



Council of International Schools Survey 2022

The Friends' School participated again in 2022 in the Council of International Schools format survey and invited students, parents/guardians, staff and the Board to respond. The survey results provided an opportunity to compare with the School's inaugural participation in 2014. In 2022, the School used a new survey platform to enable us to have the data segmented and brokedown, for example, year group insights.

Participation is shown in the table below. Since 2020, the School has not included alumni in the survey, as the data was not being suitably utilised and the questions did not suit our community or strategic priorities.

Respondents	Year				
	2022	2020	2018	2016	2014
Students	413	402	783	855	807
Faculty / Staff	127	134	219	124	132
Parents	434	391	707	472	580
Board	9	7	11	13	13
Alumni/ae	-	-	598	629	517
Total (without alumni/ae)	983	934	1720	1464	1532

The survey is completed biennially to benchmark The Friends' School community responses from one data collection to another. A particular focus is how we fared within our own community from one survey to the other.

In 2022, the School also included a number of additional questions with respect to child safety and safeguarding information. The response information has been shared with relevant staff and is another important source of information as we continue to ensure our School is a safe and welcoming environment for all.



Data were collected against seven sections:

1. School Guiding Statements
2. Teaching and Learning
3. Governance and Leadership
4. Faculty and Support Staff
5. Access to Teaching and Learning
6. School Culture and Partnerships for Learning
7. Operational Systems.

How Friends' Fared

Data from the survey indicate The Friends' School has improved in a number of areas measured by the survey since it was last completed in 2020. Some areas for improvement identified in previous surveys continue to be part of the Board of Governors Strategic Areas of Priority. This includes work on enhancing the understanding of how to access information regarding child safeguarding. The School looks forward to realising the benefits of the Campus Redevelopment Phase One from 2023 and the Learning @ Friends' 24 Plus Program implementation from 2024.

Section 1: School Guiding Statements

- The data indicated that 72.8% of students agreed with, *I am familiar with my school's Purpose and Concerns Statement*, compared to 79.4% in 2020. The School will aim to return this response level to closer to 80% over the next period.
- The data also indicated a growth in parents' understanding that, *'I was provided with adequate and accurate information regarding the school prior to sending my child there*, with 96.9% of parent respondents agreeing with this statement, compared to 95.3% in 2014.
- Pleasingly, 82% of students indicated that they agreed with, *'I know where to find a description of my courses of studies if I wish to refer to it.'* This is compared to 78.4% (2020) and 71.3% (2014) agreement in past years.



- Staff continue to strongly agree that, *'The Purpose and Concerns Statement is considered when important decisions are being made'*, with 93.6% in agreement with this statement.

Section 2: Teaching and Learning

- Students strongly agreed that *Teachers use information technology to assist students in learning or understanding new topics* with 93.6% in agreement, compared to 90.8% in 2014 and 90% in 2016.
- Staff continue to place a strong emphasis on, *'I encourage the development of critical thinking and problem solving skills in my students'*, with 98.2% in agreement with this statement. This compares well with previous surveys.
- Students strongly (86.7%) agreed that *My classes challenge me*, compared to 85.5% in 2014.
- Students indicated (83.3%) that *What I learned in my classes last year is helping me this year*, compared to 79.5% in 2018.
- Parents again strongly believed that, *'The school's curriculum and programs reflect what the Purpose and Concerns Statement says the school is trying to do,'* with 94% in agreement, compared to 91% in 2020.
- Parents strongly supported (95.4%) the statement *My child's classroom has sufficient learning materials*, compared to 83.3% in 2016.

Section 3: Governance and Leadership

- Regarding the statement, *The governing body provides the School with sound direction, continuity and effective support*, the School continued with positive feedback from staff, with 85.7% of staff agreeing, compared to 81.7% in 2016.
- An increase to 87.1% of staff feel, *'I am aware of the school's educational plans and the school's educational plans guide my work'*, from 61.5% within the School in 2014.
- It was pleasing to note that the parent's response to, *'I am satisfied with the school leadership'*, has improved to 87.1% from 84.1% agreement in 2020.



Section 4: Faculty and Support Staff

- 92.3% of parents agreed with *I am satisfied with the qualifications of the teachers in the school.*, compared to 90.3% in 2020 and 73.5% in 2016.
- 92.6% of parents agreed with, *'I believe that this school is a good match for my child's needs and strengths,* compared to 90.5% in 2020.
- 93.3% of students agreed that *I believe that my teachers are knowledgeable about their subjects,* compared to 95.4% in 2018.
- Staff (93.4%) indicated, *Appraisals of my performance are conducted fairly and in writing,* compared to 93.8% in 2014.

Section 5: Access to Teaching and Learning

- 82.1% of staff agreed that *I know where to refer exceptional students to accommodate their talents and interest,* compared to 83.1% in 2018.
- Students (85.6%) indicated that *The school provides me with support if I need help with my English or with another language of instruction,* compared to 85.1% in 2014.
- 85.9% of staff agree that, *'There are opportunities for high ability students to extend and enrich their learning in my class or elsewhere in the school',* compared to 88.8% in 2020 .
- 92.6% of parents agreed with the statement, *'I believe that this school is a good match for my child's needs and strengths'.* This compares to 90.5% agreement in 2020.
- 87.6% of parents agreed that *'If my child is having academic difficulties, appropriate help is available',* which was positive compared to the 2020 level of 84%.

Section 6: School Culture and Partnerships for Learning

- Staff agreed (at 97.8%), *I am encouraged by the school to view each student as a whole person,* compared to 96.4% in 2016.
- Students believed (94.2) with the statement, *The school provides opportunities for me to participate in community service activities,* compared to 91.6% in 2018.
- Also very positive for Friends' was that 90.9% of students agreed, *The school*



helps me to understand and respect differences and to appreciate diversity, which was comparable to other surveys.

- *An area for growth is that 86.1% of students agreed, *The school provides opportunities for students to learn leadership skills*, compared to 91.5% in 2018.*

Section 7: Operational Systems

In the past we reported that improving the School's facilities was a pressing area, and it should be noted that the Campus Redevelopment Stage One has not been completed at the time of this survey.

- *The staff response to *I am satisfied with the physical condition of the school and its appropriateness for teaching and learning* has decreased from 50% agreement in 2020 to 48.9% in 2022.*
- *However, 68.6% of staff agreed that *I have adequate equipment and storage space for my teaching needs, which increased from 60.8% in 2014, and 56.5% in 2018.**
- *Pleasingly, 96.5% of parents agree *The school is financially secure and operates in a financially responsible manner*, compared to 82.5% in 2016.*

ChildSafe Questions

In 2022, the School also included a number of additional questions with respect to child safety and safeguarding information. This information has provided a benchmark and a range of follow-up actions and activities. Some results include:

- *90.4% of students agreed, *'I feel safe at School.'**
- *72.3% of students agreed with the statement, *'Child safety is the number one priority of the School; I believe this statement to be true.'**
- *87.9% of students believe, *'I have at least one trusted adult who I can turn to when I need support.'**
- *98.6% of parents supported the statement, *'I trust the school's emergency procedures, such as for evacuation, and I trust that my child is safe on campus.'**
- *70.2% of parents stating, *'I know how to access the School's Child Safeguarding information and inform the School of a Child Safeguarding Concern.'**
- *100% of staff agreed with the statement, *'I have read and understand the School's Child Safeguarding and Mandatory reporting policies.'**



Board of Governors Strategic Priorities

The Friends' School is committed to ongoing improvement and development of the learning experience and continued health and safety for students, staff and families. The data provided by the School's participation in the Council of International Schools Survey is one key source of evidence to inform the School's Strategic Plans and key improvement initiatives.