

# 58 responses

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## Primary Parent Survey Summary

### 2 - Nationality (optional)

German

Turkish

german

Dutch

American

Polish

USA

Italian

British

Korean

French/Turkish

French - German

TR-GBR

Korea

turkish

Italian, Dutch, Turkish

usa/swiss

Korean

Ukrainian

Canadian

Russian

JPN

Iranian

Japanese

Russian

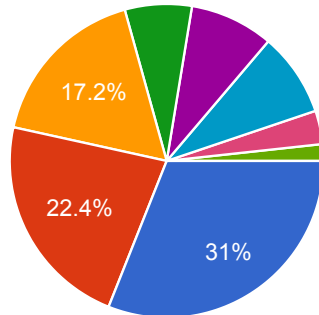
Indian

Iran

Saudi

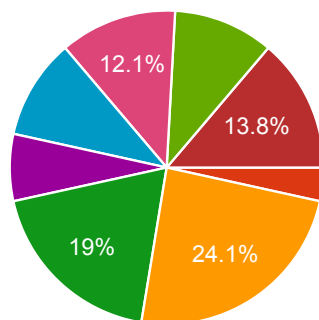
INDIAN

### 1 - Years at IICS



1	<b>18</b>	31%
2	<b>13</b>	22.4%
3	<b>10</b>	17.2%
4	<b>4</b>	6.9%
5	<b>5</b>	8.6%
6	<b>5</b>	8.6%
8	<b>2</b>	3.4%
9	<b>1</b>	1.7%

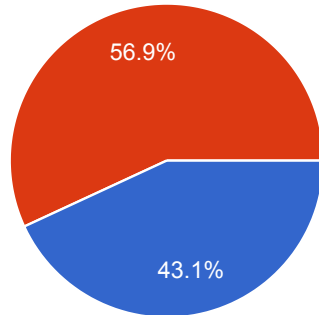
### 3 - Grade level of child/ren



EY3	<b>0</b>	0%
EY4	<b>2</b>	3.4%
EY5	<b>14</b>	24.1%
Gr 1	<b>11</b>	19%
Gr 2	<b>4</b>	6.9%
Gr 3	<b>6</b>	10.3%

Gr 4	<b>7</b>	12.1%
Gr 5	<b>6</b>	10.3%
Gr 6	<b>8</b>	13.8%

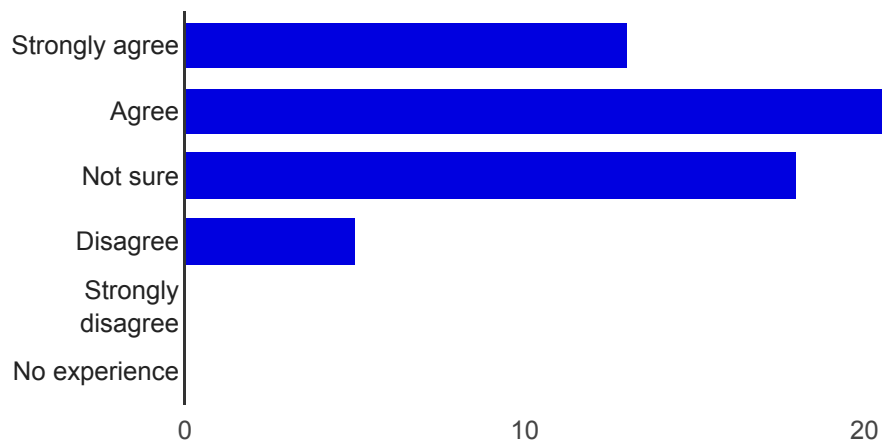
## Campus



Hisar	<b>25</b>	43.1%
Marmara	<b>33</b>	56.9%

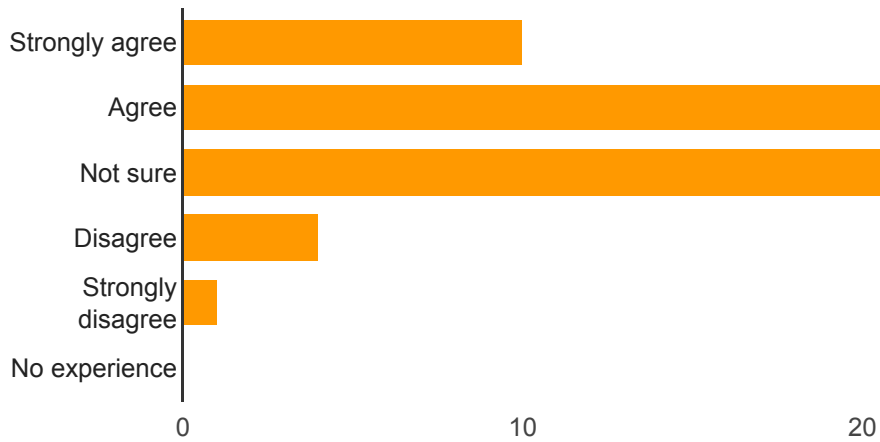
**For the following questions, please mark the answer that reflects your opinion**

### The school has a strong academic programme [4 - Academic]



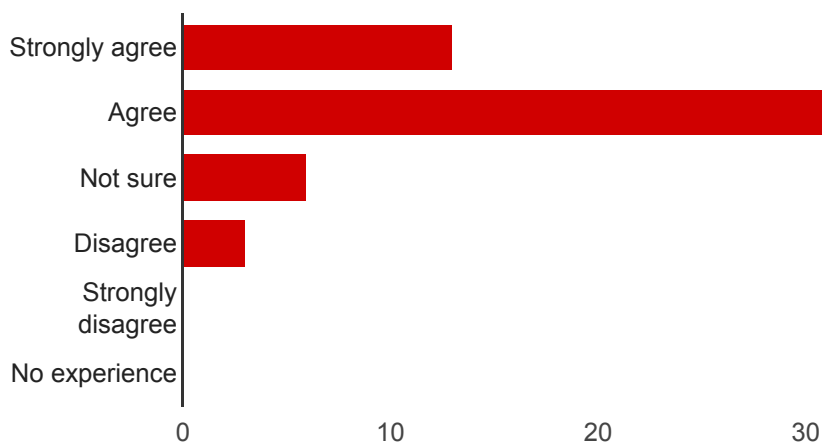
Strongly agree	<b>13</b>	22.4%
Agree	<b>22</b>	37.9%
Not sure	<b>18</b>	31%
Disagree	<b>5</b>	8.6%
Strongly disagree	<b>0</b>	0%
No experience	<b>0</b>	0%

### The teachers have high expectations for the students [4 - Academic]



Strongly agree	<b>10</b>	17.2%
Agree	<b>22</b>	37.9%
Not sure	<b>21</b>	36.2%
Disagree	<b>4</b>	6.9%
Strongly disagree	<b>1</b>	1.7%
No experience	<b>0</b>	0%

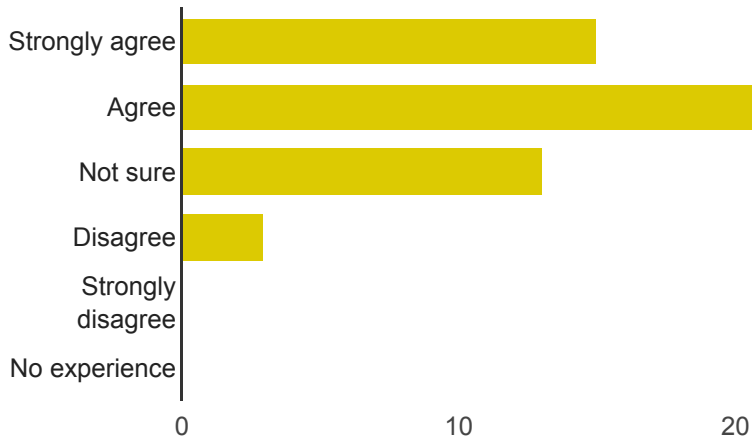
### My child is making good progress [4 - Academic]



Strongly agree	<b>13</b>	22.4%
Agree	<b>36</b>	62.1%
Not sure	<b>6</b>	10.3%
Disagree	<b>3</b>	5.2%
Strongly disagree	<b>0</b>	0%

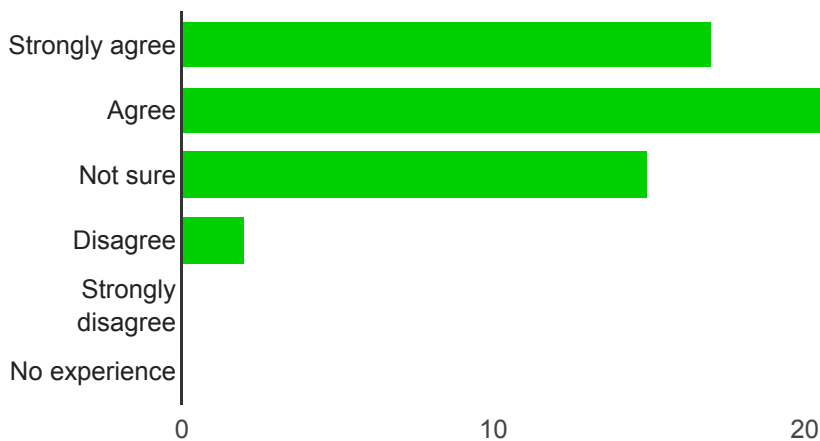
No experience 0 0%

### My child receives enough individualized attention [4 - Academic]



Strongly agree	15	25.9%
Agree	27	46.6%
Not sure	13	22.4%
Disagree	3	5.2%
Strongly disagree	0	0%
No experience	0	0%

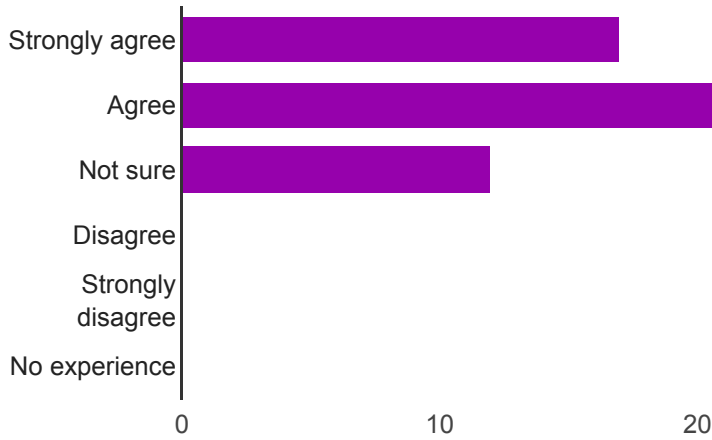
### The quality of teaching is very good [4 - Academic]



Strongly agree	17	29.3%
Agree	24	41.4%
Not sure	15	25.9%
Disagree	2	3.4%
Strongly disagree	0	0%

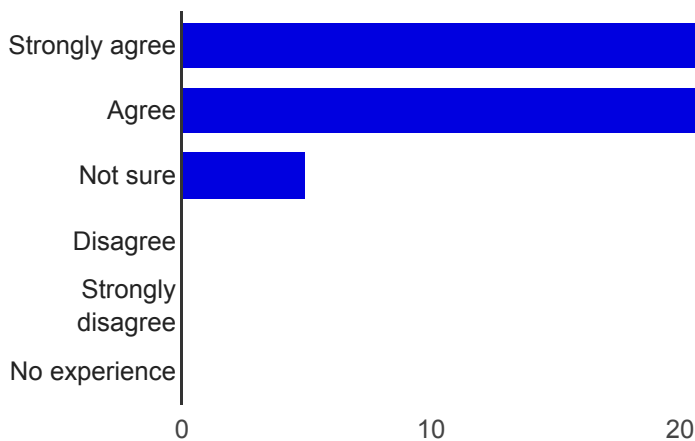
No experience 0 0%

### My child is learning how to work independently [4 - Academic]



Strongly agree	17	29.3%
Agree	29	50%
Not sure	12	20.7%
Disagree	0	0%
Strongly disagree	0	0%
No experience	0	0%

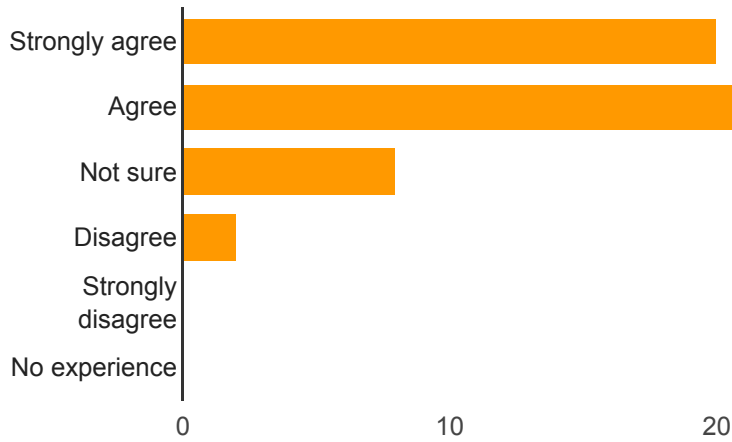
### My child is benefiting from working collaboratively [4 - Academic]



Strongly agree	23	39.7%
Agree	30	51.7%
Not sure	5	8.6%
Disagree	0	0%
Strongly disagree	0	0%

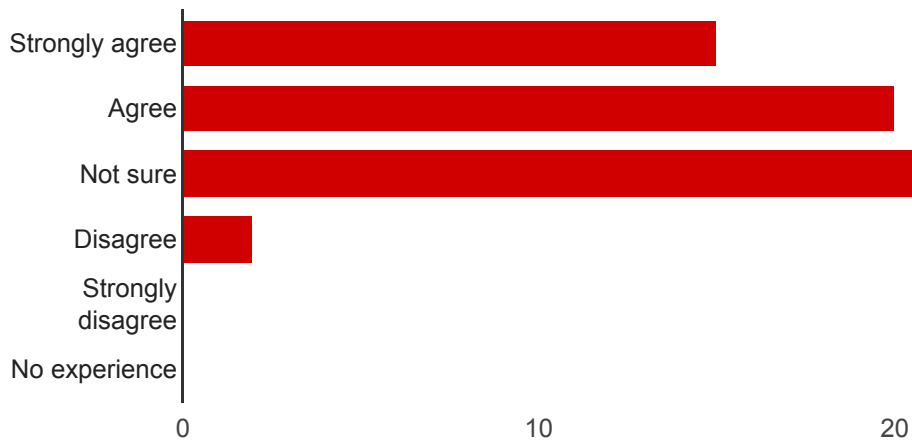
No experience 0 0%

### Technology is used well to develop and extend learning [4 - Academic]



Strongly agree	<b>20</b>	34.5%
Agree	<b>28</b>	48.3%
Not sure	<b>8</b>	13.8%
Disagree	<b>2</b>	3.4%
Strongly disagree	<b>0</b>	0%
No experience	<b>0</b>	0%

### The school provides high quality resources for learning [4 - Academic]



Strongly agree	<b>15</b>	25.9%
Agree	<b>20</b>	34.5%
Not sure	<b>21</b>	36.2%

Disagree	2	3.4%
Strongly disagree	0	0%
No experience	0	0%

## Comments

Academically, school does not give info about what kind of academic achievement we expect to see from children each year. For example, I am not sure what level/range of reading/writing/understanding of math skills we should expect in EY5. Not sure what kind of support we can give at home as a continuation. In EY 3-4, I knew what subject they are doing, this year apart from video posts on seasaw, I did not receive any formal explanation. More formal parent -teacher meetings are required, children led conference does not give much feedback as there was no meeting with classroom teacher

Still not sure about what my child's progress looks like. Too little interaction and 1:1 review between parent and teacher gives me no insight in what my child is doing and better yet how he is doing.

My kid loves to go to school, enjoys school life. I hope they can learn proper learning habits and responsibility (academic part) when they are young. If teachers care and encourage them about these then kids are proud of themselves more than before.

School needs to be much more aspiring academically. Too reliant on technology - not enough handwriting.

Foreign language (French) lessons is just one hour a week. I would prefer 3 or more.

Dear Survey Team Personally I think that the computer use especially for homework is too much. We are receiving up to 5 different webpages, where the students have to do their activities. Fine motoric skills are not developed, and too much time is spent for homework, if you want to finish all the required websites.

I have not completely bought into the PYP.

During Grade 6, I have not been convinced about the quality of above mentioned items.

Just one month has past since my daughter joined. She is happy now and I appreciate the school provides her such a good place but I do not really know how to comment to most of the questions above as I need more time to examine.



Unfortunately, this year was a very survival year for EY5 in Hisar. 1-did not have a good quality teaching team. Teacher was warm, friendly and very very kind, loving and had good intentions but had major issues. (She was not organized. Could not say clear 'no' when needed to certain kids because she did not have the authority. There had been several cases where major teaching mistakes happened such as teaching height was through kids, shortest and longest. (Measuring them at class) For the shortest kid at the class, this became a major trauma all during the year. For the other kids, longest kid became a hero. Classfying kids according to groups who can read better/do better was a very disturbing idea and did not handled well concerning students. My son was expressing this very explicitly. 2-very inexperienced assistant teacher. I talked to several times with examples to school management. Very dissappointed to have her this year at this kind of school. 3-Turkish class seems well below the level of Turkish Kids. This time can be used so much effectively.

Teachers are all kind and nice but I hope kids have more chances to think their own goal, what is their strength, and weekness of learning by themselves. They can set new goals aften and it will be helpful for their academic palnning at home.

I like the school programme, the independent working, the technology usage, etc.; however, as a very strong school and education commitment, I would expect to have both of the teachers in the classroom with great experience and background. This year the assistant teacher in the classroom was a very young teacher with very limited experience and with very limited knowledge on how to work with the children at the early years of the school. For next year, my expectation is to have two very strong teachers supporting and matching each other both by experience and by knowledge.

The school should improve math learning and come up with a clear system and program for kids that are performing above grade level, better differentiate their learning, making sure they are constantly challenged and progressing.

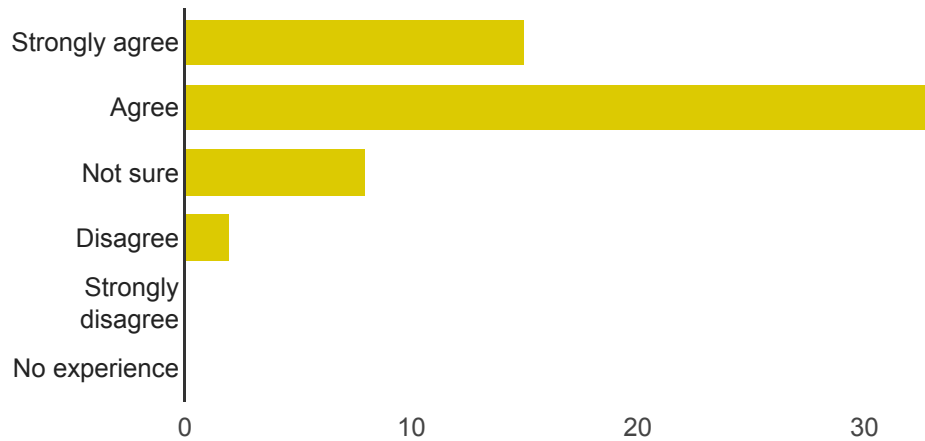
I am not able to asses How much attention my child gets neither the quality of materials as I do not know them . The teaching / working books are not shared with parents. I would like to share more learning progress of my child (book, notebooks, excercises done) to be able to trace her learning progress better

Ms. MAHONEY IS GREAT TEACHER EVER

n.a.

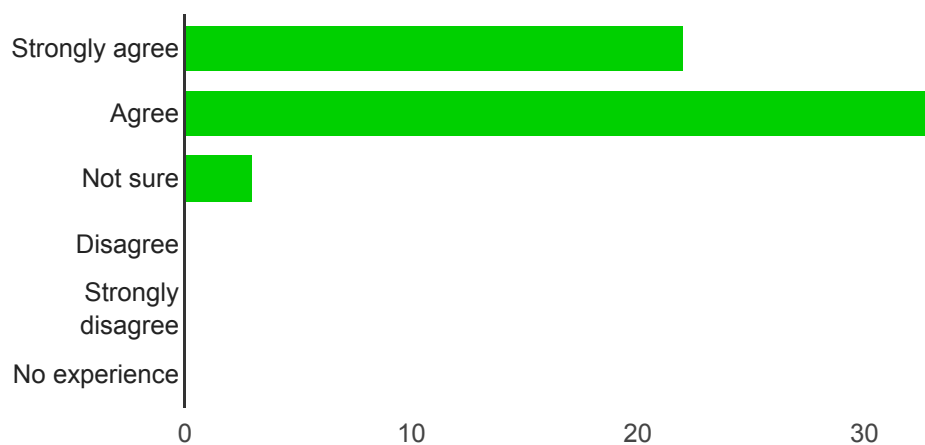
I am not happy with this year's teacher. I strongly believe that she doesn't know child psychology

### Students behave respectfully and responsibly [5 - Personal Development]



Strongly agree	<b>15</b>	25.9%
Agree	<b>33</b>	56.9%
Not sure	<b>8</b>	13.8%
Disagree	<b>2</b>	3.4%
Strongly disagree	<b>0</b>	0%
No experience	<b>0</b>	0%

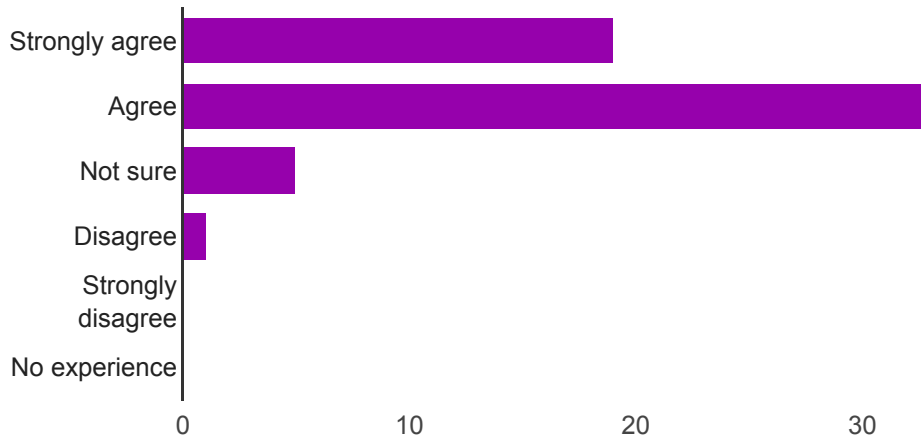
### Teachers have good relationships with their students [5 - Personal Development]



Strongly agree	<b>22</b>	37.9%
Agree	<b>33</b>	56.9%
Not sure	<b>3</b>	5.2%

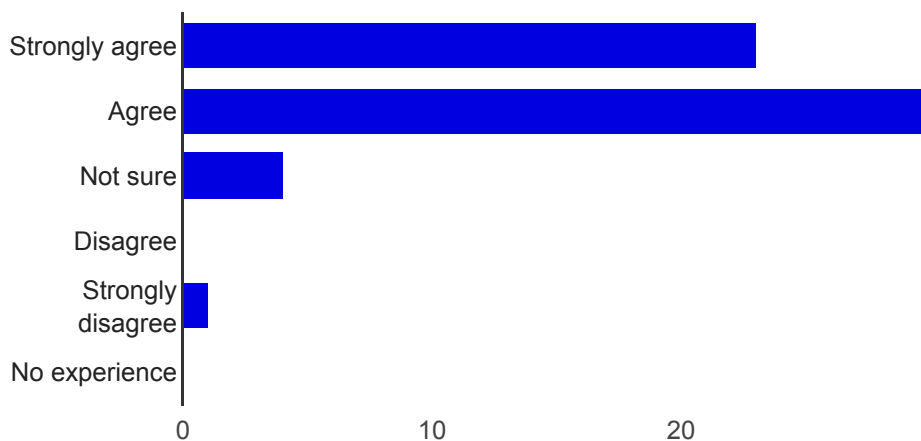
Disagree	0	0%
Strongly disagree	0	0%
No experience	0	0%

**My child has good relationships with her/his peers [5 - Personal Development]**



Strongly agree	19	32.8%
Agree	33	56.9%
Not sure	5	8.6%
Disagree	1	1.7%
Strongly disagree	0	0%
No experience	0	0%

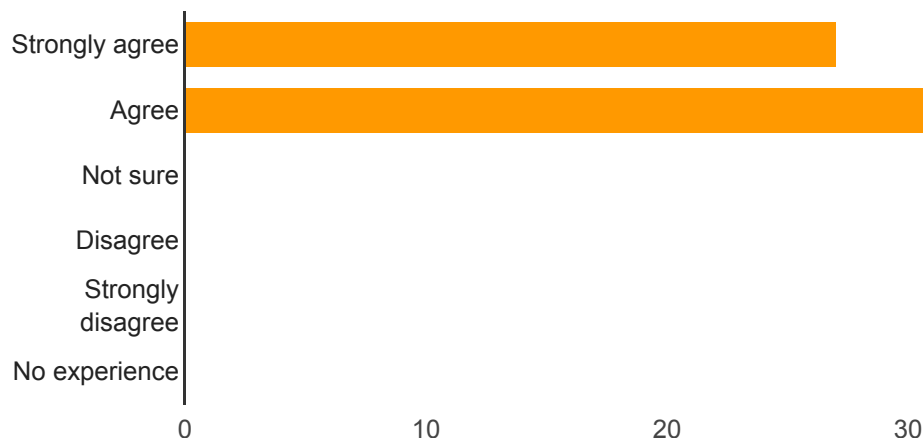
**Students have opportunities to show leadership and initiative [5 - Personal Development]**



Strongly agree	23	39.7%
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Agree	<b>30</b>	51.7%
Not sure	<b>4</b>	6.9%
Disagree	<b>0</b>	0%
Strongly disagree	<b>1</b>	1.7%
No experience	<b>0</b>	0%

### Students are developing as internationally -minded global citizens [5 - Personal Development]



Strongly agree	<b>27</b>	46.6%
Agree	<b>31</b>	53.4%
Not sure	<b>0</b>	0%
Disagree	<b>0</b>	0%
Strongly disagree	<b>0</b>	0%
No experience	<b>0</b>	0%

### Comments

School gives very good opportunities for leadership, good activities where they learn by play and imagination. Posts in seasaw are very useful to show personal development (unlike the academic). They learn in a good age about environment, being helpful, respectful. I am very glad of that soft dicipline and self regulation is being taught. Teachers and staff are very respectful to children, they can talk to teachers with full self confidence. They teach by being a good example. All this makes IICS unique.

The overall aim of the teachers is to maintain a pre determined atmosphere, no space for individual approach or guidance.

Some students are persistently unruly, with no consequences. There are racist behaviours towards some children, particilary towards those from

Arabic countries. This is widely known (by all students and the school), though nothing is done.

Students have the opportunity to have a very diverse and international community. They develop good interpersonal skills and they learn doing many things by playing.

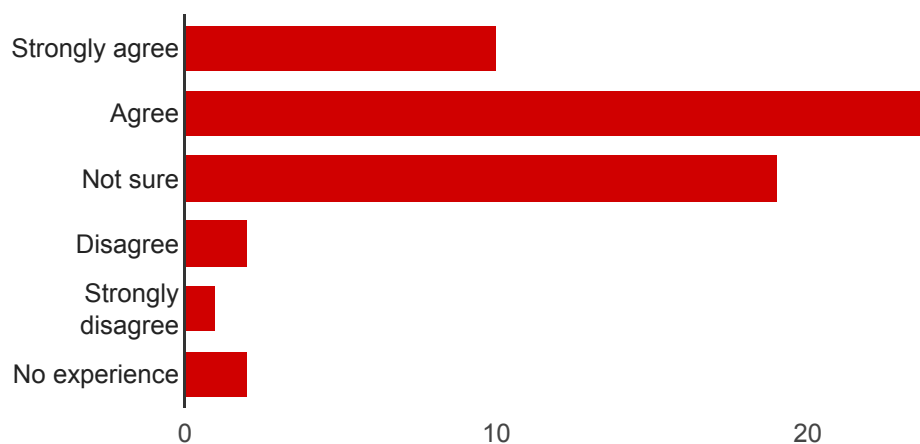
At home our son shows certain "interesting" behaviours. It can be described as impolite... Im not sure if he picks up certain behaviours from school or elsewhere. I'm sure its a phase.

More opportunities for leadership and initiative as well as innovation would be great.

Could you pls share with us situations when the child was given the opportunity to show leadership/ initiative and how was it supported ?

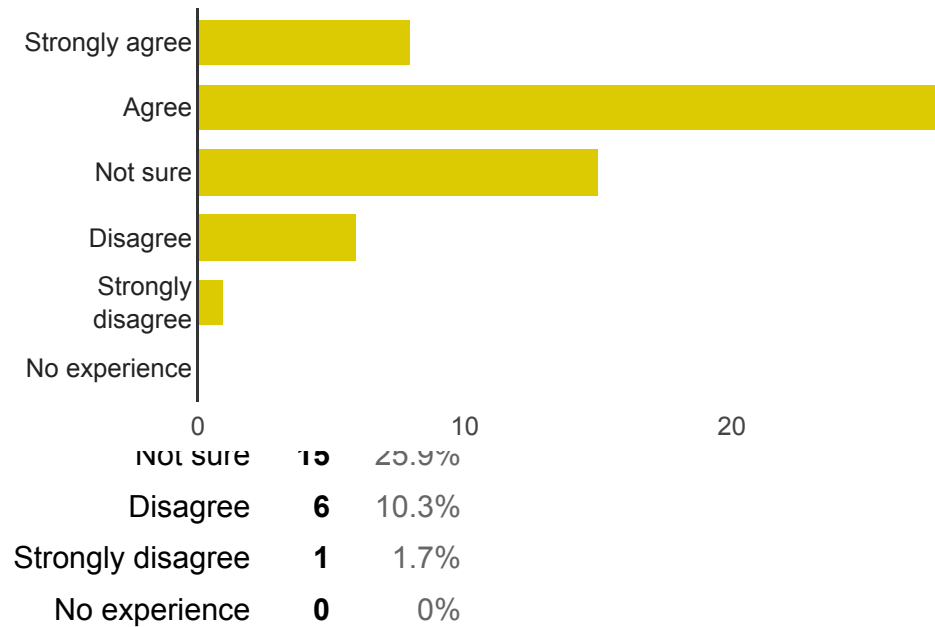
n.a.

### **The school offers a good After School Activity programme [null]**



Strongly agree	<b>10</b>	17.2%
Agree	<b>24</b>	41.4%
Not sure	<b>19</b>	32.8%
Disagree	<b>2</b>	3.4%
Strongly disagree	<b>1</b>	1.7%
No experience	<b>2</b>	3.4%

### **There is a good range of trips and opportunities offered [null]**



## Comments

I really liked science activity and tennis however, not interesting enough activities for EY5. Although I am very interested in tennis and swimming not enough feedback was given on what they are being taught. We need teachers of extra classes writing about if our kid was engaged what they learned etc. Not sure if a child goes to tennis in different intervals if they are repeating the same thing or they do more advance next round. In swimming I think they played in water instead of learning a technique. Not enough info is given. Bus system needs to be arranged (if not dropping home at a more central place), we are paying for bus service but then only utilising 2/3 rds of the service if a child goes to 1-2 activities. In this arrangement working mothers are not considered.

We have seen a great improvement in the sports program, now we only need professional coaches which teaches the children to go for the best and give it the ultimate effort. Being selected for teams is still biased and based on we need to give everyone a chance (its not how the world of sports works neither the real world). So would strongly recommend to teams to be selected based on skills and efforts and not on merit.

The after school activity program is free and it involves teachers and assistants from the school. Even though it is great from an economic point of view, the quality is not always good. My kids tried different activities, the liked some of them, some not so much. I would have liked to see more sports or drama classes developed continuously during the year, with constant practice, commitment and a clear objective.

Trip should be focused on Oversea.

There are too less field trips especially in the Primary, while there are so many possibilities here in Istanbul.

Offering more regular activities where students can actually participate in multiple sessions, per week, or possibly even Saturdays, would be great. Example, offering a football league within the school and offering competitions. Possibly other schools would like to join as well. Offering an outside teacher for gymnastics would be a great addition for our primary students.

the trips are the same for years.....

I'm afraid that the tennis team is not supportive to the begginers.

Definetely school can do better on after school activities. We should have a good art/hands on after school activity. Swimming and tennis does not work well practically. My son's class did not go any school trip this year rather than marmara campus. (And one to have Turkish breakfast).

Afterschool clubs are not enough are there are not many sport options else then tennis and swimming. There can be many more options such as kids yoga, aikido , meditation, kickboxing, street dances...so on.

I understood there are limit of spaces and teacher but ASA range are too narrow.

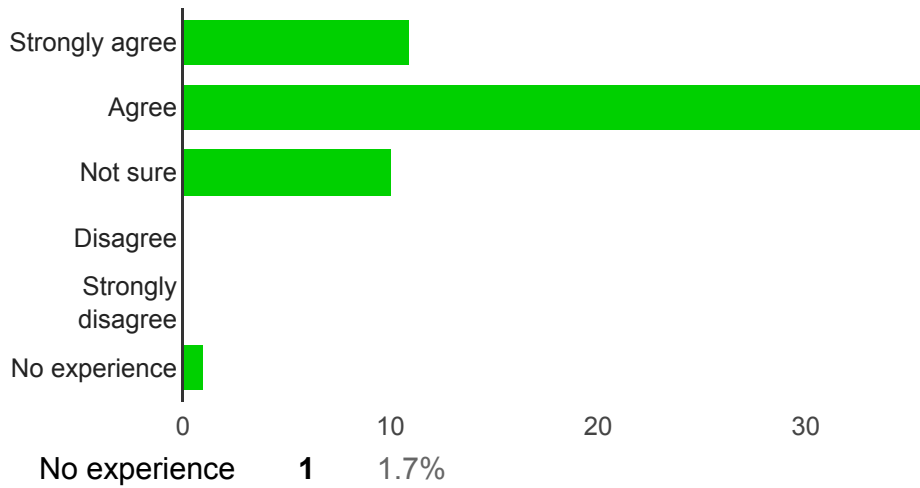
I would prefer to have more after school programmes that offer a development of a skill instead of just spending time together. Sports and art activities that systematically teach a skill to the students would be very important.

School could offer a better range of ASA activities - speech and debate club, spelling bee, other foreign languages etc. even if it for an additional fee..

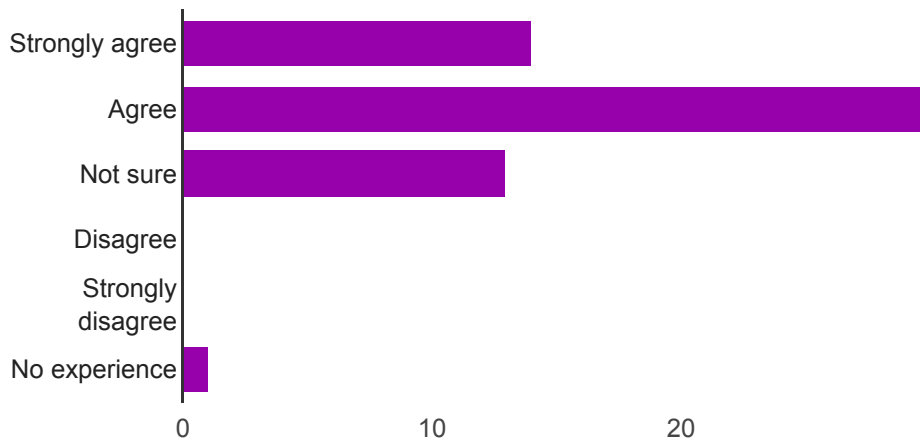
I miss dancing / rhythmic gymnastics / acrobatics within After School Activities

We do'nt have after school activities,then I" not sure about

**Safety procedures are clear and thorough [6 - Health and Well-being]**



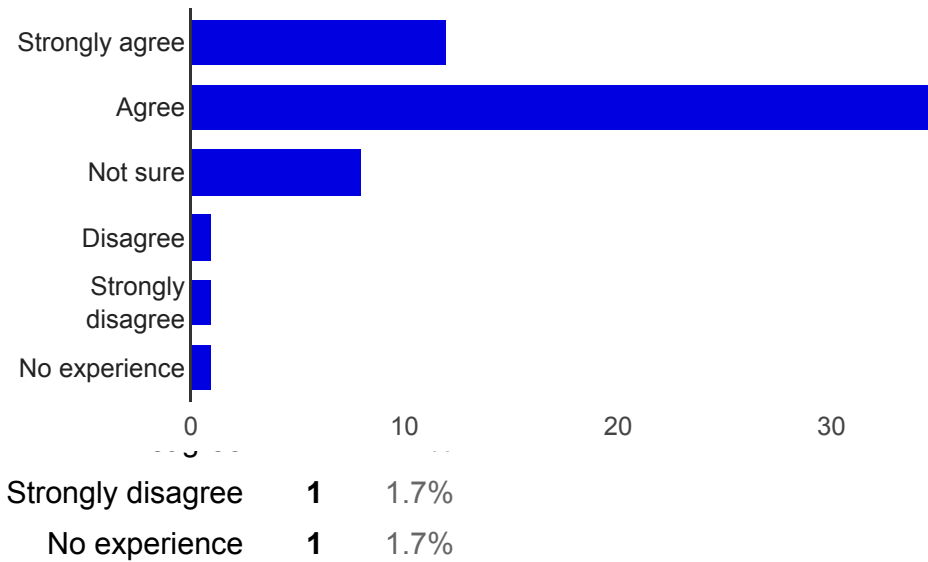
**The school has effective security provision [6 - Health and Well-being]**



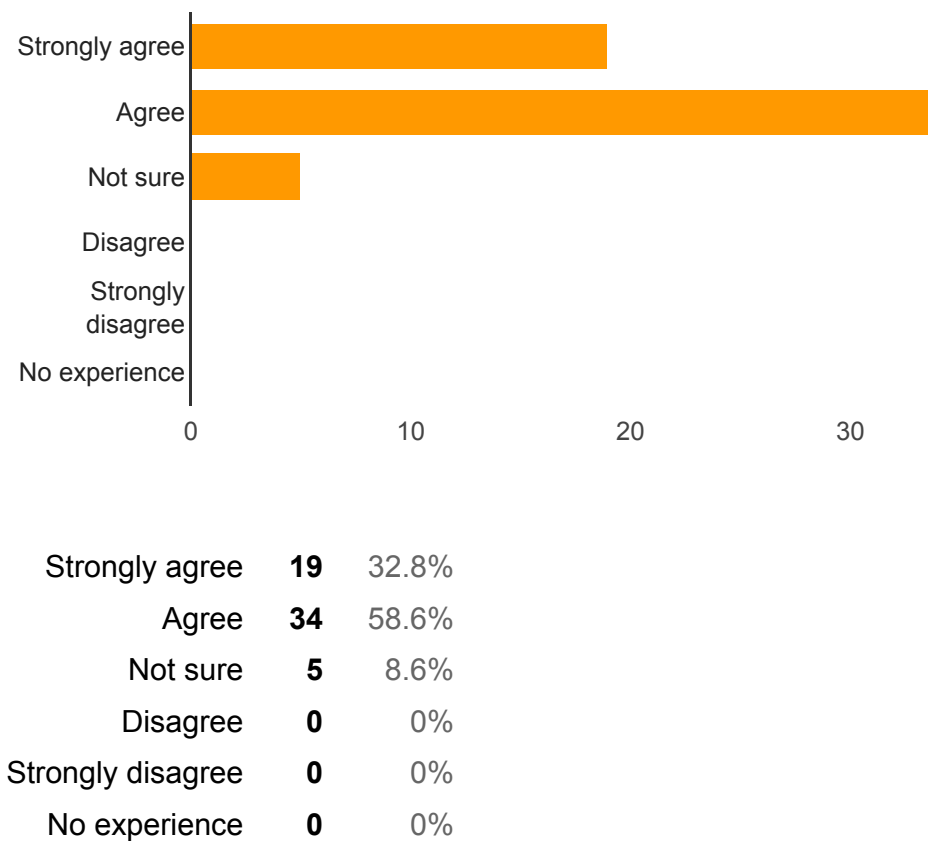
Strongly agree	<b>14</b>	24.1%
Agree	<b>30</b>	51.7%
Not sure	<b>13</b>	22.4%
Disagree	<b>0</b>	0%
Strongly disagree	<b>0</b>	0%
No experience	<b>1</b>	1.7%

**Students are encouraged to develop healthy lifestyles [6 - Health and Well-being]**

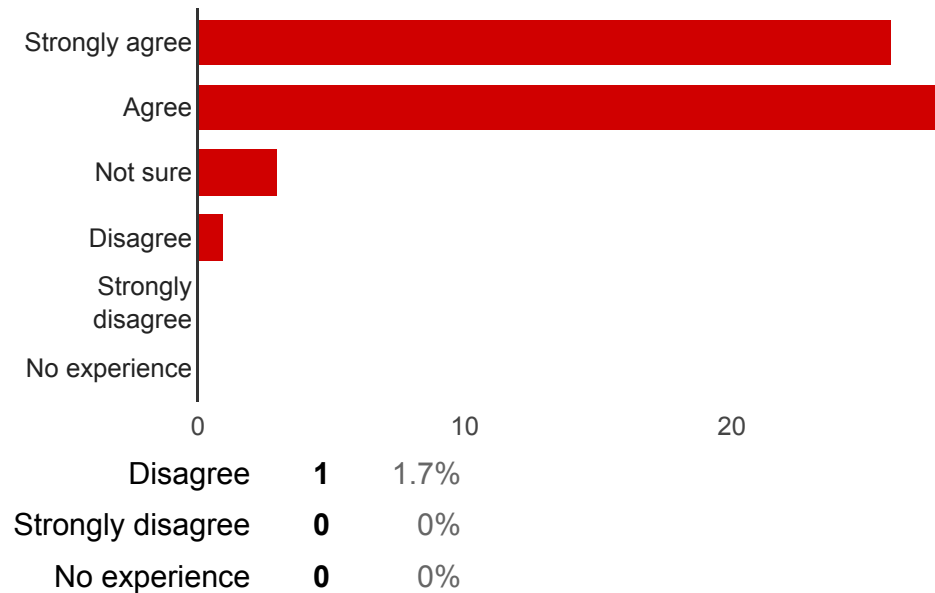




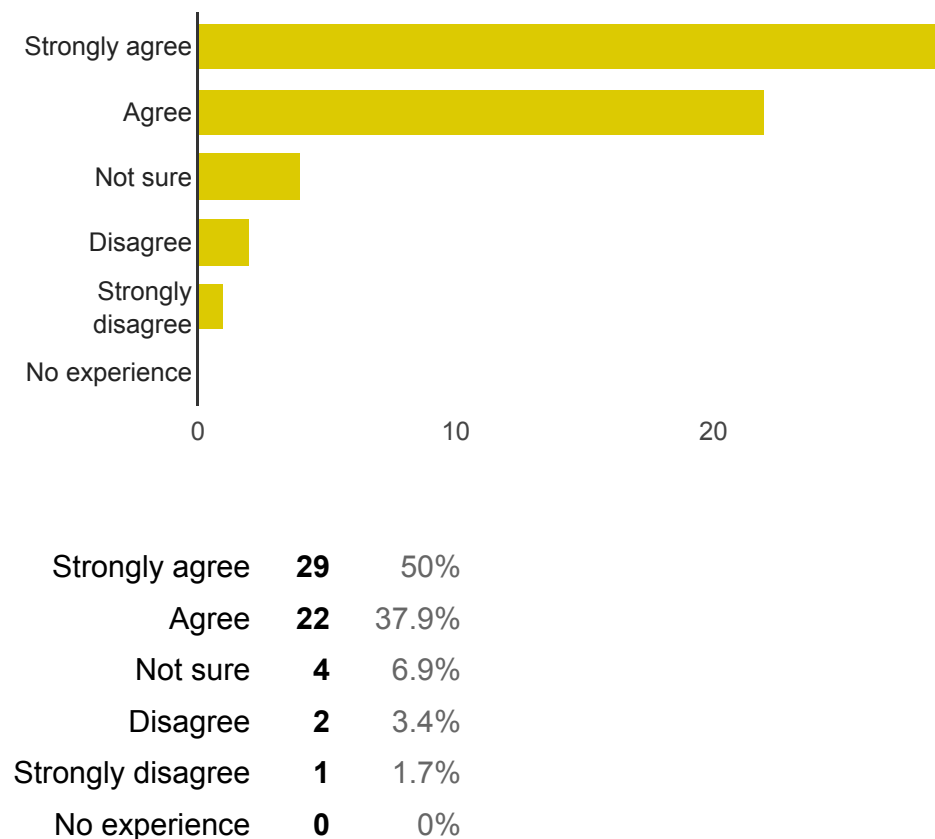
**My child is well-cared for and respected [6 - Health and Well-being]**



**My child is positive about learning [6 - Health and Well-being]**



### My child enjoys attending this school [6 - Health and Well-being]



### Comments

Not sure what they eat at school, is there a place where we can see monthly menu? I don't see even snacks being finished when I ask she says not enough time was given. Not sure of clean is the classroom especially the fact that they eat there.

The mental health of the children is again in the hands of people who are afraid to address issues as they are. If you show undesired behavior you are not entitled to play time. Instead of let's talk about it, let's play together, let's make common rules. Take charge if undesired behavior is shown and not any other half measures. With the current demographics you will encounter more undesired behavior between children and I don't see any such issues being anticipated on, which leads to kids feeling unsafe at school.

My child is complaining about the insufficient number of toilets in the school and that the boys toilets are always busy

no sun hut policy in marmara for primary kids, even in hottest conditions no teeth brush routine in any of the campuses (all other schools our kid attended so far had those routines/rules)

This year was a hard year for EY5. Hopefully it will end shortly. For the first time, I heard my son saying, I do not want to go to school this year because it is boring. I heard him saying that 'my teacher does not take time to listen what I want to say'. I also think their teacher brought nice healthy well being concept to them this year/mindfulness

Omay loves going to school and loves the building. I am generally very concerned about the 4th grade. Because even though we were told that the school will move into the city there are no news about the new campus. All the parents in our class having the same concern about sending their kids all the way to Marmara campus in Istanbul traffic. It is very urgent for IICS to solve or create an alternative solution for the coming generations. At least the classes until 9th grade can move back to Hisar as it was in the old days...Or add more classes to Hisar building and make it optional to stay at Hisar building. Else then this I am happy about the school.

I am wondering there is a school nurse(national qualified) or school doctor at Hisar.

Since there is a pet in the school, the pet must be very well taken care of. The pet is always in interaction with the kids and the all the vaccines and the health procedures must be followed strictly for the cat.

Lunch menu is better than it was, but still room for improvement - more variety of vegetables and please no more chicken nuggets (minced chicken and bones) and chicken in general - not even if it is labeled organic since organic in Turkey does not mean much. I understand school food cannot be like home food and your budget is limited, but we are talking child health so please at least some small changes for the better and for good. Also, please no junk food for picnics, trips etc. every time there is chips included.

What good is if we teach them at home about healthy living and eating habits, if the school is sending them different messages. Thank you.

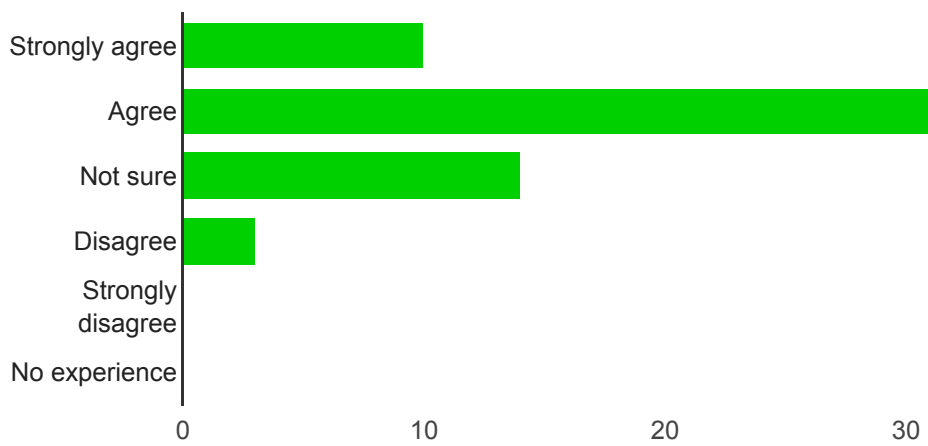
First 3 points I do not have knowledge. Could you pls share some information on it ?

It's better to recruitment more profetionl assistants for haw behave with kids

My son and I are very enjoying in marmara campus. So satisfied.

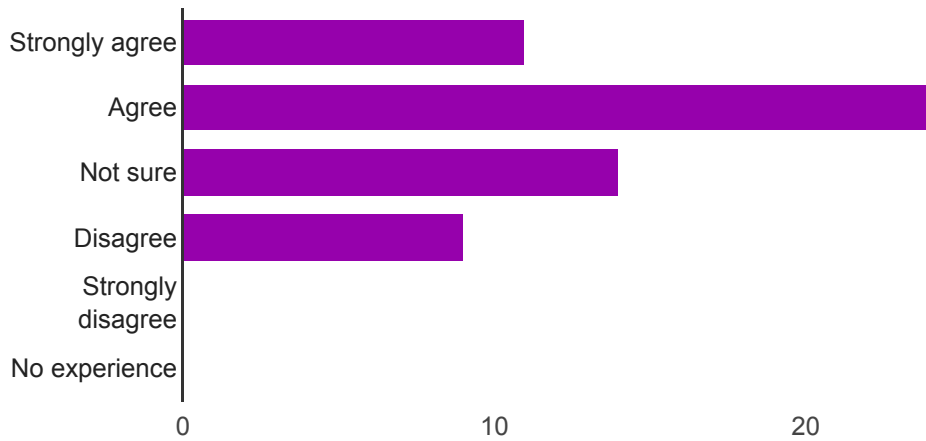
n.a.

### **I understand the assessment program at IICS [7 - Communication]**

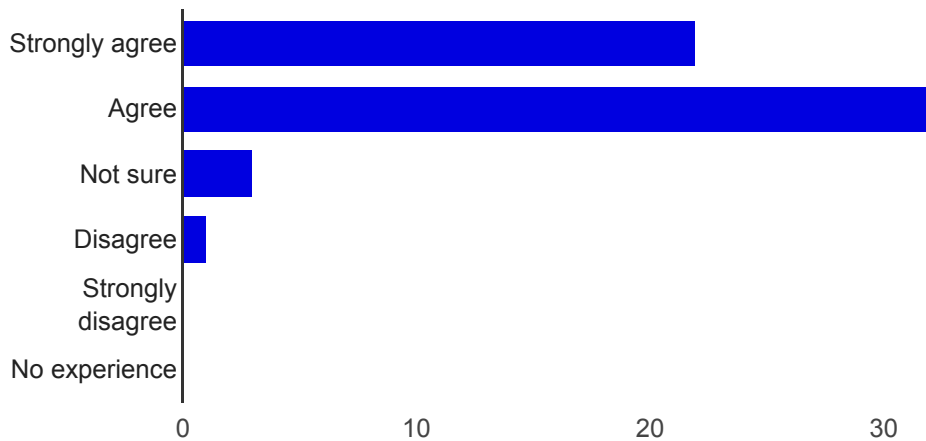


Strongly agree	<b>10</b>	17.2%
Agree	<b>31</b>	53.4%
Not sure	<b>14</b>	24.1%
Disagree	<b>3</b>	5.2%
Strongly disagree	<b>0</b>	0%
No experience	<b>0</b>	0%

### **I am well-informed about my child's progress [7 - Communication]**

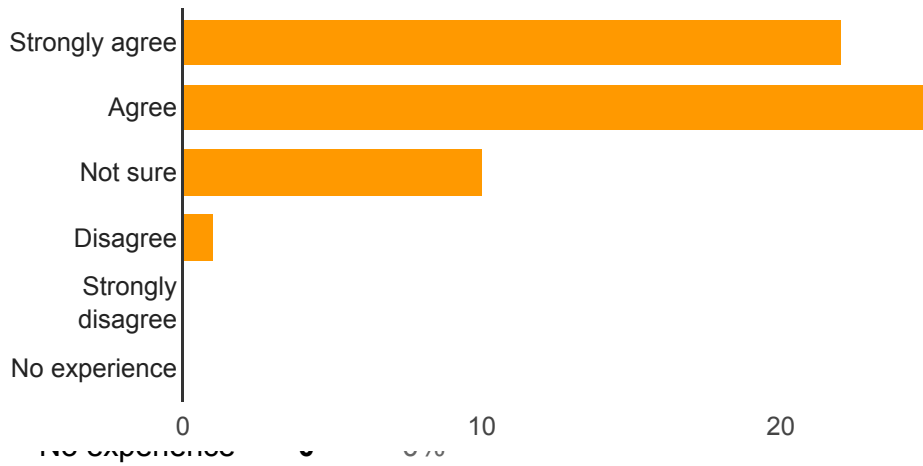


**Teachers respond promptly to my questions or concerns [7 - Communication]**

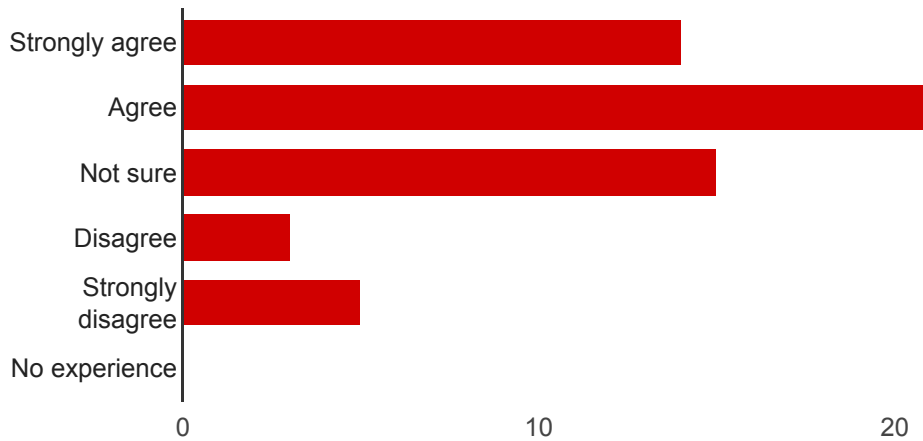


Strongly agree	<b>22</b>	37.9%
Agree	<b>32</b>	55.2%
Not sure	<b>3</b>	5.2%
Disagree	<b>1</b>	1.7%
Strongly disagree	<b>0</b>	0%
No experience	<b>0</b>	0%

**Concerns about my child are dealt with quickly and effectively [7 - Communication]**



### I am well-informed about the curriculum [7 - Communication]



Strongly agree	<b>14</b>	24.1%
Agree	<b>21</b>	36.2%
Not sure	<b>15</b>	25.9%
Disagree	<b>3</b>	5.2%
Strongly disagree	<b>5</b>	8.6%
No experience	<b>0</b>	0%

### How can communications be improved?

Monthly curriculum plan should be given, quarterly small report on the child (as it was done in EY3-4) required. Formal One to one discussion with classroom teacher is required.

No comment

Twice a year a 30 minutes review between teachers and parents is the only way. Right now Seesaw is not used efficiently, Map tests I am told dont say anything about my childs performance in the class, report cards come home and we dont have a chance to understand why the grades are what they are. My child scores a 2 in PE where he is by far one of the most athletic kids in the class. So how am I to interpret this. Timing is off of the current set up.

There should be more opportunities for families to have feedbacks from the teachers on their progress. We get a midterm report and there is a meeting in October. I think there should be something around spring (without the kids), when teachers communicate what areas need improvement and what areas are fine. Plus, if my child is struggling in a subject, I would like to know it promptly and be directed as how to help him to get better through extra homeworks or tasks. This doesn't always happen.

/

I believe I am very well informed regarding my child and the EY4 program. I follow see saw and am happy to see my sons progress

Regular communication is needed

NA

Kids upoaded what they did at school. I'm happy to see that from seesaw but I'm not able to recognize my kid achieved well, wthat was good and which parts were weekness during the sememster. I'd like to know short feedback from teachers as well regularly(not only the end of school year).

We could be more active if the school were close to the center of the city.

Seesaw has been amazing and a big improvement. Consolidating emails further might be a step further.

Updates regarding UOI's before each would be helpful

We are not able to follow the academic activities of the children. Could the teachers announce a weekly program for the upcoming week, so that we know as families what the subjects covered are?

I think during my 5 years at IICS I never received information about the curriculum in primary. I would have loved to receive a simple summarize of academic learning goals per year (at the beginning of a year or a semester!) This would make it easier to follow up at home.

Wriitten/weekly Communication has improved. Queries to the management however still falls through the cracks and it takes forever to receive a response.

Z

Organize meeting with the parents in both campuses . At least twice a year.

It ok now

I think that the number of students in each grade has to be limited with 12 students. So the teacher has more time for each student to see they learning progress.

The communication is really fine.

Seesaw helped a lot. It was a great addition to this school year.

Ssss

- By giving more details about the program/study unit - by stating objectives
- by explaining assessments of students results

less and better structured info on seesaw - too much "junk"

doing good job

seesaw is an excellent improvement. much easier to communicate!

Teachers mobile numbers may be shared to student in case of an emergency.

they are fine

The school needs to develop communication in terms of quality (what and how much to be said).

-

By using Seesaw

The reporting card was not clear. There was no link between the assesment and comments. I did not understand clearly how I can help my child to improve. During the parent teacher conferences, I did not get clear feedbacks. Turkish notes at the report cards was confusing for Turkish kids.

Increasing the number of such surveys do better... Also teachers can update the parents more...

Continue to utilize texts and email to keep parents updated.

I am almost very happy about the communication the school has built so far.

I guess there is whats app group each class or grade. I remembered one of mom who was PTA asked us some ideas about school(at that time, it was about school lunch).

Some of the practices followed for the programme was not explained well to the parents. For example, sharing time. I did not receive any information about the purpose of this practice, what the kids could bring to school, what they should share, etc. For next year, it would be better if we are informed beforehand to understand the aim and to manage the kids better.



more one on one meetings with teacher on child's development

This is my part where I should be more involved. As living in Istanbul, the school is a little far away.

While concerns are addressed in a timely manner, I am not sure that everything that is discussed gets implemented. Parents should have a better insight on what is going on in the classroom - what are the goals set for each child at the beginning of the year and how is the child progressing towards those goals.

Seesaw is a good platform and works well.

I consider it to be fine.

Student led conferences aren't enough to follow the progress of the curriculum and my child's learning. I'd like to receive at least a monthly email update about my child's class from the home room teacher.

I would like to be informed about my child's progress, I would like that her work is shared with me on a daily/ weekly basis. I do not know her math progress right now. I believe I have as well very superficial information on the curriculum, no concrete info what the students are doing right now.

Using personalized messages

One more PT conference at the end of the academic year would be very helpful.

By mail is good

Now is also enough to communicate with the school by email and Seesaw app. Seesaw app is the best for communication.

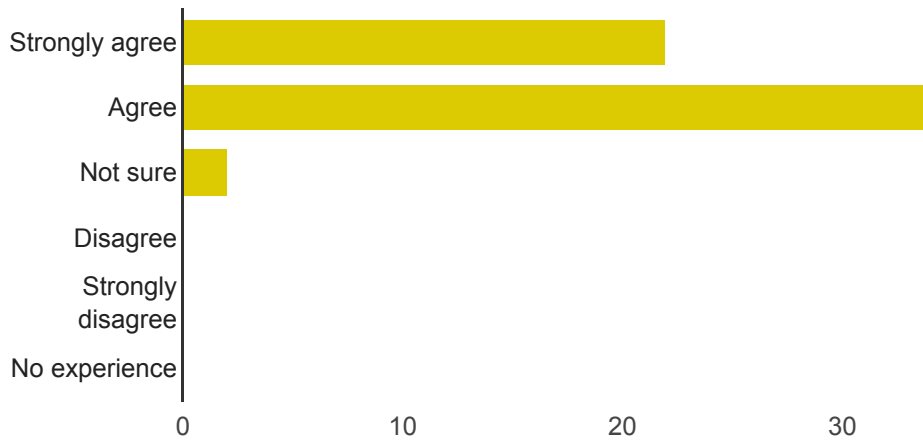
n.a.

Improve community and parents' relations

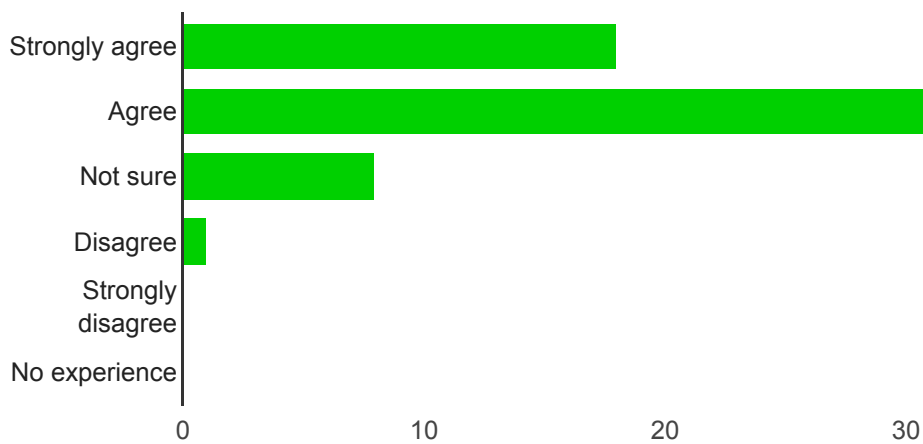
By emailing

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**I am well-informed about school events [null]**

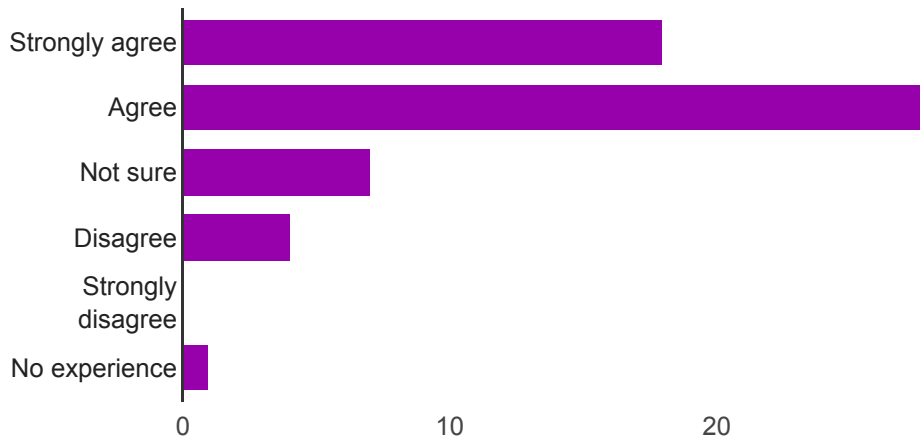


**It is easy to find the information I need from the school [null]**

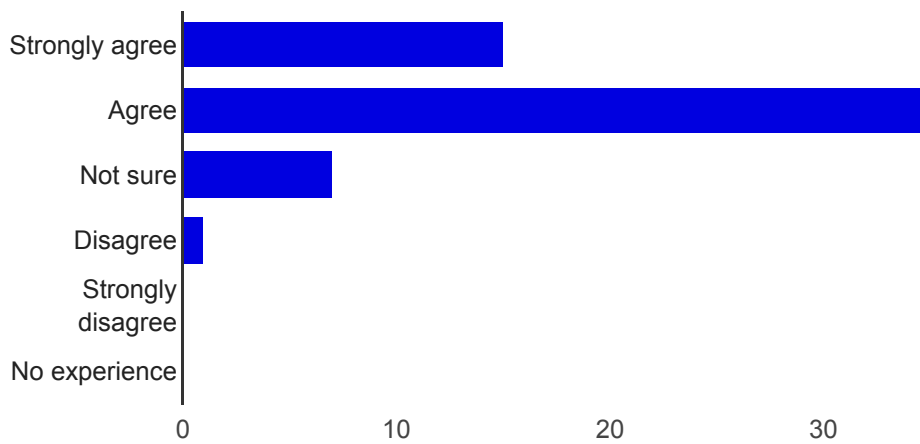


Strongly agree	<b>18</b>	31%
Agree	<b>31</b>	53.4%
Not sure	<b>8</b>	13.8%
Disagree	<b>1</b>	1.7%
Strongly disagree	<b>0</b>	0%
No experience	<b>0</b>	0%

**There are channels for me to communicate any feedback I have about the school [null]**



### The school is responsive to feedback [null]



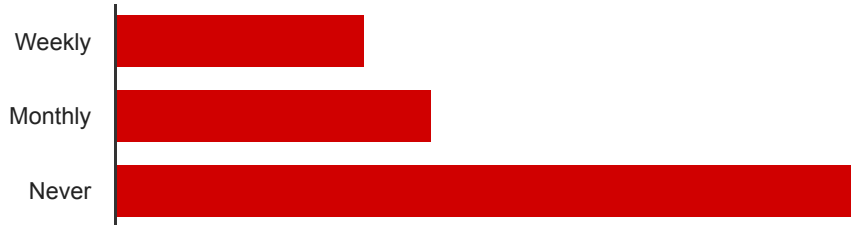
Strongly agree	<b>15</b>	25.9%
Agree	<b>35</b>	60.3%
Not sure	<b>7</b>	12.1%
Disagree	<b>1</b>	1.7%
Strongly disagree	<b>0</b>	0%
No experience	<b>0</b>	0%

### I use the school website [null]



Weekly	<b>12</b>	20.7%
Monthly	<b>23</b>	39.7%
Never	<b>23</b>	39.7%

### I read the school blog '@ IICS' [null]



Weekly	<b>11</b>	19%
Monthly	<b>14</b>	24.1%
Never	<b>33</b>	56.9%

### I read 'The Friday Flash' [null]



Weekly	<b>37</b>	63.8%
Monthly	<b>12</b>	20.7%
Never	<b>9</b>	15.5%

### I read '@ IICS Magazine' [null]



Weekly	<b>5</b>	8.6%
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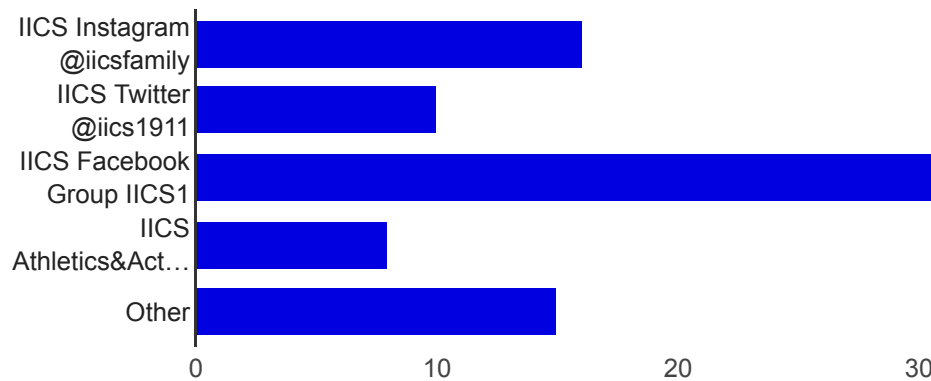
Monthly **18** 31%  
 Never **35** 60.3%

### I read 'Seesaw' [null]



Weekly **56** 96.6%  
 Monthly **2** 3.4%  
 Never **0** 0%

### I look at the following:



IICS Instagram @iicsfamily **16** 27.6%  
 IICS Twitter @iics1911 **10** 17.2%  
 IICS Facebook Group IICS1 **31** 53.4%  
 IICS Athletics&Activities Instagram @iicsdolphins **8** 13.8%  
 Other **15** 25.9%

### Comments

Seesaw is great, however I feel lost on the website. Website could be used to give more formal info about curriculum

The school website is not user friendly at all.

I was not aware of the "IICS Facebook" group.

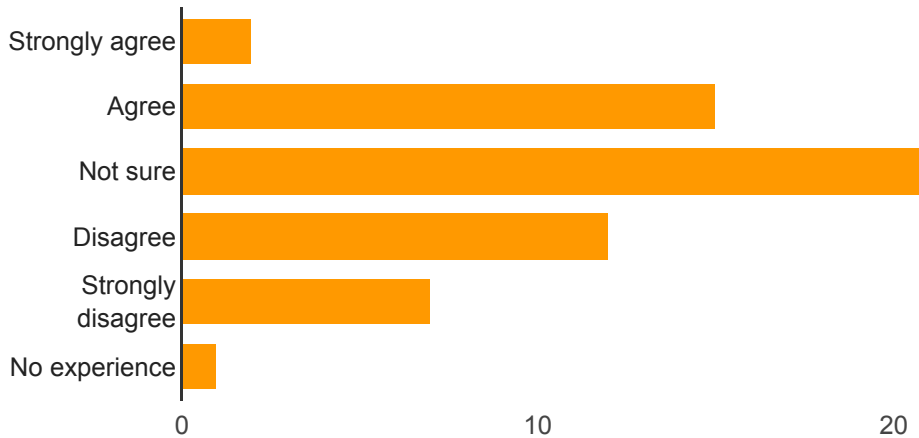
At seesaw I look daily

I did not know if there was a school blog. More reminder is needed.

n.a.

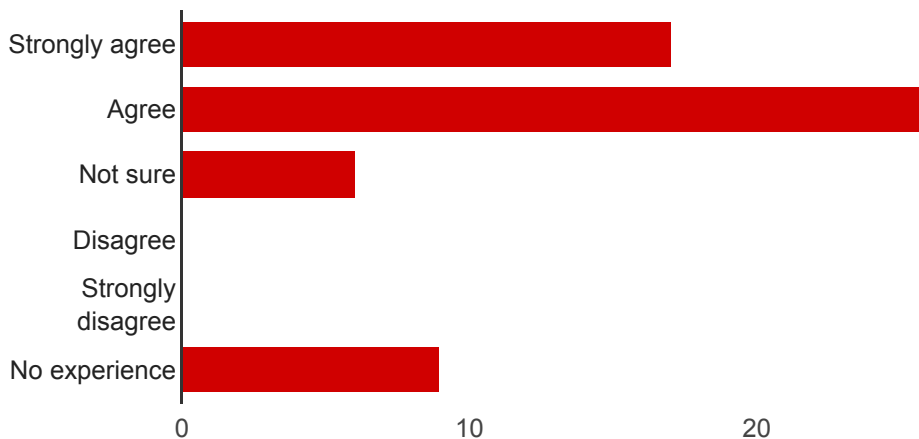
I am not getting the friday flash email since February. I sent several emails and informed the school about it

### The quality of the food is good [8 - Operations]



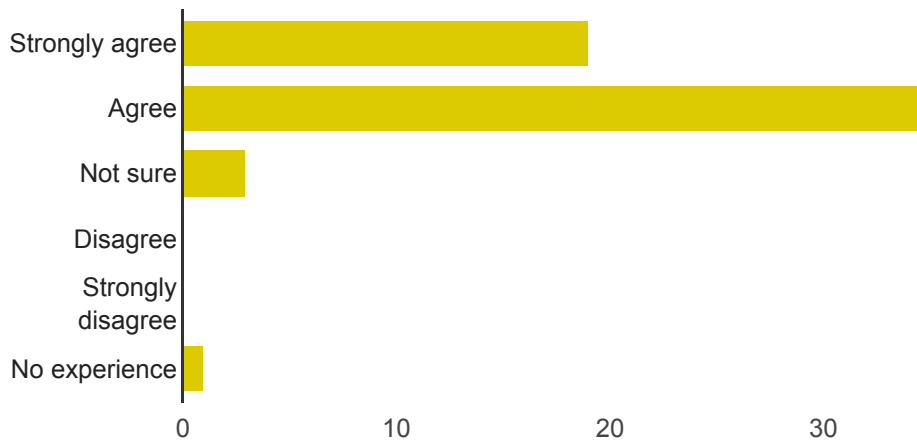
Strongly agree	<b>2</b>	3.4%
Agree	<b>15</b>	25.9%
Not sure	<b>21</b>	36.2%
Disagree	<b>12</b>	20.7%
Strongly disagree	<b>7</b>	12.1%
No experience	<b>1</b>	1.7%

### The service provided by the bus company is good [8 - Operations]



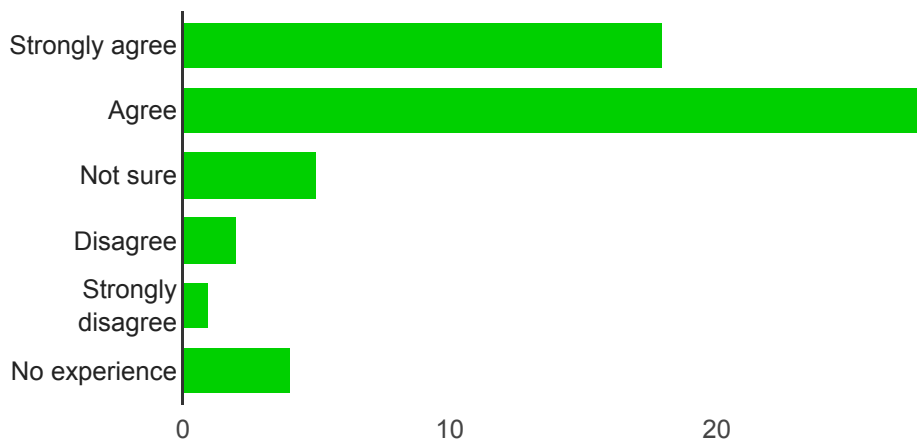
Strongly agree	<b>17</b>	29.3%
Agree	<b>26</b>	44.8%
Not sure	<b>6</b>	10.3%
Disagree	<b>0</b>	0%
Strongly disagree	<b>0</b>	0%
No experience	<b>9</b>	15.5%

**I receive clear information about fees and payments [8 - Operations]**



Strongly agree	<b>19</b>	32.8%
Agree	<b>35</b>	60.3%
Not sure	<b>3</b>	5.2%
Disagree	<b>0</b>	0%
Strongly disagree	<b>0</b>	0%
No experience	<b>1</b>	1.7%

**The finance and operations teams are helpful and responsive [8 - Operations]**



Strongly agree	<b>18</b>	31%
Agree	<b>28</b>	48.3%
Not sure	<b>5</b>	8.6%
Disagree	<b>2</b>	3.4%
Strongly disagree	<b>1</b>	1.7%
No experience	<b>4</b>	6.9%

## Comments

I need confirmation of receipt on fees which we never get, this is especially critical for April payments. Car service after school activities (at least dropping at certain locations is required

My kids constantly complain about the quality of food...the few time I ate there I found it good. Not sure if they are really picky or if I was just lucky! My kids don't ride the bus. But they do sometimes because of playdates or last minute change of plans. All my admiration for Ali Bey. His answers are always fast and precise, you can rely on him for any issue...and he has a huge memories for names and faces!

I am almost satisfied about bus service. I feel sorry there is no one who can communicate with English in the bus. As you know, driver and bus lady don't speak English. Food is under expectation. I was told there was a hair in the dish sometimes. I hope they try to prepare variety menu. I had a chance to have lunch with kids at school, it seemed and tasted like Turkish meal(strong seasoning, way to cook, oily rice dishes and soup, etc.)

My child complains that he doesn't like the food in the school and that many kids don't eat it because it is not delicious. We as parents can not make that judgement, but I can not accept my child being hungry at school.

Horrible - chewy - cold - repetitive food and its getting worse by the year.

The school needs to continue focusing on the quality of the food. Less grease. More salad bar options.

Hisar campus is for younger kids. They need well made and nutritious lunch. I scanned lunch menu from IICS website sometimes. 1. Hamburger, sliced tomato, pickles and lettuce salad. Are these all for just making hamburger? 2. Hummus and lentil soup. These are typical Turkish(or Arabic) food. Not easy to try these to little kids. 3. Fish, organic chicken. I don't know what are these. Which fish, what part of chicken and how do they cook? 4. Too strong smell cheese, solid and cold pasta, oily rice. And I



can't see the details of the menu, real picture or calorie information. Frankly speaking, I doubt the food company is appropriate to 'international' school. The finance department asked for the enrollment fee. After paying i asked for a confirmation twice and got no response...

I'd like to receive some information about the meal plans and nutritional values of the school meals.

Food - I cannot asses the quality. I be never eaten it. Bus- I gave my remarks in the other survey. Bus driver driving too fast. No buses after the after school activities, which makes family logistics very complicated especially if you have more then 1 kid

n.a.

## **9 - Facilities - Comments**

Food is not up to the standard you would expect of a forward thinking school. No conscious approach to healthy living. My child is forced to eat, where he shouldn't be eating the school food due to the fatness of the substances and the quality of meats and fats. I wish it would be a paid lunch so he is forced to make conscious decisions.

PLEASE improve the quality and safety of playgrounds! My daughter fell from a swing that broke while she was on it and apparently it happened to some of her friends too!

The school grounds are beautiful. The EY is a friendly and attractive place that feels inviting.

The campus is too small overall to accommodate the needs of that number of children. The garden is not big enough to meet the needs of the kids, the number of toilets is not enough. There is no canteen and proper place to wash hands before eating. These are basics of a school! They should not be an area for parents to bring up fo Hisar Campus. We do not understand why Marmara campus does not move closer to the city. This is the biggest facility topic and should be the highest priority of the Board.

Improvements have been made but need to continue. The playground needs an update.

The Facilities need immediate and comprehensive overhaul which needs to be done in conjunction with "Strategic Direction". And first of all, we need to main road approaching to the school needs to be re-paved to improve safety and security conditions.

I heard they can use only cold water in the winter season. I am waiting good news: bathroom renovation like Marmara campus.

In a big metropolitan city like Istanbul where there is also heavy traffic, the first priority about the facilities must be the move of the Marmara Campus to an area which is closer to the city center. It is unacceptable for our kids to travel that much every day and taking the risk of traffic as well in a highway. Moreover, there are many families who would like to choose IICS for the education of their children but they simply do not do it because of the Marmara Campus. They even do not want to think about the option of sending their children to a campus that far away from the city. If the campus would be closer to the city center, the school would attract even more students which would be better for the school finances, too. With regards to the Hisar Campus, it would be ideal if there would be a separate place for lunchtime. And it would be better to have better hangers or wardrobes for hanging the coats and backpacks of the kids. Whenever I go to the school, I always see the coats and backpacks of the kids on the floor falling from those small and not sufficient hangers. I believe that our children deserve better facilities.

Why not have vegetable/ fruit garden or at least raised beds?

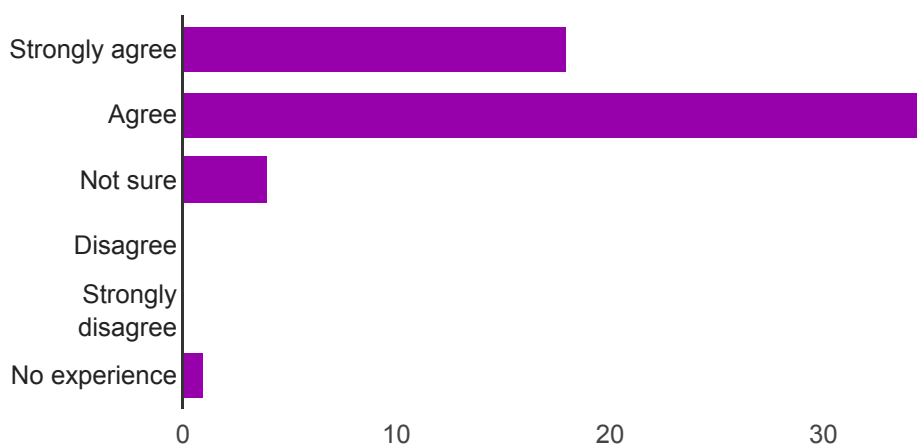
Recruitment Bus assistance that knows english,(kids do'nt talk badly together)

Please add bus routes for after-school activities. It'd be okay to pay.

toilets behind the kitchen have a very strong smell

More vegetarian foods need to be included.

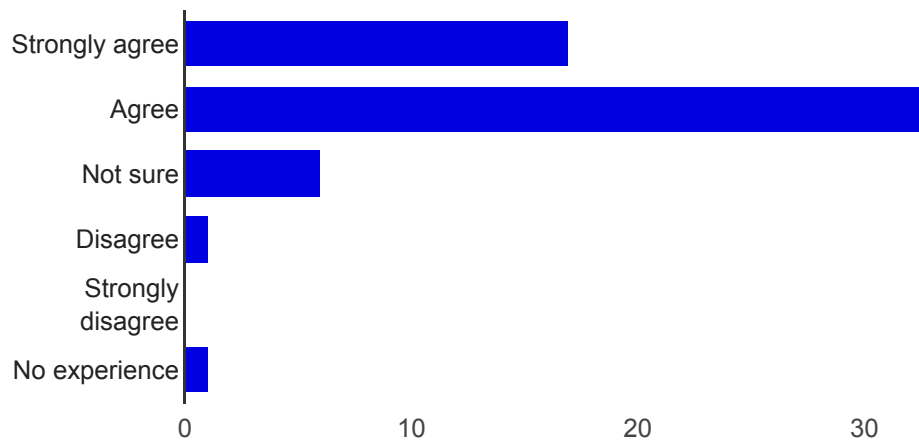
### There are opportunities for me to be involved with the school community [10 - Community]



Strongly agree	<b>18</b>	31%
Agree	<b>35</b>	60.3%
Not sure	<b>4</b>	6.9%

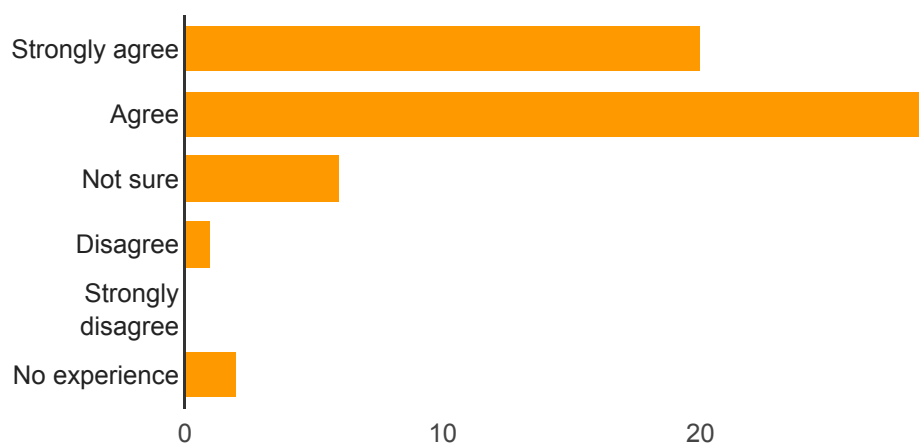
Disagree	0	0%
Strongly disagree	0	0%
No experience	1	1.7%

### There are enough community events [10 - Community]



Strongly agree	17	29.3%
Agree	33	56.9%
Not sure	6	10.3%
Disagree	1	1.7%
Strongly disagree	0	0%
No experience	1	1.7%

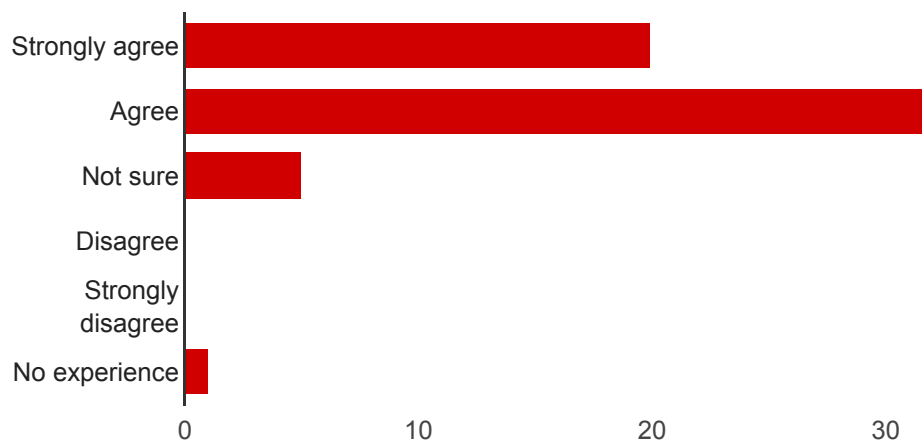
### The PTA works well [10 - Community]



Strongly agree	20	34.5%
Agree	29	50%
Not sure	6	10.3%

Disagree	1	1.7%
Strongly disagree	0	0%
No experience	2	3.4%

### I feel part of the IICS community [10 - Community]



Strongly agree	20	34.5%
Agree	32	55.2%
Not sure	5	8.6%
Disagree	0	0%
Strongly disagree	0	0%
No experience	1	1.7%

### We would like to build a stronger network of IICS parents. What kind of IICS community events would you be interested in participating?

Opening drink at the school premises after International day. People are coming but we don't have a chance to hang out afterwards. Second board/PTA evening at the beginning of a school year.

I have always liked the city tours...even though with small kids to pick up from school at 15,00 I couldn't participate as much as I wished to!

Events that are after school during a weekday. Something casual like a couple an afternoon back to school BBQ.

There should be more events for all of the school. Beside it is a community school, for a lot of events we are missing the teachers and the administrators. Runnings, brunchs, camping, more activities on Saturday morning. Use also events like boat tours, running in the forest....

Softball or football games (or other sports) with parents, staff, and students with a BBQ. Perhaps these could be held at different locations around the city to improve participation. Transportation could be provided. More casual opportunities.

we would appreciate to have more events at hisar campus. to take small children out to marmara on the weekends is difficult for most. many do not want to go.

A member position at the Board of Directors

Informative coffee mornings.

I generally want more information about board meeting and moving the elementary classes to the city.

All types of community events are very useful.

Camping, anything in nature.

Coffee mornings at school connected with class activities. Each class different day. After half an hour for parents to talk to each other.

I'd like to see teachers and parents meeting on smaller groups at least 2-3 times in a school year. Without the children and specific to our grade, so we can focus more on the curriculum and learning.

Make another campus closer for grade 4 and up

Talent night , international day etc.

walking tours, concerts, cooking classes, family days on the weekends.

Istanbul trips - turkish culture - international culture

## **Comments - How might we build a more engaged parent community?**

We need to do workshop, brainstorming about the complains and wishes. We would want to meet parents of elder classes to understand what lays ahead

Move the school. Apparently people do attend the kids three way conferences or other conferences, make this a social event afterwards.

Not sure about it, really...in these 4 years I have been here I have seen the parents less and less involved. Maybe it is just because families move and a lot of key people left...if it is so, it is just a question of time before the parents community gets back to be relevant and involved...

considering the commute many parents face to come to the school, it is pretty engaged in the primary.

Maybe we should offer more democracy in school. A lot of parents might just feel, especially in the PTA like "baking housewives", parents should be more involve in the curriculum, especially when there is sure a high educated parent community.

Suggest set higher goals and inform the progress of child regularly

The school invites the parents to the important processes and decision making activities and this is important for building an engaged parent community.

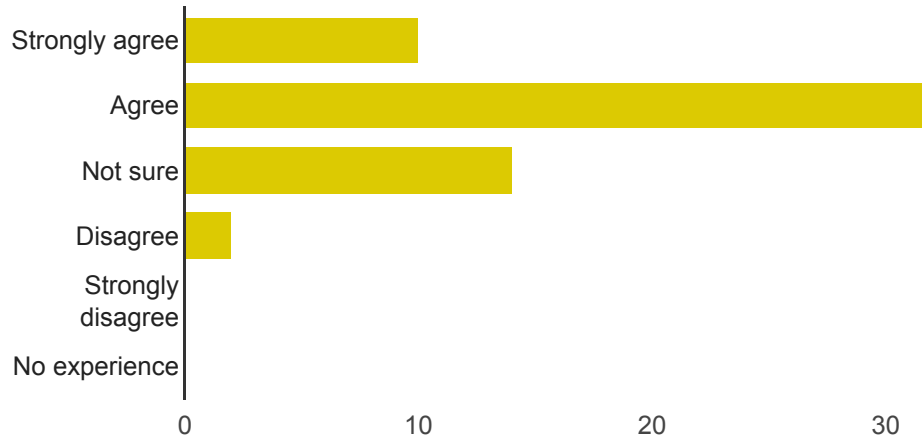
I think If Marmara campus had a more central location the parent community would be more engaged, school spirit could be felt better, there could be events organized at school campus etc.

Like above. Including talking to parents about planed activities and asking for volunteers.

Coffee morning for korean parents was quite good. We were enjoyed and felt welcome and informative oppotunity for more understanding the iics.

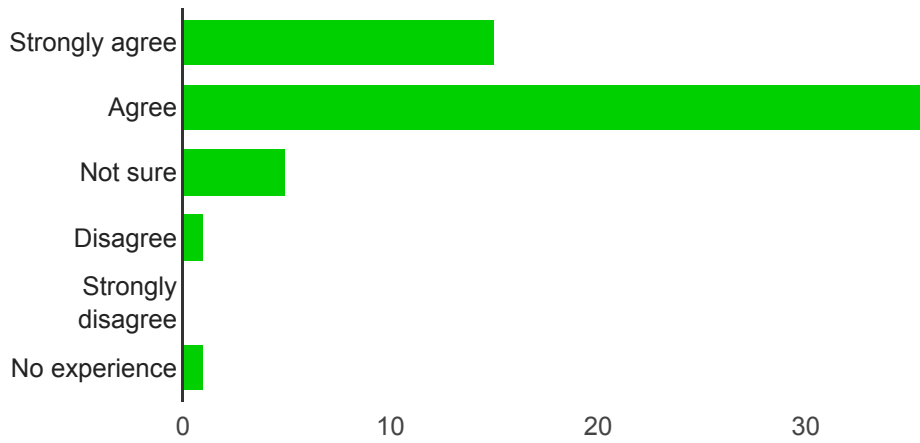
Have teachers/iics staff approach parents directly/ personally

### **The School is well-led and managed [11 - Leadership]**



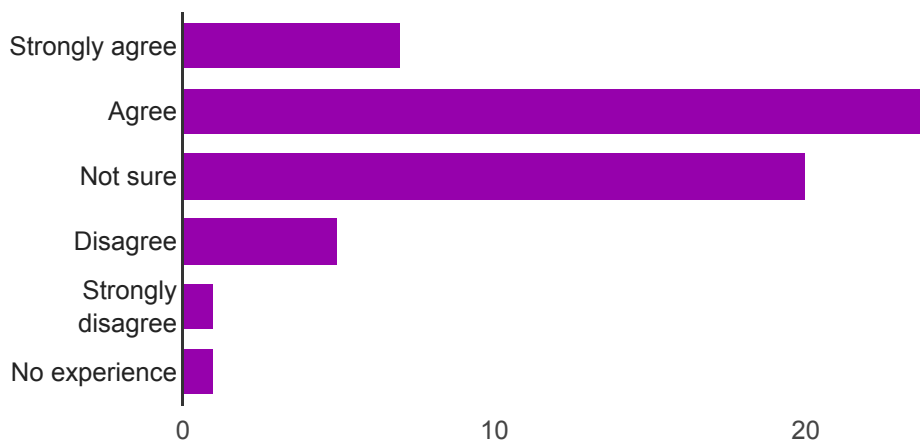
Strongly agree	<b>10</b>	17.2%
Agree	<b>32</b>	55.2%
Not sure	<b>14</b>	24.1%
Disagree	<b>2</b>	3.4%
Strongly disagree	<b>0</b>	0%
No experience	<b>0</b>	0%

### **The school leaders are accessible and responsive to students and parents [11 - Leadership]**



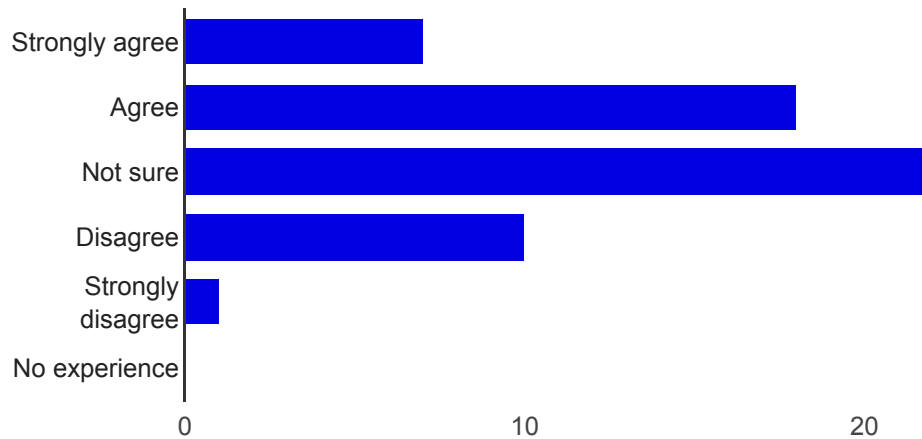
Strongly agree	<b>15</b>	25.9%
Agree	<b>36</b>	62.1%
Not sure	<b>5</b>	8.6%
Disagree	<b>1</b>	1.7%
Strongly disagree	<b>0</b>	0%
No experience	<b>1</b>	1.7%

### The Board provides good support and strategic direction to the school [11 - Leadership]



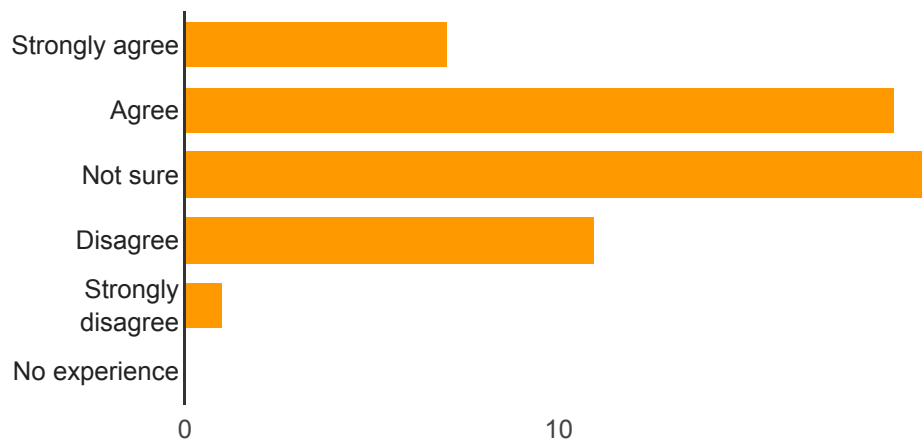
Strongly agree	<b>7</b>	12.1%
Agree	<b>24</b>	41.4%
Not sure	<b>20</b>	34.5%
Disagree	<b>5</b>	8.6%
Strongly disagree	<b>1</b>	1.7%
No experience	<b>1</b>	1.7%

## The strategic direction of the school is clear to me [11 - Leadership]



Strongly agree	<b>7</b>	12.1%
Agree	<b>18</b>	31%
Not sure	<b>22</b>	37.9%
Disagree	<b>10</b>	17.2%
Strongly disagree	<b>1</b>	1.7%
No experience	<b>0</b>	0%

## Strategic decisions are well-communicated [11 - Leadership]



Strongly agree	<b>7</b>	12.1%
Agree	<b>19</b>	32.8%
Not sure	<b>20</b>	34.5%
Disagree	<b>11</b>	19%
Strongly disagree	<b>1</b>	1.7%
No experience	<b>0</b>	0%



## Comments

I don't know about board decisions, where they concentrate, especially critical as we have all the school execs leaving this year

If you ask me about strategy, I would like to learn what the aim of the school is in 3 years from now e.g. we want to meet the 35 level of DP results and we will do this thru this and this way. We want to increase the total amount of students and we will do it thru this and this way. So far I have no clue where the school will be in 1 year from now even though I am attending all gatherings including board meetings. We always receive a review on how we are doing up till now.

Jane Thompson has been amazing and always available. But it can't be denied that the communications from the board and their strategy has never been open or clear. The marmara campus needs some HUGE renovation. For years we have heard and not-heard about a moving to the city that in the end didn't happen. I heard many parents asking "so...where does the money go exactly?". And it is difficult to answer...!

I learned by attending the open Board meeting. Not sure how others were communicated

Re this survey form: Years at IICS - There is no option for 7 years. Grades - No option for 2 kids Campus- no option for both Format - Not smart phone friendly.

Teachers should have more unexpected visits from the management. There are some teacher who are not prepared for the lesson, nor willing to teach or support the students. When claims from parents or students are coming there should be a reaction to this. Often we felt that it was like not having any consequence for any body. Beside real good teachers are also felt alone, like nobody is really appreciating their work.

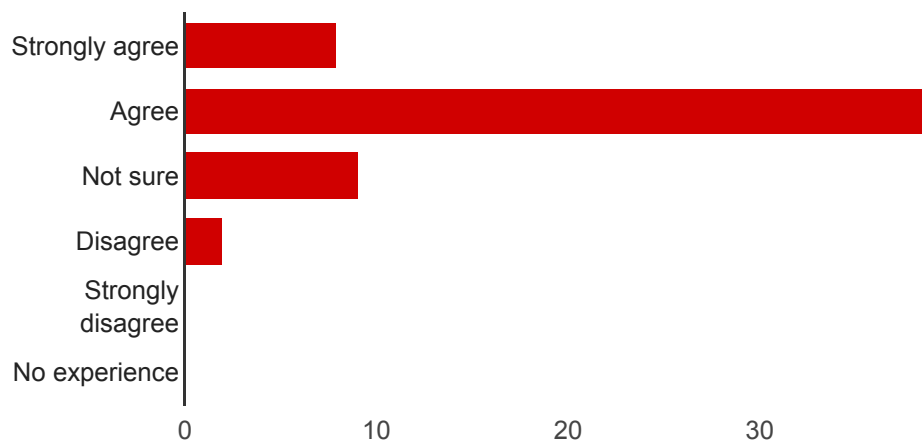
Parents need to be informed the result of the strategic work that has been done. The process was very good handled with involvement of the community but result or outputs are not shared.

From the Board and the school leaders I would have expected to protect the grandfathered rights of the students and parents that are already a part of the IICS community. This year while the school fees are increased for the 2018-2019 education year, the children who are already in EY5 and EY4 are also subjected to the increased fees while they would be admitted to Grade 1. I strongly think that it was unfair to the students and parents that are already IICS students and parents.

I am not sure what is the direction and it should be better communicated. For those who cannot attend board meetings, the school could at least provide a short summary of each meeting so all parents are up to date and informed.

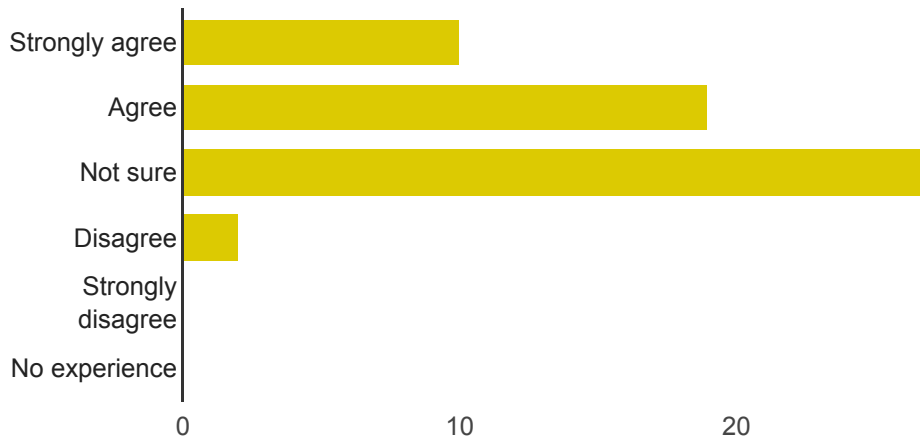
There were so many changes in the management level which concerns me. I hope next year we will have closer updates about schools plans and strategic directions. I attended one open board meeting and it was very informative, I hope we can have similar meetings more then one in a year.

### The school lives up to its mission [null]

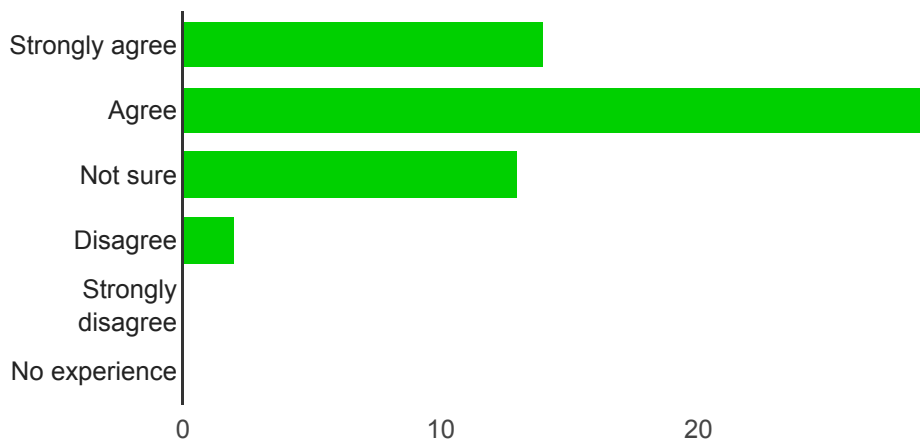


Strongly agree	<b>8</b>	13.8%
Agree	<b>39</b>	67.2%
Not sure	<b>9</b>	15.5%
Disagree	<b>2</b>	3.4%
Strongly disagree	<b>0</b>	0%
No experience	<b>0</b>	0%

### The school is continuously improving [null]



### Overall I believe IICS is an excellent school [null]



Strongly agree	<b>14</b>	24.1%
Agree	<b>29</b>	50%
Not sure	<b>13</b>	22.4%
Disagree	<b>2</b>	3.4%
Strongly disagree	<b>0</b>	0%
No experience	<b>0</b>	0%

## 12 - Strengths of the school

good staff- student relationships, inspires children to be creative, good communications skills and opportunity is given

- Community - Core group of students which forms this community so we don't feel this is an International school in turnover of students. Teacher commitment - teachers are dedicated to constant improvement, it's too bad this is not communicated more. Parent owned school. Financial commitment to not increase the school fee with too much.

As it is a small school the relations between students, staff and parents is very spontaneous, informal, reassuring. It feels like a family. Kids are

growing more and more independent and self confident every day and they love to go to school. There are some amazing teachers in this school, I was lucky enough to have Ian Penrose for two years - the great combination of traditional and modern teaching methods - and this year Shannon Mahoney, who is professional, knowledgeable and excellent under so many points of view that I would like to see more teachers like her in every grade. International, open minded.

diversity excellent teachers caring environment

Good facilities.

School has been negatively impacted due to deteriorating conditions in exchange rates in TL & USD and tense relations with USA & Turkey.

Cosy international environment at Hisar Campus. Playful learning environment for kids to express themselves.

I like the learning methods. Our son loves going to school and learning new things. He is environmentally aware and into recycling, reducing and reusing as he learned these issues at school...

I indicated the strengths in my responses above.

International and caring environment, strong staff-student relationship, good academics in certain fields.

Children are developing very well and learning a lot in a fun way. They don't think they work hard but excited about anything they do at school. Children are happily going to school each day.

Strong mix of international academia and students makes it unique for the learning experience in and outside of the classroom. But managing this mix of expectations and levels of different educational backgrounds are challenging.

Supporting individual thinking and passion for learning

Diversity

ics provide a more systematic educational environment than other international schools. Teachers and school staff really love school and feel enthusiasm.

play based learning, maker space, digital learning

### **13 - Areas or ideas for development - Further comments.**

More formal info on curriculum, future plans of school

Infrastructure - needs to be of a higher quality at the city campus (Hisar).

Strong sense from the parents of Hisar that the building is ramshackle with

not enough bathrooms and no cafeteria (!!!). It's truly a travesty and simply not up to international standards - period. Is it even safe in an earthquake - this is a volatile region of the world for earthquakes. Take a look at MEF International's purpose built school, it is built to withstand an earthquake of up to a certain magnitude. And has a cafeteria, and enough bathrooms. ALSO -- Too many Turks (both parents) in the school. This is supposed to be an international school, yet feels like it is not. With the exception of Turks who marry foreigners, what are all the fully Turkish kids doing in this school? Sure they were able to afford having a baby abroad, and might be able to get in because their child has a foreign passport, but please - it takes away from the international quality of the school when so much Turkish is being spoken at recess etc and the Turkish kids hang out and the international kids hang out separately - it's just human nature. There is an overwhelming sense from the international parents that the Hisar campus neither feels physically like an international school (subpar Hisar infrastructure), nor has a student body that reflects it.

Approach towards sport - is as important as education in personal development, so give it this much focus and attention.

EY 3 and EY 4 should be separate. Teachers from the same grade should work together and coordinate so that at the end of the year the same expectations or results (as a class) are met. Facilities need improvement. Playgrounds need improvement.

Content with Book.

Last year was a very good year since our teachers were excellent and the population of the class was good... I was very unhappy this year not only with the teachers but also the population of the class... At the beginning there was 18 kids in a very very small classroom where they also eats... indeed at the beginning of the year we found out that the kids are not even wash their hands after garden time and before lunch time. And they also didn't change their shoes! Than we realised that the toilets were very very dirty that even my child at age 5 told me that she cant use it. the quality of the food are very bad. whenever I asked, my daugther tell me about fried fish or things are made superficially, frozen food without ant taste... and every time she came back from school she was very very hungry... I also don't understand the reason to put a new graduated non experianced TA as a main TA and she was not even always there since she kept going to the university... when I compare the teachers with last year, the difference between the quality of the teachers is huge! for a while my daugther says that she does not want to go to school since they make fun with her a lot

too... I think this is also an issue that couldn't be handled by the teacher..

Regards,

The school has to develop more in the curriculum, specially in maths and science. We feel later on in the years that the students have missed a lot of basic knowledge which is important to be successful in the IB later on.

school food clearer reading and math curriculum improve the art program for primary

lics may consider to move the marmara campus close to city center

The School has first to decide that present location is to become permanent and facilities need to be overhauled in accordance with present and future education objectives.

We did not have a good year this year. Teacher quality/teaching team is so crucial. Last year, I did not even write one email regarding to school issues to principal. This year I can not even count unfortunately.

Music , Art and Sport classes must be stronger. Kids can start learning using at least 1 musical instrument .Art classes can be more creative. Filling the ready pictures is not art. They must be freed while using the colors, paints and materials.I get very upset when my 5 yearold son comes home with a printout fish picture that the filled with 1-2 colors. This can be done at any basic school. IICS must do better. Same with sports and afterschool activities. The clubs are not very exciting. My son didnt want to attend any of them else then aikido.Which was later cancelled because of some reason we were not told about. Sports is very important for kids.I think is better to have a academic sports teacher teaching more skills to kids else the football.And same with music.I prefer a real musician to teach kids music, instruments ,notes and son on...

I indicated the areas for development in my responses above.

'challenging curriculum- should be made challenging for different students and their different levels of learning, making sure every individual is challenged - this is something I find school is failing to do - it works in theory, but fails to implement. More integration between grades, more consistency in teaching and homework - teachers should have a clear picture of a child at the beginning of the school year, how far he got in his learning before the summer etc. so no time is wasted on reassessing. The time spent in school should be as productive as possible especially in Marmara, since kids spend most of the day in school and commute. MAP tests should be better incorporated in the learning or taken out as a learning assessment. If used, after each test and scores, the school/teacher should identify a couple of realistic goals for each child,

clearly communicate them to the child and parents, teacher/ school to provide means and support to reach those goals and parents support at home as needed. Reports should have better and clearer 'Learning and effort indicators' and be more consistent.

I have been just for a year in IICS community but will happily share my observation on the things I have noticed

1. Service bus. the school needs to provide service buses for after school activities. Many parents would sign the children for the bus. Routes may be longer, but it would still be better than all the parents going to the school. The fact that Marmara campus has this service shows that the school can organize it.
2. The school schedule: last International day was organized around the US Thanksgiving holiday. Lots of families are celebrating this holiday. That is probably the reason that many people couldn't participate in the event.
3. Easter break and student lead conferences. Again, many families are celebrating this holiday. You should try to schedule spring break around this holiday and nothing important should be organized just before or after.
4. International lunch day was a good idea. In my opinion, it should be more like a picnic type of event with all the foods labeled and students having a chance to try many international cuisines. Also, you can make little groups that speak the same language and share info with groups from other languages.
5. Lunches. I have heard from my son, William, and other moms that the children think they are too short and that they don't have enough time to eat. Similar with snack time.

Following the notes in box 12, school needs to engage a bit more with parents on their child's education levels and expectations. I have confidence in the teachers and management. We are enjoying the school and our child is happy.

Food - too little time for lunch and snack. Students are complaining! Please provide at least 10. Min for snack and 30 for lunch.

schoolchoir at Hisar, ASA with music and more sport

As students spent full day at school, food quality needs to be improved