

Fawkham Primary School Children's Survey

Miss Bridges, Headteacher, agreed that all pupils would complete a Children's Survey to find out what they think about Fawkham. This was completed in school time by all pupils from Years 1 to 6 individually, with reception class having a discussion and the output noted by their teacher.

The survey asked the following questions:

1. What do you like about Fawkham?
2. Is there something you don't like about Fawkham?
3. What three adjectives (describing words) would you use to describe Fawkham?
4. Please draw a picture of how you would like Fawkham to look in ten years time.

The surveys were completed in September 2021.

Year Group	Number completed
Reception, age 4	1*
Years 1/2, age 5 - 6	27
Years 3/4, age 7- 9	28
Years 5/6, age 10 -11	26
Total	82

* This was a group survey, completed by the teacher, following a class discussion.

An analysis of the surveys showed the following results.

What the children like:

The survey shows the children at Fawkham School really like the **rural setting** of the school, with the words fields (10) greenery (10), views (10) hills (3) countryside (3) mentioned 27 times.

The **natural surroundings** were also much liked, with the words nature, wildlife, trees, woods and flowers mentioned 21 times. **Sheep and cows** were also specifically mentioned 21 times. Horses and stables were mentioned 12 times.

The school itself was mentioned on 17 surveys. The community was mentioned 14 times, and nice people twice. The village pub received 12 mentions!

The word quiet was used 7 times.

Quotes regarding what the children like about Fawkham:

"The rainbows and the trees and the sun and the sky" - child aged 4

"It's a safe place to live" - child aged 4

"I like that it is pretty and quiet" - child aged 5-6

"The people are very nice and the buzzards twitting" - child aged 5-6

"Lots of grass in the fields" - child aged 5-6

"I like the countryside" - child aged 7-9

"I like Fawkham because of all the hills and the farm animals" - child aged 7-9

"Things I like about the village of Fawkham are animals, greenery and community" - child aged 10-11

What the children do not like:

The overwhelming dislike is **the road** through the village, which passes in front of the school. Busy road /noisy road /traffic/ road was mentioned 18 times, and narrow/ bumpy/ bad conditions were cited 24 times. Lorries were mentioned 8 times, and tractors twice.

The lack of certain facilities was the next most mentioned dislike, with 9 saying they did not like that there is no park, 8 saying there is no shop/post office/cafe, and 3 saying they did not like the lack of a swimming pool.

However, 12 children said there was nothing they did not like.

Quotes regarding what the children do not like about Fawkham:

"Fast cars" - child aged 4

"I don't like the busy road" - child aged 5-6

"I don't like that we don't have a swing park" - child aged 7-9

"I don't like that there are no shops in Fawkham" - child aged 7-9

"There are too many small lanes when the lorries come down" and "Lorries shouldn't come through the lanes"- children aged 10-11

Plus "The monsters" - child aged 4!

Words used to describe Fawkham

The two most frequently used words were quiet and peaceful used 22 and 18 times respectively. The next most popular words were: green, calm and nice, each used 15 times. These were followed by friendly (12), pretty (10) and fun (10).

These words used by children mirror those used by residents in a village survey, where peaceful, rural, quiet, friendly, beautiful, countryside and green were the seven most frequently used words.

The picture overleaf shows all the words used, with the size of the word reflecting its popularity.

Fawkham in 10 years time

The drawings reflect the themes above with 17 drawings of countryside, wildlife or farming, 15 showing a shop, 12 a park and 12 showing the road either wider, with a zebra crossing and/or separate lanes for bikes, cars and lorries. It is notable that many of the drawings include trees and animals.

One child would like to see a castle in Fawkham in 10 years time, and another a waterfall.

Some representative drawings are attached as an appendix.

school beautiful
spacious
lonely countryside wildlife
relaxing pretty calm
small happy interesting joyful walking green
loud little pub
kind views quiet nice
exciting cool caring animals cheerful
lovely good cute fun
wonderful fresh
peaceful amazing
friendly

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Appendix - Drawings of how children would like Fawkham to look in ten years time

