

Safeguarding Survey 2021-2022

Thank you for taking the time to answer our safeguarding survey. For more information on Safeguarding at St Thomas More, please refer to our website. The analysis is as follows:

Question	Str. agree	Agree	Dis-agree	Don't know	Our response and next steps
1. My child is happy at school.	64	46	3	2	We have worked hard this academic year to ensure that all children feel happy at school and that they have a trusted adult to talk to if they are worried. Pupil voice informs us of how pupils are feeling including strategies in class such as 'Worry Boxes' and a '5 point Scale' to teach social and emotional concepts. We have recently raised mental health during the awareness week and continue to embed mindfulness and well-being within our curriculum. The school has now achieved a Nurture Accreditation in recognition of the nurturing culture throughout the school, the enhanced teaching and learning and the promotion of health outcomes for all of our pupils. This was achieved by focusing on emotional needs and development as well as academic learning in a whole school environment. Please speak to your child's class teacher if you feel that your child is unhappy so that we can work together to support them.
2. My child feels safe at school.	71	40	1	3	Safeguarding is embedded throughout our curriculum and all staff have been trained in knowing how to keep pupils safe. Pupils will continue to be encouraged to speak out about how they feel and any worries that they may have with regards to feeling safe. Whole school assemblies as well as those in class, give opportunities to share any worries they may have and how to overcome these.
3. I have no concerns about my child's safety at school.	62	47	3	3	The school invited an external provider into school to carry out an internal audit of our safeguarding provision, facilities and care for our pupils. The feedback was very positive. Please do contact the office to speak to a member of the safeguarding team if you have specific concerns with regards to your child's safety at school to help us improve further.
4. The school teaches my child how to keep themselves safe.	44	57	1	13	To find out more about safeguarding within the curriculum, follow this link to take you to our overview page. safeguarding-within-the-curriculum.pdf (st-thomasmore.medway.sch.uk) .
5. If I have had concerns in the past about my child's safety, they have been dealt with promptly and effectively.	42	44	2	26	The school works closely with parents and encourages parents to contact a member of the safeguarding team, Jody our Pastoral Manager or the school office should you have any concerns and we will work hard to improve our practice. Parents can also contact their child's class teacher. The school will always seek and follow advice from Children's Services when necessary to ensure that correct procedures are taken.
6. My child would feel confident about approaching a member of staff if they felt unsafe or unhappy in school.	46	46	9	13	If you feel that your child may lack confidence in speaking to an adult, please do speak to your child's class teacher, a member of the safeguarding team or Jody as our Pastoral Manager. We will continue to seek pupil voice and feedback and continue with our strategies in class such as our 'Worry Boxes', circle time and '5 Point Scale' and also have an emotionally available adult available to them. We have now included an information sheet aimed at children which has been shared with them and displayed in their classroom.
7. My child knows what to do in the event of a fire.	34	46	3	32	Since returning from Covid lockdowns, we have worked hard to ensure that all pupils understand why we practice fire drills in the event of an emergency in an age appropriate way. The school has 7 trained fire wardens. Each class has a pictorial prompt that pupils can refer to and regularly practice a 'walk through' explaining to them what happens when the alarm sounds. Routine drills are held 3 times per year. Pupils at St Thomas More continue to show exemplary behaviour when

					an alarm has been activated and are able to evacuate the building in a safe and timely manner. The school is audited by an external provider for all Health & Safety procedures.
8. The school offers parents the opportunity to learn about Online Safety and how to keep children safe when using the internet.	61	49	1	4	The school bought in training for parents from an external provider and many parents attended virtually during lockdown. Unfortunately, this was not allowed to be recorded and therefore some parents felt that they missed out on this opportunity. We have taken on board your feedback and have now subscribed to a fantastic resource for parents and carers called, 'National Online Safely'. Please do take time to sign up as there is a wealth of information, webinars and resources to support you and your child. All staff have access to a tailored training package too. Certified School Membership (nationalonlinesafety.com)
9. When my child is ill or injured, the school acts promptly to deal with the situation.	61	53	1	3	If your child is given general first aid at school, you will be informed at the end of the day by an adult. If your child suffers a bump to the head and receives first aid, the school will alert you by a text or will telephone you if medical advice needs to be sought. Your child should also receive a 'first aid' form stating any first aid treatment given. If you have any concerns or worries about how your child has been dealt with, please do contact us. We have several first aiders including some who are paediatric trained.
10. The school site is kept safe and clean.	51	53	3	8	As a team, we work hard to ensure that the site remains clean, tidy and safe and encourage pupils to respect the environment by using bins provided. Our premises team and Governor, regularly reviews the site and we have recently had a positive Health & Safety inspection.
11. I feel confident and able to report any concerns or complaints to the school regarding my child's safety.	63	45	4	3	The safety of our pupils is our priority and we encourage parents to report any concerns that they may have to us. With regards to parking, we regularly and politely ask parents to be respectful with how they park when dropping off or collecting children from school. We also encourage parents to report parking incidents that occur outside of school or within the local community. The number for the hotline is 07718 130962 and should be answered between 7am and 1am seven days a week. You can also email parkinghotline@medway.gov.uk to report any issues or contact 101.
12. The school controls access to the school during the day, preventing any unauthorised adults getting into school.	60	46	0	9	The school has a secure site and one entry and exit point for parents dropping off or collecting. The main entrance is secure with a telecom and sign in system for visitors. The school have also introduced a new perimeter fence on the school field. All staff wear a red lanyard and have a responsibility to report any unknown visitors. The school gates are locked during the school day.
13. I feel confident that my child is safe at any of the clubs that are run before or after school.	61	43	0	10	All clubs run after school are delivered by members of staff. The school follows safer recruitment practice with any external provider. A member of staff will collate children attending clubs and do a register prior to it commencing. A member of staff will contact the class teacher and parent if a child does not arrive at a club when expected. A first aider is available on site at all times.
14. Are there any comments you would like to make.	<p>Thank you for your feedback, we really do appreciate it. We will take on board your comments and look at ways to improve our practice further. With regards to parking near to the school site, whilst we have no obligation to provide a member of staff out on the road, we do try to but we also expect all drivers to have due regard to the safety of others wherever they drive or park. Our local authority regularly advises the school to ask parents to report dangerous parking and with your support we hope to reduce this. Follow this link for further information on reporting: Nuisance parking and abandoned vehicles Kent Police.</p> <p>With regards to additional support in class, parents are invited to meet with the class teacher at parent evenings which take place twice a year and should receive progress data in between. We also have 'Bring Your Parent to...' sessions where you can join in with your child's learning. Please do speak to your child's class teacher if you are unsure of any additional support your child may have. With regards to the survey, future safeguarding surveys will include a 'strongly disagree' as suggested.</p> <p>Many thanks once again for your feedback.</p>				