



SURVEY

Reflections

2024/25



Thank you for taking the time to fill in our survey; we understand that you all lead very busy lives and we appreciate your efforts.

We are part of a proud network of seven maintained nursery schools who lead the way in developing and maintaining quality Early Years provision.

Our wonderful team of caring and conscientious staff work tirelessly to develop strong relationships with your child and help them develop and make progress. Our teams are also trained in the latest developments in early childhood education and have access to many professional development opportunities to make sure we can serve your children best.

Any feedback you provided will be carefully considered by the Senior Leadership Team and where feasible, steps will be made to ensure that we make positive changes for the benefit of all of the children in our care.

QUESTION 1: MY CHILD IS HAPPY AT REBECCA CHEETHAM NURSERY

We are thrilled to know that **100%** of parents surveyed believe their child is *happy* at Nursery.



Strongly Agree

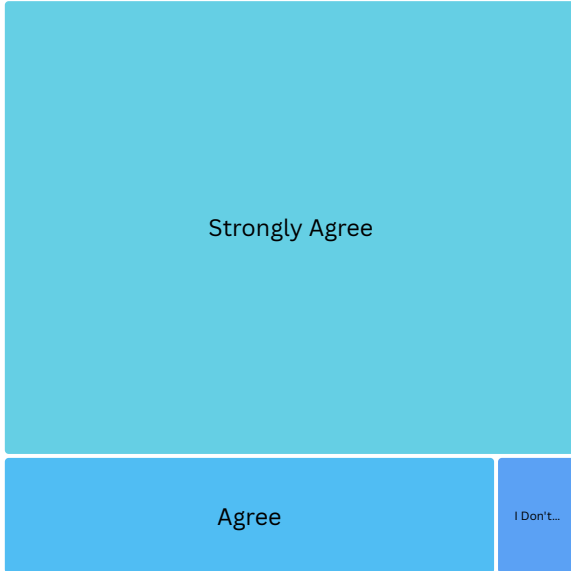
Agree

Our aim is that Children who come to Rebecca Cheetham generally settle in very quickly and forge good relationships with adults and their peers. We love the fact that children love coming to nursery and even if that separation anxiety exists at drop-off most children settle quickly into the day. Happiness at Rebecca Cheetham is the key emotion we want children to feel.

2: MY CHILD FEELS SAFE AT REBECCA CHEETHAM NURSERY.



Children feeling safe and being kept safe is the most important consideration in any school and childcare setting and **97%** of parents told us that they feel their child is *safe* at Rebecca Cheetham.



Keeping children safe means many different things to us; from protecting children from harm in a child protection perspective to ensuring the space that the children play in is safe and secure from a health and safety perspective. We have an extraordinary amount of space for your children to roam, explore and be curious in, so making sure that they are kept safe is paramount. The learning environment also needs to offer some risk for the children; these are the building blocks to children overcoming hurdles and consolidating their learning through play.

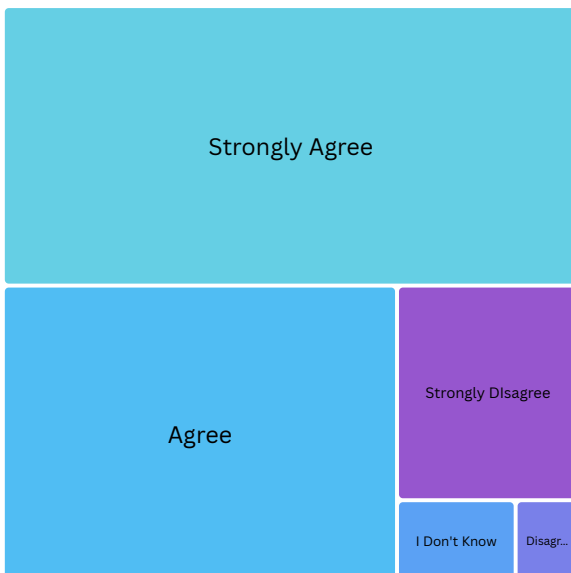
If you do have any safety concerns we would actively encourage you to speak with a member of staff. We aim for all parents to feel the environment is safe and that any risks are managed or assessed for safety.

Our team of staff have been trained thoroughly in safeguarding and are vigilant in issues of child protection. We have also implemented more stringent strategies and approaches to safeguarding to ensure concerns are acted on even more swiftly.

3: I FEEL MY CHILD BEHAVES WELL AT REBECCA CHEETHAM NURSERY.



We are genuinely surprised by the response to this question as generally we don't see children's behaviour as an issue at Rebecca Cheetham. In fact, visitors comment on how calm the place feels. **83.8%** of parents felt their child behaves well, whilst 13.3% disagreed with this statement. We hope that if you had some concerns about your child's behaviour, that you would speak to us. Please be assured that if we had concerns we would raise them with you so we can work together.



In regards to children's behaviour, we try to help children learn from the mistakes that they might make. Children are still learning to be social beings and are developing their skills in relation to how they manage different situations such as sharing or disagreements. Sometimes children behave in a way that we don't like when they don't have the vocabulary they need to express themselves. Hitting and biting usually occur out of frustration when children can't express themselves.

It is also worth noting that sometimes children behave very differently at nursery than they do at home.

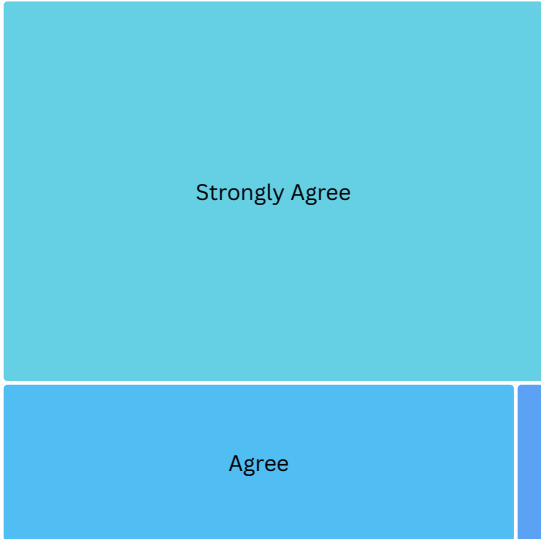
Please reach out if you had concerns about your child's behaviour and we would be happy to have a conversation with you.

4 : MY CHILD IS MAKING PROGRESS AT REBECCA CHEETHAM NURSERY.

We are very pleased to note that **98.5%** of respondents said that they feel their child is making **progress** at nursery. Nursery provides children with so many wonderful opportunities to be independent and develop relationships with others which is key to their development.



We spend time getting to know children so we are clear on where children's starting points are and create an "initial assessment"; something we carefully consider so we have a base to know where children have made progress. Setting some targets for children also helps to give the key person some focus on what areas your child needs support in developing. Our Senior Leadership Team meet with key persons to discuss children progress and development. The independence that children develop allows them to grow their confidence, build on their ideas and act on their imagination. This is all supported by a team that understands child development and receives regular training to keep up-to-date on the latest developments.

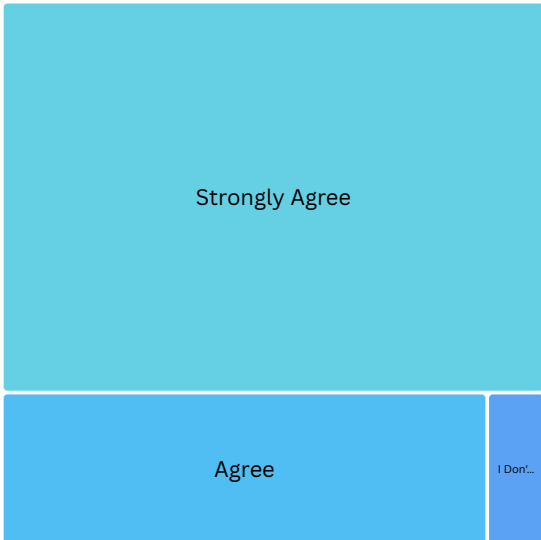


5: REBECCA CHEETHAM OFFERS MY CHILD A WIDE RANGE OF LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES.

97.1% of parents told us that they feel that the nursery offers a wide range of **learning opportunities**. This is reassuring as we spend a great deal of time thinking about what we want children to learn and the best way to go about imparting that knowledge to the children and helping them to consolidate their learning.

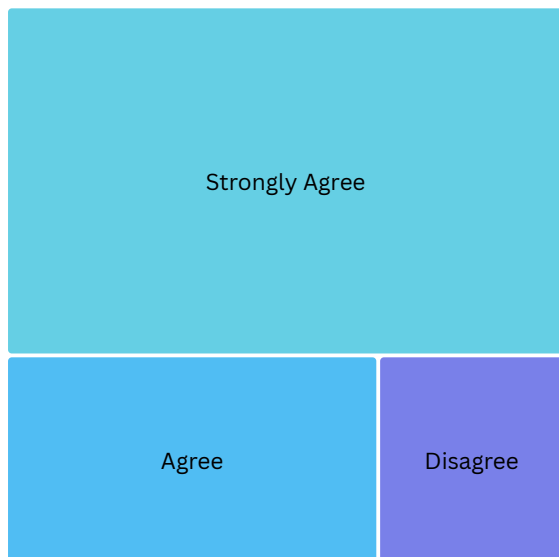


We are very proud of our learning environment, both inside and outside and value the activities we offer our children in the small focus tasks and the exciting educational opportunities the children can access to further stimulate their learning and enhance the curriculum we offer. We feel that our curriculum is broad and balanced and above all, helps to promote a love of books and reading. It is important that we work in partnership with you all in the process of stimulating your child; by contributing to Evidence Me, you can provide us with further information of your child's abilities, which in turn helps to inform our planning. Please take advantage of initiatives such as the Sustainable Citizenship Passport which offers further unique opportunities.



6 : MY CHILD HAS SEND AND THE SCHOOL GIVES THEM THE SUPPORT THEY NEED.

87.5% of parents agreed that they feel their children who are on a SEND support plan at Rebecca Cheetham get the **support** they need, whilst 12.5% said they disagree. We would hope that in the regular meetings you have with your child's key person that you are able to bring up your concerns.



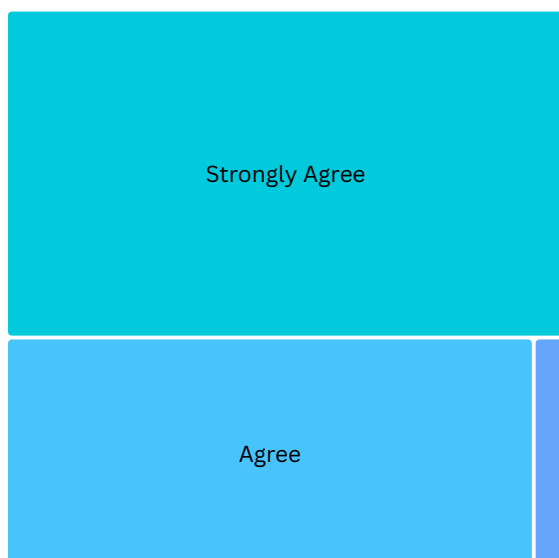
We want to make sure that parents feel confident that their child with SEND is getting the right kind of support. We have invested a great deal of funding into SEND staffing to make sure that children get access to the curriculum with specially trained staff who know how to bring the best out of your children. Unless it is specifically recommended, children will be working alongside their peers, developing their skills, confidence and independence to support them before they transition to Reception. Parents are always welcome to make regular appointments to meet with key workers to discuss their child's plan or their progress.

Things like diagnosis of needs, funding and EHCP plans are decisions that are out of our hands and we are at the will of other outside agencies, so whilst we work hard to pursue these things, the final decisions don't rest with us.



7: I CAN SPEAK TO STAFF ABOUT ANY ISSUES I HAVE AND THEY RESPOND WELL TO MY CONCERNS.

98% of respondents that had raised an issue felt that they could speak to staff about any issues and that the team had responded well to their **concerns**. We would never want anyone to feel that they couldn't speak about any issues and concerns they might have and want to remind you that you don't have to feel unhappy about something.



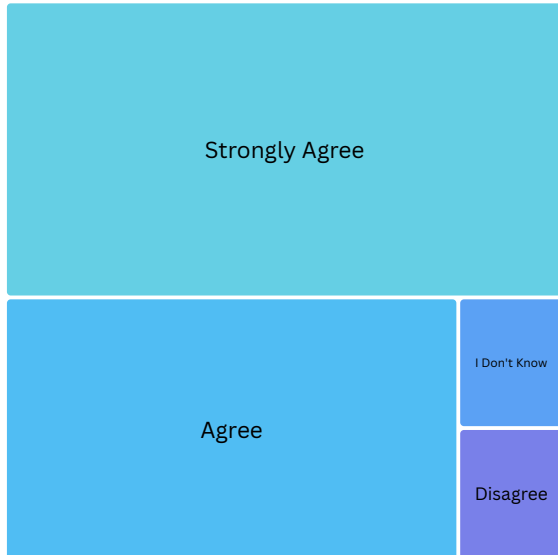
In most cases you should be able to speak to your child's key worker as the first port of call.

Interestingly, through this survey one parent helpfully provided their name along with some concerns and we were able to, very quickly, respond and resolve efficiently. Unfortunately, there may be times that we are not able to resolve an issue in the way in which you would like due to various constraints we may have; our hope is that if that is the case, that someone has explained things to you so you understand our perspective. We want to ensure that you feel satisfied with everything that we do here at Rebecca Cheetham.



8 : THE SCHOOL PROVIDES ME WITH MEANINGFUL WRITTEN FEEDBACK ON HOW MY CHILD IS DOING.

The results told us that **91%** of respondents believe that the written **feedback** we provide is meaningful, 4.4% didn't know and 4.4% disagreed. Since we don't provide daily, written feedback, we want to make sure that the information we do provide reflects our knowledge of your child and the progress that they are making. We want to minimise the amount of time key persons spend on devices and maximise the time they spend getting to know and work with your child.



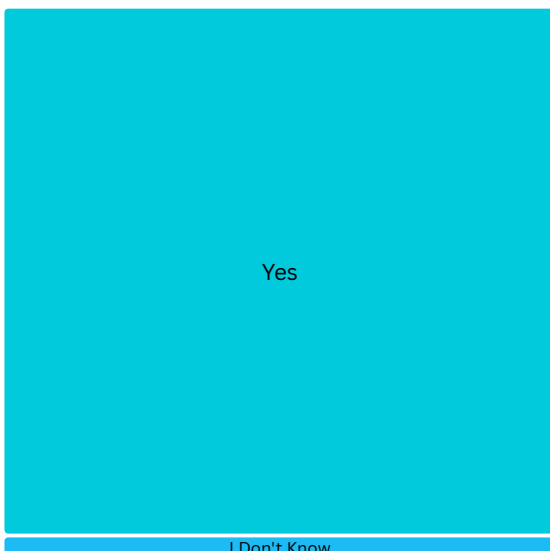
It is helpful to remind you how we feedback about your child's progress. The majority of feedback is via the Evidence Me platform. If you don't receive Evidence Me notifications then please make sure you speak to a member of the office team and we can get you set up immediately. These notifications are released at the end of every school term.

We offer formal consultations twice a year where we will sit with you and discuss your child's progress.

Aside from that, we welcome you to speak to your child's key person anytime you want some feedback or to chat about any issues you may have. They know your child best within the nursery and will be more than happy to speak with you. We can always cover the key person to make time for you.

9: I WOULD RECOMMEND REBECCA CHEETHAM TO ANOTHER PARENT.

98.5% of respondents said that they would **recommend** Rebecca Cheetham to another parent and that is very humbling to know and we thank you for your support.



We are always thankful to be recommended to other parents so please spread the word. Obviously we would have loved 100% so if there is something you want support with or need to know, always reach out to us. The wonderful team at Rebecca Cheetham have all dedicated our working careers to teaching and supporting children in the Early Years. As an "Outstanding" school we have to work even harder to ensure that we keep that judgement by always looking to how we can do better and be at the forefront of excellent Early Years practice and pedagogy.

Thank you to all the staff who have given my son the best start to his schooling years and made it easy for me as a full time working mum to leave my child in nursery knowing he is so well looked after.

I love it so much! I wish my son could stay here forever!

I have nothing but good praises for Rebecca Cheetham nursery! My child is flourishing and the staff are attentive and helpful

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Our experience with the nursery is excellent. Our child loves it there. She is having fun, making friends and learning a lot. We have a great relationship with all the staff.

It's brilliant - a million miles better than the nursery he was at previously. The teachers really engage the kids in the learning and really know my son. His key worker has been happy to discuss his progress and school decisions - really helpful. I love the outdoor space too.

I am grateful that the team know my child, understand her preferences and have made an effort to get to know her. The written reports also help to display this knowledge of my child. She is always happy to go to nursery and that makes me feel reassured.

Our experience at Rebecca Cheetham has been amazing, my daughter is always happy to come to nursery in the mornings. I enjoy listening to all her stories about her day, seeing her develop her skills and understanding. She loves all her teachers and has also made so many friends at Rebecca Cheetham.

Rebecca Cheetham is a wonderful nursery and my child has grown so much socially and intellectually which makes me very happy, they are very supportive and encourage my child to be independent. I know my child will have all the skills he needs to be school ready by this September.

Thank you to all the staff at Rebecca Cheetham. You are doing a great job!!!!

My experience of Rebecca Cheetham has been fantastic. My children have thrived under the care of the staff. They are happy and making excellent progress. I feel so lucky that we have such a fantastic school nursery that our children have been able to attend. Thank you for everything that you do.

SOME OF THE WONDERFUL THINGS YOU WROTE!

EVEN BETTER IF...

WE TAKE YOUR COMMENTS SERIOUSLY: LET'S ADDRESS SOME OF YOUR CONCERNS.

“I would love to be informed on everything concerning the nursery I.e if there are any sickness that us as parents should be mindful of or any information no matter how small or irrelevant it may seem.”

I appreciate that it's hard when our children get sick (speaking from my own experience as a working parent) but it can cause a great deal of anxiety if we were reporting on illness in the school to parents on a regular basis. Children generally pass things on to each other much quicker than adults do, mainly due to a lack of understanding of personal space and the close proximity they play with each other. Illness can also be passed on before children are symptomatic as well. There is no mandate on reporting illness, although if there were seven or more cases of chicken pox, for example, at the same time, we would report that to the Local Authority and our Health and Safety Advisors. We place importance on hand washing and teaching the children the importance of cleanliness and we clean surfaces regularly.

It is important to try and minimise the information that we filter through to parents as well, as if we were reporting on every little thing, then it would be information overload and that's when people tend to switch off and ignore, meaning important messages could be missed.

“It would be great to have detailed overall written feedback on progress per term rather than just under snapshot images.”

“I haven't been given any written update on his progress yet.”

We try to ensure that the written information about children's progress that is sent to parents is meaningful, relevant and displays our knowledge of your child. The snapshot images are “Wow” moments when we notice children are doing something significant towards their developmental goals. As we are a school, we follow the school terms and every term (three times a year) we will provide you with an “Initial Assessment” which is a longer and more detailed description of what we know about your child and what we would like to focus on next in their development.

If you haven't received any written updates, please speak to your child's key person and they can help you know when these assessments/observations are provided.

“A discussion with key worker beforehand on best plan when transitioning child from reduced to increased hours.”

This is something that we do try to do but we have recognised that this is not always consistent across the nursery school and something that is on our radar to change. Thank you for bringing this issue up for us to develop a more helpful and consistent approach going forward.

“My one feedback would be around support with use of the toilet. ... May I request that the staff team check that children have wiped themselves properly. Also, if water can be used to clean children as the tissue is rough.”

Toilet training has become an increasingly contentious issue and has attracted a great deal of media attention of late with some boroughs requesting that parents of primary school aged children come to school to change nappies themselves!

We recognise that children’s toilet training journey is a unique and individual one and our goal is to help and encourage children to be independent in their toilet usage; independent wiping is an essential part of toilet training. If your child is at this stage of their toilet training journey it’s important that we wean them off adults wiping them, even if we are wiping to help avoid stains in their underwear.

We also don’t encourage the use of wet wipes as they notoriously end up down the toilet and end up blocking the toilets and if we don’t have functioning toilets then we are at risk of having to close until the situation has been rectified.

Some children want privacy when going to the toilet and it is important that we respect children; for example, some children don’t want anyone else to see their poo. We need to ensure that we respect children’s individual choices. Other children are in such a rush to get their toileting out of the way in fear that they might miss out on play. Also, we don’t want to create regression or toilet anxiety in children and be hovering above children when they are in the toilet.

Things like washing children after the toilet is not practical or reminiscent of what children will experience in the world around them (your own home may be an exception) and tools like water sprays will cause a whole other type of mess; wet clothes and an increased workload.

Members of our team are currently doing additional training in the latest developments around toilet training in the hope that we have more specialised support and advice for parents when they undertake this milestone with their children.

“As a parent, though I don’t feel I have a good grasp of what my child is learning specifically at any particular time and so I can’t reinforce or bring context to her learning at home.”

“As parents we don’t see enough of what child does at school. Access to topics/themes/books covered per term would be great.”

This felt like something we could action immediately. We have uploaded the “adult focus” weekly planning to the website so all parents are welcome to look through to see what we will be focusing on with the children. Here is the link:

<https://www.rebeccacheetham.newham.sch.uk/page/?title=Weekly+Planning+%28Cooke%2C+Donaldson%2C+Jeffers+Room%29&pid=58>

Alongside this, please speak to your child’s key person if you want further advice. We would also actively encourage you to access initiatives we offer such as the “Sustainable Citizenship Award” Passport (this was given out recently to all our children in Cooke, Donaldson and Jeffers Room). This will help support some of the learning that is going on in the nursery.

Our biggest suggestion is to give your children ample opportunities to play and for you to engage in conversations with your child, alongside daily reading; all in your home language, of course!

The two year old provision don’t do adult focus learning as we don’t encourage children that age to be sitting for extended periods of time; it’s not developmentally recommended.