friendliness of staff and the warm welcome my child always receives from everyone such as Headteacher, SENDCo, TAs, teachers, reception staff they all know his name which is lovely :) That C has a place to go every day where he can be himself, enjoy some outside time in good weather, and can be around caring adults that care about him. Everything! How supportive and helpful all the staff are, the learning and nurturing that is showing throughout nursery and reflected on the tapestry app</p>

	<p>How approachable all the staff are, nothing is too much trouble          Friendly atmosphere, supportive staff          How lovely the staff are with children and looking after the children as if they are their own! A loves it and we are confident leaving her in the best hands.          Everyone's very friendly and welcoming          My son enjoy going there          The forest school aspect of learning is incredible. I love knowing that my child isn't just sat in a classroom and spends her time outdoors exploring the wooded area and getting absolutely filthy! It was the main reason we selected this school and I am so happy with this aspect!          It's a lovely environment both indoors and outdoors and provides plenty of different activities to keep D busy which at home I find important to keep him busy to regulate his emotions.          Offer short half day hours, with forest school provision and wraparound care if we should need it          The education is very good and the teachers are very understanding, knowledgeable and caring. I recommend it to everyone, there is a good education and the management is good, everything is fine.          Everything is brilliant</p>
24	<p><b>What could we change or make better?</b>          Lots of parents/carers said 'nothing' other comments we received are below          Be nice to know daily what he's done or eaten as sometime worried he doesn't tell me anything          For children in Garden or Sunshine rooms, snack choices are displayed in the classroom. If you do have concerns, staff are available for a brief chat on collection or you are welcome to make an appointment if you feel a longer conversation would be helpful          For now everything seems fine, there are no problems, everything is managed well.          Not sure          Everything is ok, my daughter says it's a bit cold in class room          Children have access to outdoors all year round, as long as it is safe to do so. In the winter months staff monitor children's wellbeing and time outdoors can be limited. To enable children to access outdoors independently the classroom door to the garden is usually kept open in our mainstream classrooms. If the weather is very cold this door is closed to retain the heat. Children in the classrooms are offered a warm drink at snack time during cold weather and we encourage parents to dress children in layers to help keep them warm.          Everything is well organised          The hours are extremely challenging, particularly as we live quite far away - I do realise this is more to do with the LA though.          We do appreciate that, as a school, we operate different hours to private providers. If places are available we offer self funded wrap around care 8.00 - 8.30 and up to 4.00 each afternoon. There is not currently sufficient interest from parents for us to extend this at present.          Nothing I can think of          Not sure if any local trips are planned before the end of the year?          Children take part in community walks, visiting local shops etc. Depending on the room the child attends, we may ask for parents/carers to join us. We also have a number of visitors in nursery, staff post these events on Tapestry          Maybe a note book/ reading record to make put with reading books just so we can comment on how they found it          Staff would love to read how a child has enjoyed their home learning activity. We would encourage parents and carers to add a post on to Tapestry, you can add photos if you like. Staff are always available to support if you are having any difficulties with the Tapestry app.          More frequent updates and pictures on Tapestry          We all love to see the photos and observations staff share on Tapestry. As you can imagine, to post photos of every child takes time. Our priority it that staff engage with children to support and develop their learning which is why we limit the number of Tapestry posts</p>