



Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School

"Nurturing curiosity and inspiring imagination"

Autumn Term (2025-26)

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, November 2025

		Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
1	My child is happy at Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School	83%	17%		
2	I think that my child feels safe at Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School	83%	17%		
3	My child is well looked after at Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School	70%	30%		
4	My child enjoys the activities at Sandy lane Nursery and Forest School	83%	17%		
5	I am aware of what my child is learning in nursery e.g. through Tapestry posts, classroom displays, conversations with staff	71%	29%		
6	I feel informed about my child's progress e.g. through Tapestry posts, newsletter, classroom displays, conversations with staff	65%	35%		
7	My child is making good progress at Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School	74%	26%		
8	My child has special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) or is known to other professionals e.g. physic, social care, speech and language therapists	Yes 39%		No 61%	
	If you have answered yes to the question above, how strongly to you agree with this statement. <i>'The school gives my child the support they need to succeed'</i>	52%	48%		
9	I understand that supporting my child to engage in with the home learning set will support their learning and progress	83%	17%		
10	My child enjoys the home learning activities shared by nursery (home learning bags, lending library, Tapestry, weekly home learning)	61%	39%		

11	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)	70%	30%		
12	I think that the children at Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School are well behaved	52%	48%		
13	I think staff work effectively with the children to resolve conflicts	Not aware of any conflicts 67%%		Agree 33%	Disagree
14	I receive regular communications from the nursery about events e.g. the newsletter, Tapestry posts, School Spider messages, posters around school	78%	22%		
15	The school is welcoming, staff are approachable and school responds well to any concerns I raise	70%	30%		
16	The school is led and managed well	83%	17%		
17	I would recommend this school to another parent	83%	17%		
18	How did you hear about Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School? (Please tick your answer)	I have had a previous child here 28 %	From a friend/relative 20 %	From the website or Facebook 48 %	Other 4%
	For any 'disagree' and 'strongly disagree' please expand upon these answers Although there were no 'disagree' statements one parent commented: I think there could be more "at home" learning tasks put on tapestry do the weekends In addition to thee weekly home learning posted on Tapestry, and a wide range of other home learning e.g. story sacks and home reading, the parent section of the school website gives lots of suggestions of other activities that children can engage in at home. If you have any further suggestions for activities please speak to your child's key worker and we can explore this further.				
19	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. My child has become more confident, he's come along so much & he always get complimented on how smart he is. He is very happy at nursery Supported J with everything he needs support with and also supported me family to Sandy lane has been wonderful at accommodating to my child's complex needs whilst enabling him to be himself in an engaging environment. Staff are so welcoming and provide detailed updates and observations. Doing autism based activities She is very happy every morning when we going to the nursery. She has a lot of friends. Her communication is better every day. She is much more communicative in English, uses many new words and is open to learning (letters and numbers). She is interested in books, please look at them, and try to solve the tasks in them. Helping with toilet training Speech and language potty training Speech and language speech, toilet training She is more encouraged to dress independently, go to the toilet, and read books than before. Of course, she is not completely independent, but my daughter's efforts are valuable to me. Nursery has helped B interact more with other children His speech has come on loads since he started in September and he has become so much more confident Supporting J to be able to talk. So far he has been saying a few single words which is expanding as the days go by Helping my daughter build social communication with other children and staff members, helping with toilet training Friendly and supportive staff to help my child settled into the nursery All of the staff members are working very professionally on B speech delayed They have aided S in remembering to use the toilet He has become so much better at sharing and his speech is really improving. Also, he did struggle with going to school for a little while and was always upset but Jen helped him to feel safe and comfortable and now he looks forward to going to forest school. I think all of the teachers are amazing with the kids and very approachable and happy to listen Really helping with my child to play with other children and not be as shy, helping with reading and numbers has improved drastically since being at Sandy Lane. My son can communicate to an extent using choose boards which before Sandy Lane was non-existent Helping my child with speech and language also helping my child engage with others				

	My child's confidence seems to be growing stronger day by day since he has started at this nursery.
20	How has Tapestry helped with sharing information about your child's learning and ideas home learning? I love seeing things that my child does, makes me feel involved A I'm there enjoying it with him. It's really helpful for anything that's happening in Nursery and what they're doing for home learning also It has been the highlight of mine and T's dads day seeing photos on tapestry as we can't be there in person but to see the activities he has participated in and to get a snap shot with an update on his day makes us feel happy and secure with the nursery and it really does bring us a lot of joy ! Easy to use and view I's learning in nursery We got a lot of information about her development and activities. She also loves looking at the pictures and tells us what she learned at that time. We get to see what they're doing each day. On the app Good communication to know what is going on Through email and information sent to me in my daughter's profile on the website, which of course I think would be better if there were more and specific recommendations for each child, based on the knowledge of the child's behavior and movements in the nursery. <i>At the end of each term, staff publish a report for each child which shows whether they are 'on track' in their learning. Contained within this report are suggestions of things you can do to support your child at home. If you require any further support or information parents are invited to make an appointment to speak with their child's key worker.</i> Tapestry has helped me to see what I is doing at nursery I can see what they're doing on day to day activities. I love seeing pictures of them learning new things and having fun Easy to keep track of what's going on and what home learning needs to be completed Gives me an insight to what my daughter does when she's there and what she enjoys like playdough and forest school Timely updated with interactive information about what's happening in the nursery so that parents can talk with child at home I can see all the details what's B is doing in the nursery through tapestry and it's really helpful It's been great, sometimes there is a few days when we don't see anything uploaded on the app. <i>Staff's priority it to engage with the children during the session to support their learning and development. Each staff member is allocated a short amount of 'directed time' each week which is used for planning, assessments and things like Tapestry posts. As a result, staff do not post daily for each individual child. We all love to see the Tapestry posts but staff simply do not have the time to post things daily.</i> Love tapestry, I do ask what he has done in school but because his speech is not always clear I don't always understand him. Looking at pictures and videos along with the information allows us to have a conversation about his day Very good as parents separated so easy to both see how she's improving I can see what my son has learnt and then I am able to carry on with this at home It has helped Good to see pictures of what K has been up too while he is there
21	As a parent/carers, what do you like best at Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School? My child has so much confidence & seeing him meeting new people and make new friends warms my heart, he loves playing outside also. Everyone always comes together to help one another and it's such a friendly welcoming place to come to for my child - The sensory light house room. - The forest school. - Welcoming, friendly and overall wonderful staff which make it what it is ! - Activities whether this be sensory play or baking. - Facilities (disabled). Staff are welcoming and provide information on the day For us, the best sign that she is in a good place is that she happily goes to nursery every day, looking forward to being there with her friends. We also think that the nursery teachers are excellent in supporting her development. We are very satisfied! The staff are friendly It helped my son with speech and language and in interacting with friends Very friendly teachers It is enjoyable and educational That my daughter is happy there and always looks forward to coming to nursery. I like the management and reception staff, they are very helpful and understanding The wide variety of activities & play resources so the children are never bored I like the fact that my child comes to nursery happy and leaves happy. You can tell he is settled and is already making more progress with his development

	Staff are lovely and welcoming and always keep me informed about what she has done/achieved, the outside area/forest school is amazing for children to learn and experience Perfect learning environment and staff I like the communication between teachers and the parents about the performance of the child The outside play areas and the activities they plan for the children the boys love being outdoors exploring and the weekly forest session is super fun and educational too which is one of the things I love about the school Very welcoming friendly environment and very easy to communicate with. No question is a silly question. Staff will always try to answer it. If staff don't know the answer, they make a point of finding out for when they next see you. All the children and staff seem happy How welcoming and friendly all staff are and how all staff know each child's name That the staff are welcoming and approachable and that they respond well to any questions or concerns I may have.
22	What could we change or make better? <i>We had lots of comments where parents said nothing needed to change in addition to these below</i> I would like to see more careful attention paid to children like my daughter, who are foreigners, in terms of English and communication skills with other children. <i>Staff are highly skilled in supporting children to develop language, whether that's learning English, developing their vocabulary or using specialist resources to help children to communicate. In our mainstream classrooms we use a range of communication aids e.g. pictures, signing, objects to aid understanding. Where staff or parents have concerns children may also be referred to specialist speech and language services and/or take part in additional group or individual work to build their vocabulary. Staff are happy to share with parents how they are supporting individual children on request.</i> Changing of nappies more regularly, making sure the children are a bit better presented at pick up eg no snotty faces or dirty hands. <i>Play can be a messy business but staff are always on hand to support children to learn to blow their noses and wash their hands. For children attending a 3 hour session, staff change nappies as required. Any child attending for a longer session will have their nappy changed at least once and more frequently if required. We do try our best but it is possible that a nappy may be soiled just prior to them being collected. If there is a specific concern I would ask parents to share this with room staff.</i> I'm very happy with the school already Everything is perfect I think there could be more info posted to tapestry for parents to aid at home fun learning for the weekends - <i>please see the previous comment relating to this above</i> Nothing. In my opinion nothing needs changing. A quick little update at end of session if child has eaten snack or had a drink <i>At the end of the session staff's priority is to ensure children are safely handed over to parents but are always able to answer these types of questions when asked.</i>