

Student and Parent / Carer Surveys Autumn 2023



STUDENT SURVEY AUTUMN 2023

1,210 Responses (1,047 responses in June 2023, 1,360 responses in November 2022)

For quite a few questions student opinion seems to be similar to the Summer 2023 survey however lower than at the corresponding point last year (for example 'I enjoy school', 'teachers help me do my best', 'my teachers give me work that challenges me'). However for some questions positive responses have increased since the Summer 2023 survey, returning to similar levels to Autumn 2022 (for example 'I feel safe when I am at school', 'My school provides me with information about my next steps').

There are some questions where positive responses have increased compared to both Autumn 2022 and Summer 2023. Indeed questions relating to there being an adult at school students can talk to and to behaviour being good are both at their most positive in the last three years.

Less positively the questions relating to looking after physical and emotional / mental health are both at their least positive in the past three years.

Where students were able to leave comments relating to certain questions these were overwhelmingly positive. Students rated teachers and the quality of teaching as the best thing about Hinchingsbrooke (up from the third best thing in the Autumn 2022 survey and up from the 5th best thing in the Summer 2023 survey). Other frequently mentioned positives included the food, sport opportunities and PE, and the school site and facilities.

Of the 60% of students who said they would recommend the school to a friend the most frequently given reason related to the school being 'good'. Teachers and the school ethos were also cited often, as was the belief that it's the best school in the area. The most common reason given for not recommending the school related to rules being too strict.

Unfortunately barely any Year 13 students completed the survey. Based on previous years' surveys, the inclusion of more responses from Year 13 students would almost certainly have made the overall picture from student feedback even more positive than it is in these results.

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13
Student Responses Autumn 2023 – 1,210 Respondents						
263	282	200	150	182	131	2
Student Responses Summer 2024 - xxxx Respondents						

Cromwell	Montagu	Pepys	Vesey	Wylton
Student Responses Autumn 2023 – 1,210 Respondents				
264	215	266	229	236
Student Responses Summer 2024 - xxxx Respondents				

Question % (raw figures)	Strongly Agree Autumn 2023	Strongly Agree Summer 2024	Agree Autumn 2023	Agree Summer 2024	Neither Agree nor Disagree Autumn 2023	Neither Agree nor Disagree Summer 2024	Disagree Autumn 2023	Disagree Summer 2024	Strongly Disagree Autumn 2023	Strongly Disagree Summer 2024
3. I take part in school activities outside of lessons, like clubs, sports, music and art	20 (237)		34 (417)		15 (178)		18 (215)		13 (163)	
4. I feel proud to be a Hinchingsbrooke student	14 (168)		45 (549)		33 (397)		5 (59)		3 (37)	
6. I enjoy school	6 (72)		33 (402)		39 (471)		15 (179)		7 (86)	
7. Teachers help me to do my best	13 (163)		42 (511)		35 (425)		8 (100)		1 (11)	
8. My teachers give me work that challenges me (i.e. the work is not usually too easy for me)	12 (148)		51 (622)		31 (371)		5 (57)		1 (12)	
9. Teachers listen to what I have to say in lessons (e.g. I am asked to answer questions / give my opinion / comment on other students' answers)	15 (187)		46 (560)		29 (346)		7 (87)		2 (30)	
10. Behaviour is good at HBK	6 (76)		33 (397)		39 (475)		16 (188)		6 (74)	
11. There is an adult at school I can talk to if something is worrying me	26 (314)		56 (682)		9 (114)		5 (63)		3 (37)	
13. I feel safe when I am at school	29 (346)		48 (583)		19 (230)		3 (31)		1 (19)	
14. Have you ever been bullied in your time at Hinchingsbrooke?	Yes Autumn 2023 19 (229)		Yes Summer 2024				No Autumn 2023 81 (981)		No Summer 2024	
15. Did you report this? (Out of those who said yes to being bullied)	Yes Autumn 2023 69 (158)		Yes Summer 2024				No Autumn 2023 31 (71)		No Summer 2024	

Question	Strongly Agree Autumn 2023	Strongly Agree Summer 2024	Agree Autumn 2023	Agree Summer 2024	Neither Agree nor Disagree Autumn 2023	Neither Agree nor Disagree Summer 2024	Disagree Autumn 2023	Disagree Summer 2024	Strongly Disagree Autumn 2023	Strongly Disagree Summer 2024
17. Did the school help you deal with the issue? (<i>Out of those who reported it</i>)	14 (22)		28 (44)		35 (55)		15 (24)		8 (13)	
18. I look after my physical health using what I have learned in PE lessons, Food and Nutrition and PSHCE	20 (236)		48 (586)		25 (307)		5 (56)		2 (25)	
19. I look after my emotional and mental health using what I have learned in PSHCE, assemblies and Form Time	11 (136)		45 (542)		32 (390)		8 (93)		4 (49)	
20. I have opportunities to be independent and take on responsibilities (e.g. being a REP, a Prefect, a House Captain or Senior Student)	17 (201)		49 (588)		27 (322)		6 (67)		3 (32)	
21. I take up opportunities to progress my personal development (e.g. through engaging in PSHCE lessons, participating in extra-curricular opportunities, going on trips, competing in interhouse events and undertaking leadership opportunities)	11 (129)		46 (559)		33 (402)		8 (91)		2 (29)	
22. I take up opportunities to have my say (eg through attending student forum, being or speaking to a REP / Prefect / Senior Student and/or giving opinions in form time and lessons)	8 (96)		35 (429)		37 (452)		15 (187)		4 (46)	
23. Hinchingsbrooke encourages me to respect people from other backgrounds and to treat everyone well	32 (386)		52 (624)		13 (165)		2 (24)		1 (11)	
24. Have you ever been the victim of prejudice in your time at Hinchingsbrooke?	Yes Autumn 2023 14 (167)		Yes Summer 2024				No Autumn 2023 86 (1043)		No Summer 2024	
25. Did you report this? (<i>Out of those who said yes</i>)	Yes Autumn 2023 42 (70)		Yes Summer 2024				No Autumn 2023 58 (97)		No Summer 2024	
27. Did the school help you deal with the issue? (<i>Out of those who reported it</i>)	10 (7)		26 (18)		41 (29)		14 (10)		9 (6)	
28. Hinchingsbrooke provides me with information about my next steps (GCSE options / Sixth Form / College / Apprenticeships /University / Careers)	20 (248)		54 (650)		18 (213)		6 (78)		2 (21)	
29. Have you had the opportunity to consider careers and get some careers advice in your time at Hinchingsbrooke?	Yes Autumn 2023 41 (498)		Yes Summer 2024		Not yet Aut 2023 45 (549)	Not yet Sum 2024	No Autumn 2023 13 (163)		No Summer 2024	
30. I would recommend this school to a friend moving to the area	Yes Autumn 2023 60 (726)		Yes Summer 2024		Maybe Aut 2023 33 (397)	Maybe Sum 2024	No Autumn 2023 7 (87)		No Summer 2024	

<p>5. The best thing about HBK is... (departments named if they got more than 10 mentions)</p> <p>Teachers/teaching – 243 Food – 171 Sport/PE – 152 Site/facilities – 141 Friends – 101 Extra-curricular opportunities – 82 Structure of school day – 63 Inclusivity/ethos – 57 I don't know – 30 The people – 25 Other departments - 25 Art department – 24 Pastoral support – 21 Dance department – 17 Creative lessons – 15 Music department – 12 History of school – 12 History department – 11 Science department – 10 House system – 6 Everything – 6 Being able to use phones in school – 6 Behaviour policy – 4 Uniform – 3 SEND - 2</p> <p>26. Why did you not report this? (discrimination / prejudice)</p> <p>Wasn't really a big deal – 35 I don't know – 15 Didn't think anything would be done as a result – 10 Worried things would get worse – 9 Handled the issue myself – 6 Didn't think anyone would understand – 5 Felt uncomfortable with idea of reporting – 3 Didn't know who perpetrators were – 2 Didn't know who to report issue to - 2</p>	<p>12. Please explain, if you can, why you feel there is not an adult at school that you can talk to at this time</p> <p>No-one listens/cares – 28 Don't trust anyone – 26 I don't know - 25 Didn't want to – 24 Didn't feel comfortable – 21 There is someone outside school I can talk to – 15 Don't know who I can talk to – 7 Staff are too busy - 6</p> <p>16. Why did you not report this? (bullying)</p> <p>It would have made the situation worse – 24 Sorted it out myself – 22 Nothing would have happened – 11 Didn't trust anyone – 4 Didn't know who to tell – 2 Bullying was online – 1 Didn't know who the bully was – 1 Bully wasn't a HBK student – 1</p> <p>31. Please explain your answer (I would recommend this school to a friend moving to the area)</p> <p>Positive Responses: It's a good school – 412 Teachers – 133 Ethos/inclusivity – 85 It is the best school in the area/better than other local schools – 74 Facilities – 62 Because then they would be at school with me – 54 Range of subjects – 52 Sports – 31 Food - 29 Students – 22 Extra-curricular opportunities – 20 Sixth Form – 9 Behaviour – 4 Uniform – 3 SEND – 2</p> <p>Negative responses: Rules/behaviour system too strict – 51 General negative comment – 36 Behaviour – 28</p>
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Bullying – 26
 Teachers – 18
 School is too big – 15
 Other students – 12
 Food – 10
 Uniform – 10
 Homework – 9
 Travel/traffic – 5
 Too few options – 1
 SEND - 1

Question	December 2021 934 responses			June 2022 971 responses			November 2022 1360 responses			June 2023 1047 responses			November 2023 1210 responses		
	Positive response	Some of the time/ Neutral	Negative response	Positive response	Some of the time/ Neutral	Negative response	Positive response	Some of the time/ Neutral	Negative Response	Positive response	Some of the time/ Neutral	Negative Response	Positive response	Some of the time/ Neutral	Negative Response
I enjoy school	48	39	13	44	37	19	44	36	20	38	39	23	39	39	22
Teachers help me to do my best	69	27	4	61	32	7	62	29	9	56	34	10	55	35	9
My teachers give me work that challenges me	69	27	4	61	34	5	70	26	4	63	32	5	63	31	6
I feel proud to be a Hinchbrooke student	67	28	5	61	33	6	62	32	6	54	36	10	59	33	8
Teachers listen to what I have to say in lessons	69	26	5	61	31	8	61	30	9	58	32	10	61	29	9
There is an adult at school I can talk to if something is worrying me	79	12	9	77	14	9	78	13	9	76	14	10	82	9	8
Behaviour is good at HBK	36	49	15	28	49	23	37	42	21	28	46	26	39	39	22
Have you ever been bullied?	23		77	23		77	21		79	21		79	19		81
Did you report this? *	58		42	65		35	67		33	76		24	69		31
Did reporting it resolve the issue? *	46	32	21	41	28	31	34	33	33	48	29	23	42	25	33
I feel safe when I am at school	80	16	4	77	18	5	76	20	4	73	21	6	77	19	4
I look after my physical health using what I have learned in PE lessons, Food and Nutrition and PSHCE	78	18	4	73	21	6	74	21	5	70	24	6	68	25	7

I look after my emotional and mental health using what I have learned in PSHCE, assemblies and Form Time	68	24	8	59	27	14	61	27	12	61	28	11	56	32	12
I take part in school activities outside of lessons, like clubs, sports, music and art	50	19	31	51	20	29	52	16	32	51	17	32	54	15	31
I have opportunities to be independent and take on responsibilities	73	24	3	65	28	7	66	28	6	63	30	7	66	27	9
I take up opportunities to progress my personal development										62	31	7	57	33	10
My school encourages me to respect people from other backgrounds and to treat everyone well	91	8	1	87	10	3	87	11	2	84	13	3	84	13	3
Have you ever been the victim of prejudice in your time at Hinchingsbrooke?	13		87	16		84	15		85	16		84	14		86
Did you report this? *	31		69	36		64	33		67	48		52	42		58
Did reporting it resolve the issue? *	42	19	39	42	26	32	18	40	42	37	28	35	36	41	23
My school provides me with information about my next steps	74	19	7	73	20	7	75	19	6	71	22	7	74	18	8
Have you had the opportunity to consider careers and get some careers advice in your time at Hinchingsbrooke?	40	49	11	45	43	12	40	47	13	45	40	15	41	45	13
I would recommend this school to a friend moving to the area	69	25	5	62	31	7	59	32	9	54	35	11	60	33	7

* Only answered by those who said they had previously been bullied / the victim of prejudice

Overall positive responses have increased in almost all categories suggesting all-round improvement in parental satisfaction. The most significant increase is in the question 'I keep myself informed about how my child is doing at school (eg through reading their reports, checking the Arbor App, attending parent/carer evenings where I can talk to my child's teachers)'. Although the wording of this question has changed, which may explain the increase in part, the almost 100% positive response suggests that the school is providing sufficient information about student progress and other aspects of school life and that parents and carers are engaging with this.

Other significant increases in positive responses relate to questions regarding the school making sure students are well behaved (up 9% compared to Autumn 2022 and up 11% compared to Summer 2023) and 'my child does well at this school' (up 9% compared to both survey points last year). In addition positive responses to the question around the school having high expectations have increased by 4% compared to Autumn 2022 and by 10% compared to Summer 2023; the difference is even more stark in comparison to 2021-2022 where positive responses are now 14% higher.

The only area to see a significant reduction in positive responses is the question on clubs and extra-curricular activities, which is down to 83% compared to 90% this time last year and 85% in Summer 2023. As a school we know that those extra-curricular opportunities are there so it may be a case of needing to promote these more to parents, carers and students.

A greater proportion of parents and carers would recommend the school compared to this time last year (up 7%). 81% of parents and carers agree that Hinchingsbrooke is a good school, compared to 74% in Autumn 2022 and 77% in Summer 2023.

Where parents and carers were able to explain why they think Hinchingsbrooke is or is not a good school, a significant number mentioned that their child was happy and making good progress. There were also many positive comments about staff. Negative comments centred mostly around the behaviour system and Arbor, the school not dealing well with individual students' needs and staff turnover / too many cover lessons. Overall positive comments far outnumbered negative ones (over two and a half times more positive than negative). Interestingly, while the number of negative comments was similar to those made in the Summer 2023 survey, there were considerably more positive comments made (approximately one hundred more than Summer 2023). This may suggest that although the school hasn't managed to change the opinion of those parents and carers who do not view the school as good, there has been a shift whereby more parents and carers have something positive to say about the school. Other feedback offered in the final question (Is there any other feedback you would like to give?) was broadly in line with the comments made for the 'Hinchingsbrooke is a good school' comments.

1. Which year group is your child in? (Please tick all that apply)						
Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13
Parent / Carer Responses Autumn 2023 – 335 Respondents						
84	97	55	53	55	39	30
Parent / Carer Responses Summer 2024 - xxx Respondents						

Question % (raw figure)	Strongly Agree Autumn 2023	Strongly Agree Summer 2024	Agree Autumn 2023	Agree Summer 2024	Disagree Autumn 2023	Disagree Summer 2024	Strongly Disagree Autumn 2023	Strongly Disagree Summer 2024	Do not know Autumn 2023	Do not know Summer 2024
2. My child is happy at this school	25 (85)		59 (197)		9 (30)		5 (17)		2 (6)	
3. My child feels safe at this school	27 (91)		59 (198)		6 (22)		4 (12)		4 (12)	
4. The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved	16 (53)		57 (189)		15 (51)		4 (14)		8 (28)	
5. Has your child been bullied in their time at Hinchingsbrooke?	Yes 24 (82)				No 64 (212)				12 (41)	
6. Hinchingsbrooke dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively <i>Of the 82 respondents who indicated their child had been bullied</i>	12 (10)		29 (24)		27 (22)		14 (11)		18 (15)	
8. I keep myself informed about what is going on at Hinchingsbrooke (eg through reading the weekly message, reading emails, looking at the school website, looking at the school social media channels and/or through attending the Success Evening events)	33 (112)		61 (206)		4 (12)		1 (2)		1 (3)	
9. When I have raised concerns with the school, the school has listened and responded well	19 (65)		42 (141)		16 (52)		5 (18)		18 (59)	
10. My child has SEND and the school gives them the support they need to help them succeed. 239 (71%) selected 'My child does not have SEN. % based on the remaining 96	23 (22)		35 (34)		12 (11)		13 (12)		18 (17)	
11. The school has high expectations for my child	31 (103)		51 (171)		8 (28)		3 (11)		7 (22)	
12. My child is making generally good progress at this school	27 (89)		57 (192)		7 (24)		4 (12)		5 (18)	
13. I keep myself informed about how my child is doing at school (eg through reading their reports, checking the Arbor App, attending parent/carer evenings where I can talk to my child's teachers)	51 (170)		47 (156)		1 (3)		1 (3)		1 (3)	
14. There is a good range of subjects available at this school	34 (114)		56 (187)		5 (18)		2 (6)		3 (10)	
15. My child has the opportunity to take part in clubs and activities	29 (98)		54 (182)		6 (21)		3 (9)		7 (25)	

16. I am aware that the school supports my child's wider personal development (e.g. through PSHCE, form time programme, extra-curricular opportunities, trips and leadership opportunities)	31 (102)		55 (185)		5 (18)		2 (7)		7 (23)	
17. I would recommend this school to another parent	36 (121)		43 (143)		6 (19)		6 (22)		9 (30)	
18. I think Hinchingsbrooke is a good school	31 (105)		50 (169)		7 (24)		3 (12)		7 (25)	

Question Comments

7. Please feel free to explain your answer (Q6. Hinchingsbrooke dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively)	<p>Issues sorted quickly – 6 Good communication regarding issues – 1</p> <p>Didn't tell school/sorted themselves - 7</p>	<p>Nothing was done to resolve the issue – 13 Policy ineffective – 4 Poor communication regarding issues – 2</p>
19. Please explain your answer (18. I think Hinchingsbrooke is a good school)	<p>General positive comments – 116 My child is happy – 41 My child is making good progress – 37 Positive comments about staff – 22 Good communication – 9 Ethos – 9 Range of subject – 6 Sixth Form – 6 Extra-curricular opportunities – 5 Pastoral care – 4 SEND – 3 Site – 2</p> <p>Too soon to say - 4</p>	<p>Behaviour system/Arbor – 20 Not good at dealing with individual students' needs – 16 Staff turnover too high/too many cover lessons – 9 School is too large – 8 Communications poor – 8 Standards have decreased – 7 Bullying – 7 Too much homework – 4 Online parents evenings – 4 Limited extra-curricular opportunities – 4 My child isn't pushed enough – 3 Vaping/drugs – 3 Supervision/facilities at break and lunch – 2 Too much focus on non-academic things – 2 General negative comments – 2 Lack of support staff – 1 Too much academic pressure - 1</p>
20. Is there any other feedback you would like to give?	<p>General positive comments – 16 Pastoral support excellent – 4 Positive comments about staff – 3 Positive comments about SEND – 2 School has improved – 1 Community Choir - 1</p>	<p>Behaviour system/Arbor isn't working – 27 Communications could improve – 19 Behaviour is an issue – 9 Parents evenings should be face-to-face – 7 Too much staff turnover/cover lessons – 6 Too much homework/too many homework platforms – 6 Food too expensive/not good enough – 6 Options process too restrictive – 5 Inconsistency in teaching/staff – 3 SEND support not good enough – 3 Trips are not inclusive – 3 Reports are not useful/detailed enough – 3 Bullying – 3</p>

		Uniform cost/policy – 3 Lack of lockers – 2 Issue with car park – 2 School is too large – 2 Academic targets need to be set better – 1 Facilities need upgrading - 1
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Question	November 2021 % 117 respondents		June 2022 % 77 respondents		Ofsted National Secondary School Data 2021-2022		Ofsted East of England Data 2021- 2022		November 2022 % 391 respondents		June 2023 % 242 respondents		Ofsted National Secondary School Data 2022-2023		Ofsted East of England Data 2022- 2023		November 2023 % 335 respondents		June 2024 % xxx respondents		Ofsted National Secondary School Data 2023-2024		Ofsted East of England Data 2023- 2024	
	Overall positive	Overall negative	Overall positive	Overall negative	Overall positive	Overall negative	Overall positive	Overall negative	Overall positive	Overall negative	Overall positive	Overall negative	Overall positive	Overall negative	Overall positive	Overall negative	Overall positive	Overall negative	Overall positive	Overall negative	Overall positive	Overall negative	Overall positive	Overall negative
My child is happy at this School	84	8	83	16	85	14	89	10	82	16	81	18	81	18	89	10	84	14						
My child feels safe at this School	89	4	85	11	87	12	90	9	85	12	86	10	84	15	90	9	86	10						
The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved	69	8	51	38	80	17	83	14	64	25	62	25	75	21	83	14	73	19						
My child has been bullied and the school dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively	13	8	10	16	18	12	16	11	11	14	11	12	18	15	17	11	10	10						
When I have raised concerns with the school, the school has listened and responded well	62	11	55	27	55	19	56	17	54	25	61	22	52	22	56	17	61	21						
My child has SEND and the school gives them the support they need to succeed	37	38	50	50	62	34	66	30	51	29	45	37	57	38	66	30	58	25						
The school has high expectations for my child	68	5	66	24	82	12	80	12	78	13	72	16	81	13	81	12	82	11						
My child does well at this school	70	4	79	16	83	13	86	11	75	14	75	19	81	15	86	11	84	11						
The school lets me know how my child is doing	37	36	55	43	79	19	82	16	76	19	78	21	79	20	83	16	98	2						
There is a good range of subjects available to my child at this school	87	5	83	16	90	8	90	6	93	5	87	11	89	9	90	7	90	7						
My child has the opportunity to take part in clubs and activities at this school	85	3	85	10	88	7	87	9	90	6	85	9	89	7	90	7	83	9						
The school supports my child's wider personal development	57	11	52	34	73	18	77	15	80	11	76	15	71	21	78	15	86	7						
I would recommend this school to another parent	80	5	77	15	81	19	84	16	72	13	74	15	78	22	84	16	79	12						



SLT (Senior Leadership Team) Reflections

Parent/Carer Survey

- We are very pleased with the increase and range of positive comments, as well as the increase in positive responses. The Arbor app seems to have had a positive impact in terms of information sharing between home and school
- The responses remaining the same to the question 'When I have raised concerns with the school, the school has listened and responded well' is a concern. In the Summer survey we will have two questions on this area; one around whether parents and carers received a response within 48 hours as per school guidance and one around whether raising the issue led to a resolution, so as to ascertain where the lower level of positive responses is coming from. We will also reshare our Communications Policy to remind parents and carers of expectations
- As there were some comments around parents' evening remaining online, we will reshare our reasons for using this format in an upcoming weekly message
- We were concerned that the number of respondents to the parent and carer survey remains low (c.16%) so will offer a prize draw option in the next survey to see if this encourages a greater number of responses. We will also continue to use the 'you said, we did' logo in communications to demonstrate actions taken as a result of parent / carer feedback, demonstrating the important impact this feedback has

Student Survey

- We are pleased with the high number of student respondents, making the data representative and therefore more insightful
- We are very pleased to see teaching and the quality of teaching being rated highest on the best thing about Hinchingsbrooke, but want to discuss further the perception of a minority that the school is too strict – this might be something for the new school council to address
- We need to consider more ways of promoting both physical and mental health across the school, both in lessons and as part of form time and assemblies
- It might be useful to hold form time discussions around some of the questions raised in the survey, to ensure students have had the opportunity to reflect on these areas and fully understand the questions being asked prior to completing the survey
- We will share feedback with students about the survey so they can see how their responses compared to the whole-school picture and what some of our next steps will be following their feedback