

2025

Family
Feedback
Survey



Kindlehill School

Thank you to all families who took the time to complete the 2025 Family Feedback Survey. Your thoughtful responses, reflections, and suggestions are deeply valued and help guide our ongoing work as a school community.

Overall, the feedback paints a picture of a school that is steady and grounded, with many families expressing continued appreciation for the heart, values, and lived experience of Kindlehill Steiner School. While the survey results do not indicate significant shifts from the previous year, they provide a clear and honest snapshot of where we are as a community at this point in time.

The results:

1. What the survey shows

The results reflect the views of those who responded. They help us notice:

- What is working well
- Areas we could improve
- Patterns or themes in family experience

The survey is most useful for understanding trends and themes, rather than exact numbers.

2. Comparing results

In presenting this survey data, it is important to note that the results are best understood as indicating overall trends rather than providing statistically strong comparisons or determining whether variations are significant.

While I am not able to provide detailed statistical analysis, the comparative data does offer a helpful picture of emerging patterns and areas of strength or growth within our community.

Instead, we look at:

- Where responses show a clear increase or decrease
- Consistent patterns across questions
- Feedback that points to areas for attention

3. Understanding changes

In some areas, fewer families reported feeling positive experiences than in the previous year. We acknowledge this openly and take it seriously. The feedback gives us guidance on where we can strengthen our work and continue to build trust and confidence.

4. What the survey does not show

The survey does not capture every family's experience, nor the reasons behind each response. It also doesn't replace direct conversation. That's why we value surveys alongside ongoing dialogue with families.

5. How the results will be used

The feedback will help shape priorities for the year ahead. Our aim is to listen, learn, and make improvements where families have indicated they would like to see them, especially around communication.

Question 1: For new families only, how did you first hear about Kindlehill?

Friends / Family



Google search



Newspaper outlets



Other (please specify)



I went to a Steiner school or am teaching at a Steiner school



Social Media



0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

Families continue to discover Kindlehill Steiner School primarily through positive word-of-mouth and conversations among friends and family. This is deeply affirming for us, as it reflects a high level of satisfaction within our existing community and confirms that families' lived experiences of the school matter most. At the same time, this insight highlights opportunities to strengthen and diversify the ways we share the story of Kindlehill Steiner School more broadly. We are actively exploring this through our marketing and planning work, and see this as an important area of growth and possibility for the future.

Question 2: For new families, how satisfied were you with the enrolment process?

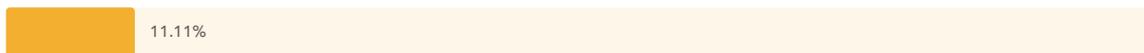
Very satisfied



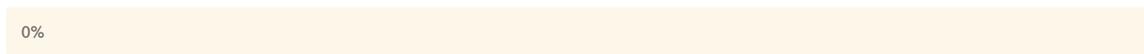
Somewhat satisfied



Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied



Dissatisfied



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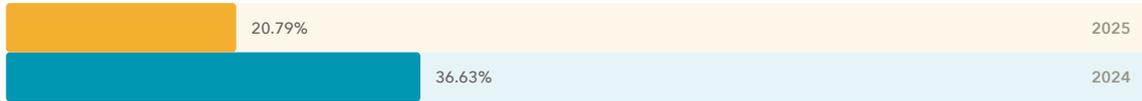
The first point of contact a family has with the Kindlehill Steiner School – and the journey into enrolment – should feel warm, welcoming, and informative. With the introduction of new systems such as Edumate and the parent portal, we are pleased to see that we are tracking well in this area. We remain committed to ensuring that from the very first interaction, families experience a clear, supportive flow of information and tasks that makes the enrolment process feel manageable and reassuring.

Question 3: For new families only, can you comment on the process.

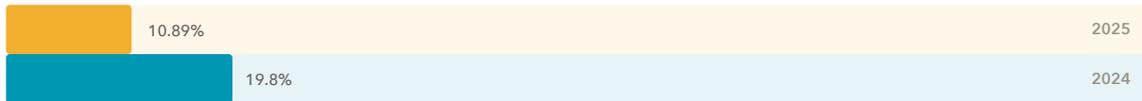
We heard clearly the feedback about the need for practical information to be available earlier in the enrolment process. In response, the Family Handbook will be made digitally available and easily accessible on our website. We are also reviewing and refreshing our timelines for sharing updated versions of this information with new and prospective families, so expectations are clear from the outset.

Question 4: Do you feel your child(ren) enjoy their time at school?

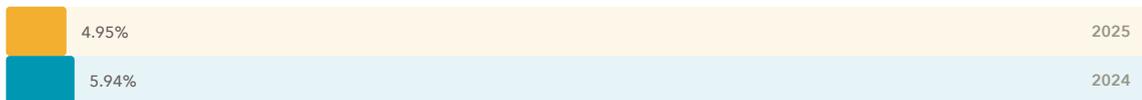
Usually



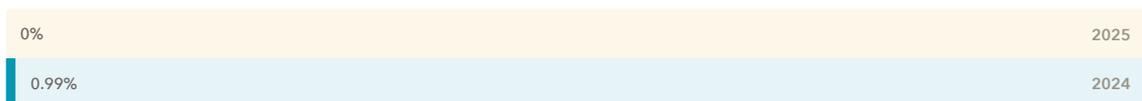
Always



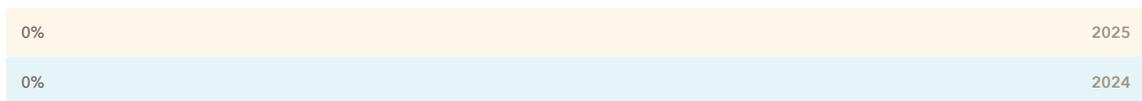
Sometimes



Rarely



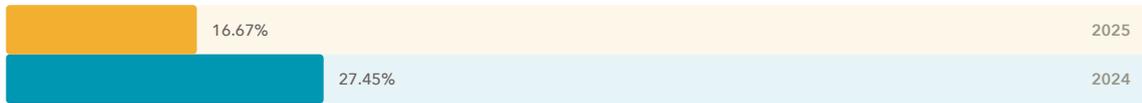
Never



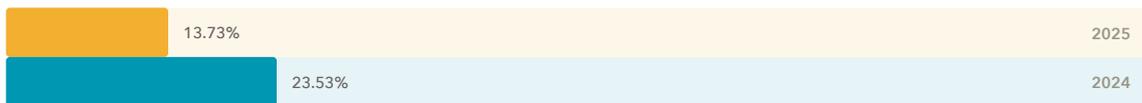
Families reported that children usually – and often always – enjoy their time at school. This is something we are immensely proud of. It reflects our ongoing commitment to providing engaging, developmentally appropriate teaching and learning programs that support both academic growth and wellbeing.

Question 5: How satisfied are you with the communication from the school?

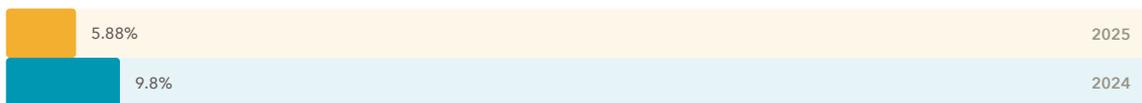
Very satisfied



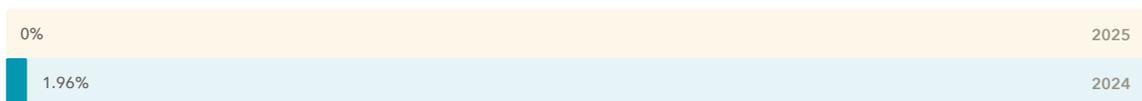
Satisfied



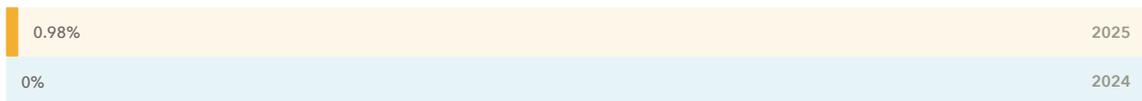
Somewhat satisfied



Dissatisfied



Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied



Communication is a vital part of any healthy community, and getting it right matters deeply to us. The results indicate positive movement, with fewer families reporting dissatisfaction with school communication. While this is encouraging, we continue to fine-tune our systems and processes to ensure communications are accessible, clear, and manageable for families.

Question 6: What is one thing the school could do to improve communication?

When invited to suggest ways communication could be improved, families highlighted opportunities around clearer calendar formatting and greater efficiency through streamlining messages. This feedback is guiding our ongoing work to make communication more coherent and less overwhelming, while still ensuring families feel well informed.

Question 7: Do you sense a feeling of belonging when you engage with the people of the school?

Often



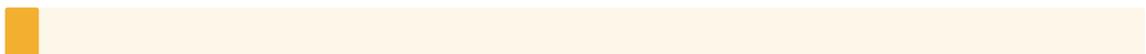
Always



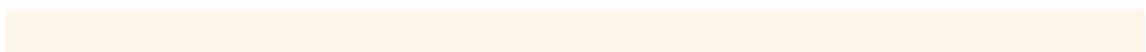
Sometimes



Rarely



Never



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It is heartening to learn that many families experience a strong sense of belonging within the school community. Belonging is a foundational element of wellbeing – for students, families, and staff alike – and we continue to explore intentional ways to nurture and strengthen this sense of connection across the school.

Question 8: Do you have any thoughts that could create a stronger sense of belonging?

One area where a sense of belonging can feel challenged is in shared understanding of the pedagogical foundations of the school. Families expressed a desire for deeper insight into Steiner educational philosophy. Providing more information and opportunities to engage meaningfully with these principles is an important way we can strengthen understanding and connection.

Question 9: Parent involvement is a big part of Kindlehill. How do you currently feel about your involvement?

I feel like I'm a bit involved



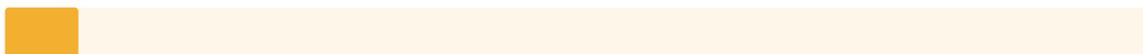
I feel like I'm very involved



I'm not really involved and that's fine



I'm not really involved but would like to be more involved



I feel I'm very involved but it can feel a little too much sometimes



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We recognise that parent involvement can be challenging within the realities of busy lives. At the same time, research and experience tell us that parent engagement positively supports students' educational, social, and emotional outcomes. At Kindlehill Steiner School, families typically demonstrate strong connection to the school and contribute in many diverse and valuable ways to the life of the community.

Question 10: How can we make it easier to strengthen your involvement?

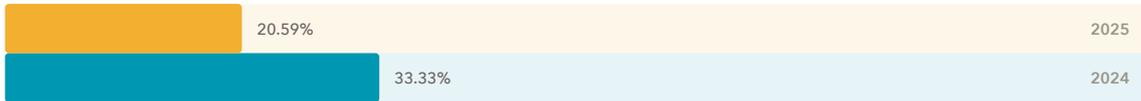
In considering how to strengthen parent involvement further, families identified the importance of having information available through clear, accessible pathways and platforms. Improving ease of access is one way we can support families who wish to be more involved.

Question 11: What is important to you and your family when choosing a High school?

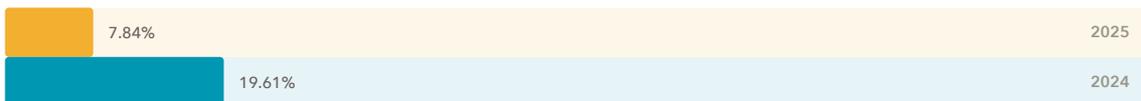
When reflecting on future high school choices, families consistently identified quality teaching and responsiveness to individual student needs as paramount. A broad subject offering, flexibility in learning delivery, and strong social connections were also highlighted as significant factors influencing decision-making.

Question 12: How satisfied are you with the leadership of the school?

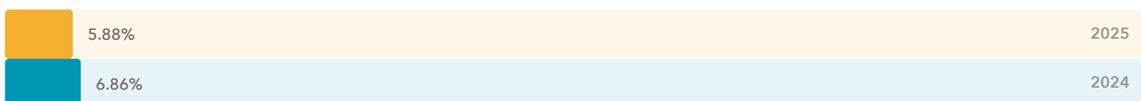
Very satisfied



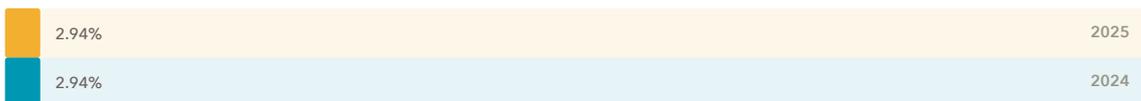
Satisfied



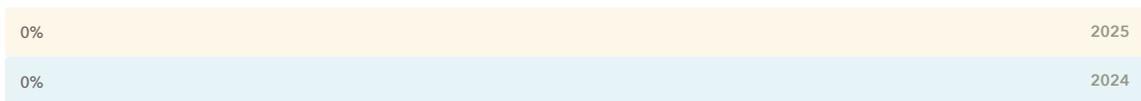
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied



Somewhat dissatisfied



Dissatisfied



Overall satisfaction with school leadership remains steady, which is reassuring to hear. The majority of respondents expressed confidence in leadership. At the same time, trends within the data suggest there is room for growth, prompting us to engage more deeply with this feedback and reflect carefully on how leadership can continue to evolve in response to community needs.

Question 13: Please share any specific reasons for your answer

While many comments about leadership were positive and affirming, families also offered constructive suggestions – particularly around increasing visibility and understanding of the role of the Board. This feedback is appreciated and will inform future communication and engagement.

Question 14: Do you feel like you have overall clarity on the direction of the school?

It's somewhat clear



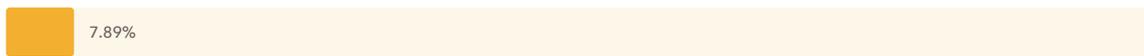
It's very clear



It's very unclear



I have no idea



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Families expressed a desire for clearer communication about the school's direction. As a leadership team, we are reflecting on how to create accessible and meaningful pathways for sharing our strategic intentions, both in the short and longer term.

Question 15: Can you suggest something we could do to communicate better the direction of the school in general?

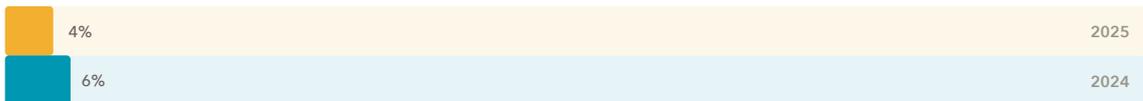
There was strong interest in having a clearly articulated mission statement to help families better understand the school's purpose and direction. Families also highlighted the importance of using varied formats and platforms for communication, alongside deeper explanation of the rationale underpinning Steiner pedagogy, to support shared understanding.

Question 16: Do you feel comfortable raising a concern with the school?

Yes



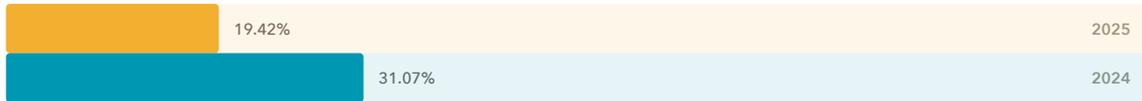
No



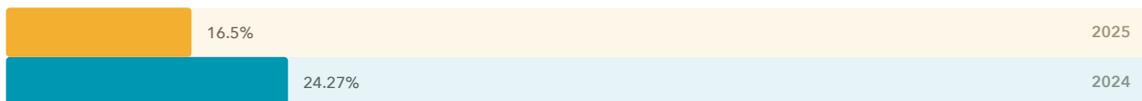
Overall, families reported that they feel able to express concerns with the school when needed. This openness is an important marker of trust and healthy relationship within the community.

Question 17: How satisfied are you with the physical environment of the school?

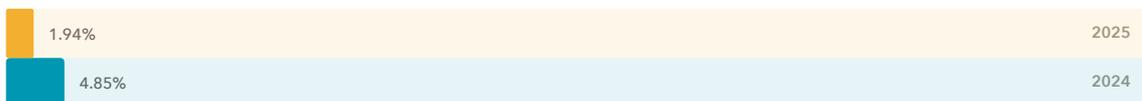
Very satisfied



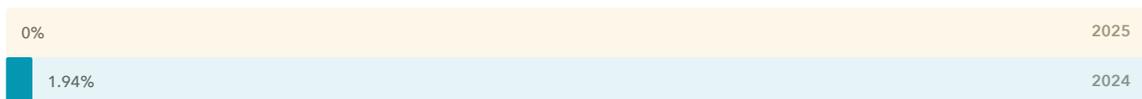
Satisfied



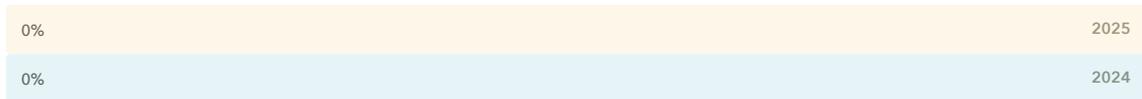
Somewhat satisfied



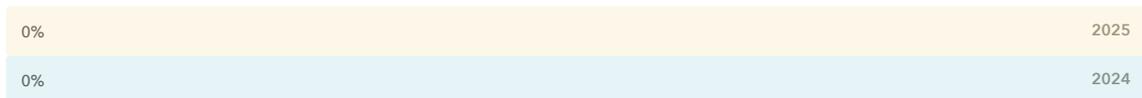
Somewhat dissatisfied



Dissatisfied



Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied



The physical grounds of the school continue to be a significant attraction for prospective families and an important contributor to student and staff wellbeing. Learning in a beautiful, nature-connected environment is central to Steiner education and is thoughtfully embodied in the spaces where learning takes place.

Question 18: When you think of Kindlehill at its best what comes to mind?

Caring and supportive learning environment



Strong community and sense of belonging



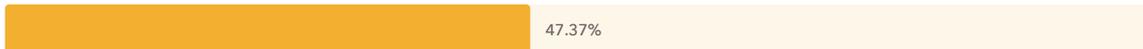
Quality teaching and teaching staff



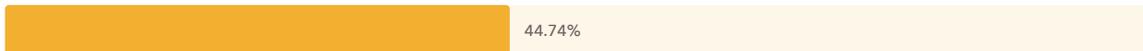
Strong commitment to environment and sustainability



Strong commitment to social justice



Quality outdoor education program



Quality curriculum with focus on the Creative and Performing Arts



Quality Steiner Education



Other (please specify)



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The caring, supportive environment and the strength of the community remain foundational to Kindlehill Steiner School. These qualities continue to be recognised as core strengths of the school.

Question 19: What do you really like about Kindlehill?

When asked what families value most about Kindlehill Steiner School, common themes included the dedication of teachers, the sense of community, a supportive learning environment, and the meaningful connections teachers build with students. The curriculum was also praised, particularly the music and woodwork programs.

Question 20: What could we do better?

Suggestions for improvement focused largely on clarity and communication around the future direction of the school, particularly in relation to the Senior School. Families expressed a desire for greater confidence that the High School will continue to strengthen and thrive, supporting young people into adulthood.

Question 21: Is there anything you would like to add that hasn't been covered in previous questions?

Families indicated interest in learning more about how the school engages with LGBTQI+ topics and Indigenous perspectives. This feedback points to opportunities for deeper conversation, clarity, and shared learning.

Question 22: How likely are you to recommend Kindlehill School to your friends and family?

Very likely



Likely



Not likely



I would not recommend this school



0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

Finally, the majority of respondents indicated they would recommend Kindlehill Steiner School to friends and family. This willingness to recommend the school is a strong affirmation of the overall sense of satisfaction, trust, and happiness within our community.

What Families Value Most

Across the survey, families consistently highlighted:

- That children enjoy coming to school and feel connected to their learning environment
- The unique character and ethos of Kindlehill
- The sense of care, commitment, and relationship at the centre of the school
- Appreciation for the physical environment and what Kindlehill represents at its best

These responses affirm that the foundations of the school – our relationships, values, and commitment to children – remain strong and meaningful for families.

Themes for Ongoing Growth

The survey also reinforced some areas where families would welcome continued development. These consistent themes help guide our priorities:

- Clear, timely, and coordinated communication
- Greater clarity around the direction of the school and future planning
- Opportunities for families to feel informed, involved, and connected
- Support and guidance around high school pathways

The consistency of this feedback suggests that these areas require ongoing, thoughtful work, rather than quick solutions. We see this as an important part of strengthening the School over time.

How We Are Using This Feedback

This survey provides a strong baseline that helps us understand both what is working well and where our efforts need to be focused. As a Leadership Team, we are using this information to:

- Confirm and protect the strengths of the school
- Prioritise improvements in communication and clarity
- Inform planning and decision-making for the year ahead
- Track progress more clearly over future feedback cycles

We are grateful for the care and honesty with which families shared their perspectives. Kindlehill is at its best when we work together – in partnership, trust, and shared responsibility for our children.

Thank you for being part of this ongoing conversation and for your commitment to our school community.

I look forward to continuing our work together.

With warmth,
Erica



Kindlehill is a K-10 school with a philosophy in Rudolf Steiner Education

www.kindlehill.nsw.edu.au

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