

Spalding High School
Parental Questionnaire Executive Summary 2020-2021
Years 7-13 546 Responses



Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, thank you to all you who took the time to complete our remote learning survey. Your feedback is very important to us and your comments and the results have been analysed and discussed.

As you know, this is a totally new scenario for schools across the country. Since the start of the pandemic, colleagues have taken on an incredible challenge and rapidly found new ways to educate and support young people and families.

Secondly, we are very pleased with such a positive response in all of the areas surveyed and are encouraged by the significant number of parents who commented favourably on the School's preparation and provision in this lockdown.

Please find below a table that we have created in response to the survey. It includes the results and links to further educational websites and resources for use at home. We hope that you will find it both informative and useful.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Ben Love
 Assistant Headteacher

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
1. My child has a quiet area to work in. 97.07% agree/ strongly agree	63.92%	33.15%	2.38%	0.55%

Thank you for your support in providing your child with a physical location that supports independent learning and is as quiet and free from distractions as possible. It is encouraging that so many of you feel that your child has a quiet area to work in.

If your child is struggling to engage with remote education at home (for example, due to lack of devices or a quiet space to study), please do let their Head of Year know via email so that they are aware and can provide support. This support could include inviting students into school to work during periods of partial-school closure.

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
2. My child has access to a computer or tablet at home to do schoolwork. 99.27% agree/ strongly agree	82.05%	17.22%	0.37%	0.37%

We have worked tirelessly since the start of the pandemic to bridge the 'digital divide' – a common term for the lack of internet access and technological devices. We have provided laptops and 4G wireless routers to those students struggling to engage with remote education at home due to lack of a device as well as requesting extra data for mobile devices.

All live-streamed lessons are recorded and saved in the relevant class Team's 'Channel' meaning that students unable to join are able to review the lesson at their convenience. As part of our Microsoft Teams rollout, all students also benefit from a Microsoft Office 365 account giving them access to the latest Office

Apps, like Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Teams and Outlook from home and the ability to install said Apps on PCs, Macs, tablets, and phones (providing they are not already installed).

Throughout the pandemic, families have been encouraged to contact us, in confidence, should they experience any difficulties accessing Teams, the VLE, a digital device or the internet and I would urge families who are still experiencing difficulties to get in touch with the school: enquiries@spaldinghigh.lincs.sch.uk.

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
3. My child has access to an internet connection fast enough to stream videos. 94.67% agree/ strongly agree	52.21%	42.46%	4.60%	0.74%

As above, we understand that technical issues and/or bandwidth restrictions might make it difficult for students to join live-streamed lessons. As a result, all live-streamed lessons are recorded and saved in the relevant class Team's 'Channel' meaning that students unable to join are able to review the lesson at their convenience. We have also limited video in live class sessions to save bandwidth.

Microsoft have published an article suggesting things students can do to minimise the bandwidth used: [Use Teams for schoolwork when bandwidth is low \(microsoft.com\)](https://www.microsoft.com/en-gb/teams/schoolwork-when-bandwidth-is-low)

Should you encounter any difficulties with Teams or Office 365 and require technical support, please email: 365Help@spaldinghigh.lincs.sch.uk

Alternatively, please contact your child's teacher should they experience difficulties accessing digital content for a particular subject.

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
4. My child is spending an appropriate amount of time on a screen. 83.76% agree/ strongly agree	35.24%	48.52%	12.92%	3.32%

We have followed the educational research in this area and have tried to maintain an appropriate balance between synchronous ('live' lessons) and asynchronous learning. We were very mindful from the start that students would potentially be spending long periods in front of a computer screen and the fatigue that can result from too much synchronous learning.

Encouragingly, 83.76% of parents responded positively to question 4, suggesting that by and large the School has got this balance right, although we acknowledge there is still more to do to achieve an appropriate balance in each and every subject and across every year group. Some parents asked about the possibility of non-screen days, where all activities would be non-screen based. This is a fantastic idea and certainly something we will look at should we, heaven forbid, enter another period of remote learning.

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
5. My child is completing all their schoolwork in the set time allocated. 81.52% agree/ strongly agree	37.34%	44.18%	16.27%	2.22%

We have been really impressed with the quality and quantity of the work that is being submitted, although understand how difficult learning from home can be.

In order to mitigate against the risk of school work spilling over beyond the normal school day, teachers have been asked to ensure that students are given sufficient time in lessons to complete activities and application work, although this is not always easy especially if technological problems arise during the

lesson. We have also taken the decision, for the time being at least, not to set homework in Years 7- 10 during the partial-school closure. Whilst homework can be set for Years 11 and 13, any work set should focus on revision and consolidation, not introducing new content. Finally, students have continued to benefit from two private study sessions each fortnight along with several PSHCE lessons.

Given that students are following their normal timetable, we expect that remote education (including remote teaching and independent work) will take students broadly the same amount of time as if they were in school. Generally speaking, a student's school day should end at 3.40pm.

If this is not the case, I would urge parents to make contact with either the relevant subject teacher or, if more than one subject, the relevant Head of Year.

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
6. My child receives the right amount of schoolwork to complete. 80.00% agree/ strongly agree	22.41%	57.59%	17.59%	2.41%

We aim to set work in accordance with government guidance and our own professional knowledge of the students and are delighted that 80% of parents feel their child is receiving the right amount of schoolwork to complete.

For question 6, a large proportion of the 'Disagree' and 'Strongly disagree' related to Year 11. Whilst this is something we will naturally look at in greater detail, I would ask parents to bear in mind the government expectation that schools set work that is of an equivalent length to the core teaching pupils would receive in school. In secondary, this means a **minimum** of 4 hours a day, with more for pupils working towards formal qualifications e.g. Years 11 and 13. Furthermore, it is important to point out that comments written by parents disagreeing with this question vary almost equally between those who feel that the School either sets too much or too little.

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
7. My child is coping with the amount of work. 84.02% agree/ strongly agree	29.51%	54.51%	13.53%	2.44%
8. My child is coping well working in the home environment. 84.85% agree/ strongly agree	31.63%	53.22%	12.12%	3.03%

We continue to be very proud of our students for completing their schooling in the face of a global pandemic, at an extraordinarily difficult moment in history. They have shown great resilience in embracing this new way of working. However, if you feel that your child is not coping with home learning please contact your child's Head of Year to discuss how we can better support their emotional wellbeing needs.

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
9. My child knows where to get wellbeing support. 85.93% agree/ strongly agree	29.28%	56.65%	11.60%	2.47%

During this difficult time, the following links may be useful to you in providing guidance in supporting your child:

www.Lincolnshire.gov.uk/ewb
<https://www.childline.org.uk/>
<https://www.lpft.nhs.uk/>

<https://www.kooth.com/>
<https://youngminds.org.uk/>

Advice and guidance for students can be found on pages 27-29 of the Y7-11 school planner and pages 21-22 of the Sixth Form planner.

If you are concerned about the emotional well-being of your child, in an emergency, please contact Children's Services (01522 782111), NHS 111 or dial 999.

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
10. My child knows how to stay safe online. 99.05% agree/ strongly agree	59.13%	39.92%	0.95%	

The following link may be useful to you in providing guidance in supporting your child:

[thinkuknow_secondary_parents_helpsheet.pdf \(spaldinghigh.lincs.sch.uk\)](http://thinkuknow_secondary_parents_helpsheet.pdf(spaldinghigh.lincs.sch.uk))

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
11. I feel confident about supporting my child to learn at home. 84.79% agree/ strongly agree	33.84%	50.95%	13.50%	1.71%
12. I know where to get support to help my child to learn at home. 81.33% agree/ strongly agree	27.05%	54.29%	15.62%	3.05%

Whilst the majority of parents reported feeling confident supporting their child to learn from home, we understand that many of you are juggling a number of responsibilities at the moment. If you are struggling in any way, or have concerns, please contact your child's Head of Year in the first instance who will do everything to support you and your individual circumstances.

In response to the unprecedented closure of schools to most pupils, the EEF has produced a set of resources for parents to support effective home learning:

[Summary of Resources - Parents.pdf \(educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk\)](http://Summary_of_Resources_-_Parents.pdf(educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk))