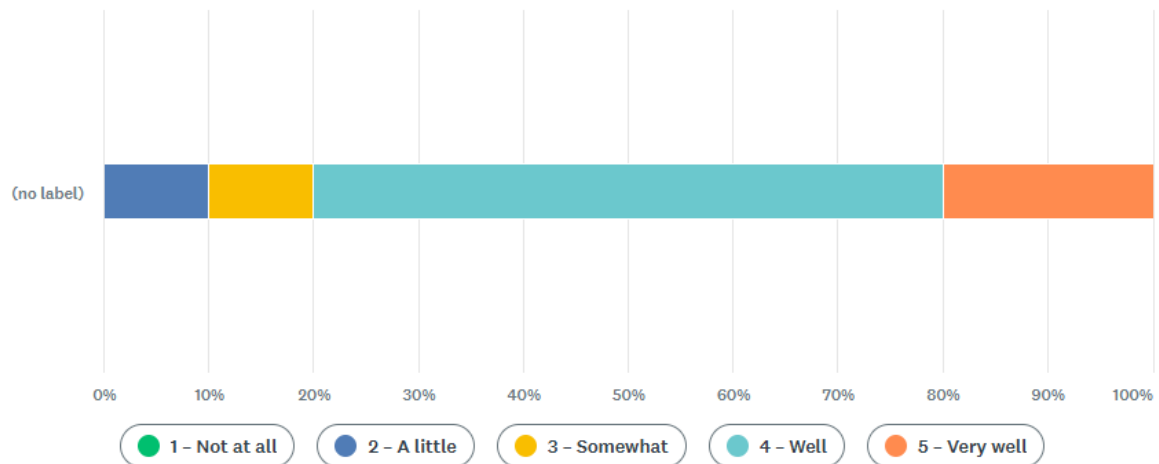
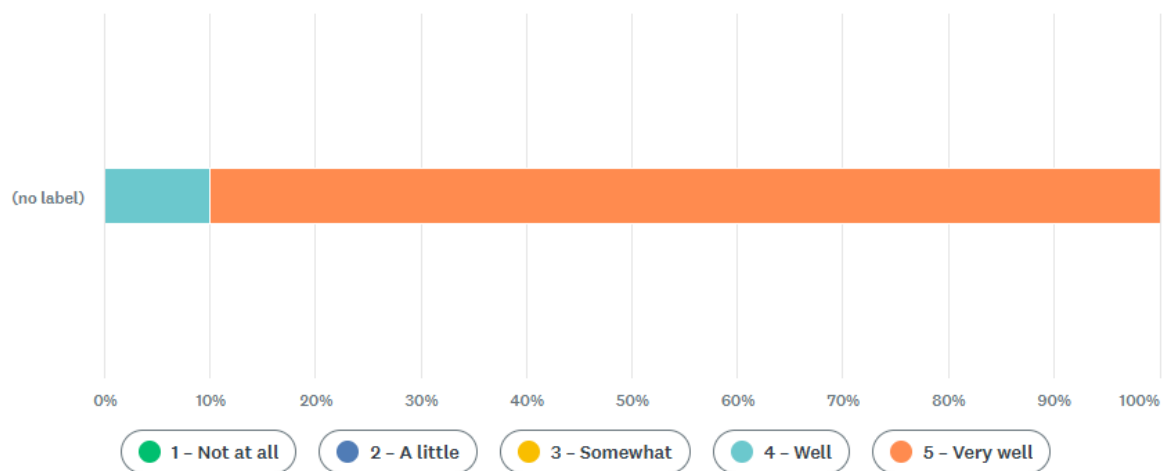


OPAL Parent Survey Responses

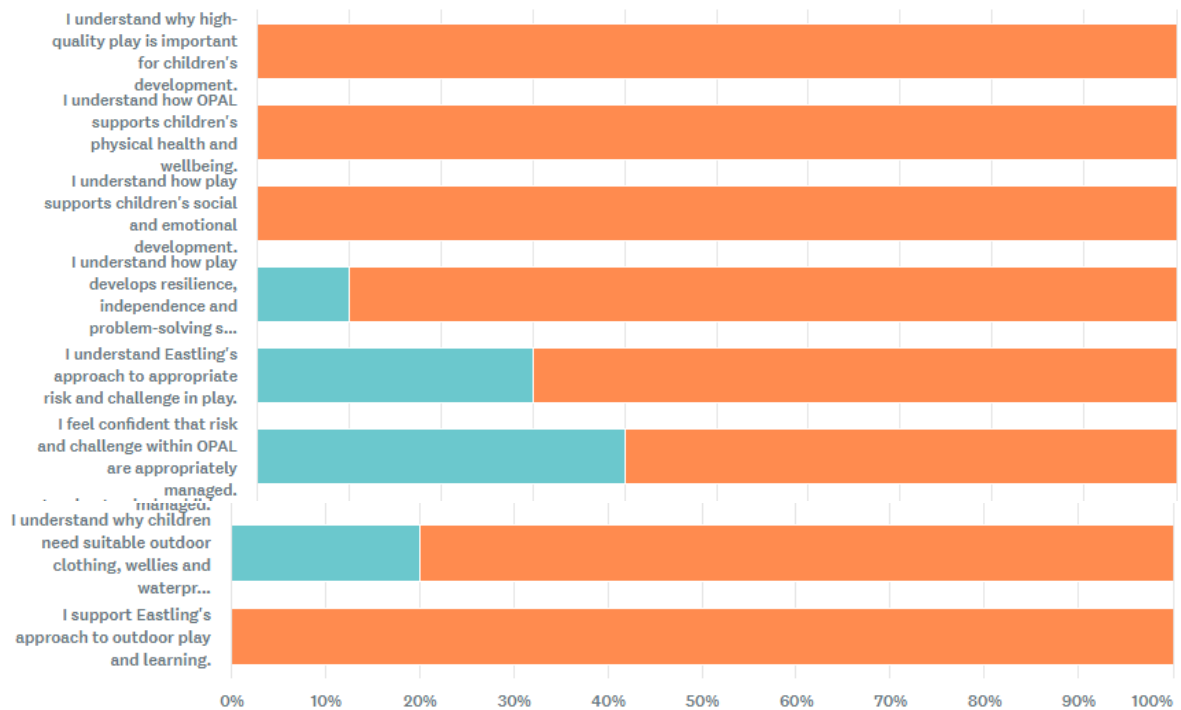
Before today's session, how well did you understand the aims and principles of OPAL?



Following today's presentation and Stay & Play session, how well do you now understand the aims and principles of OPAL?



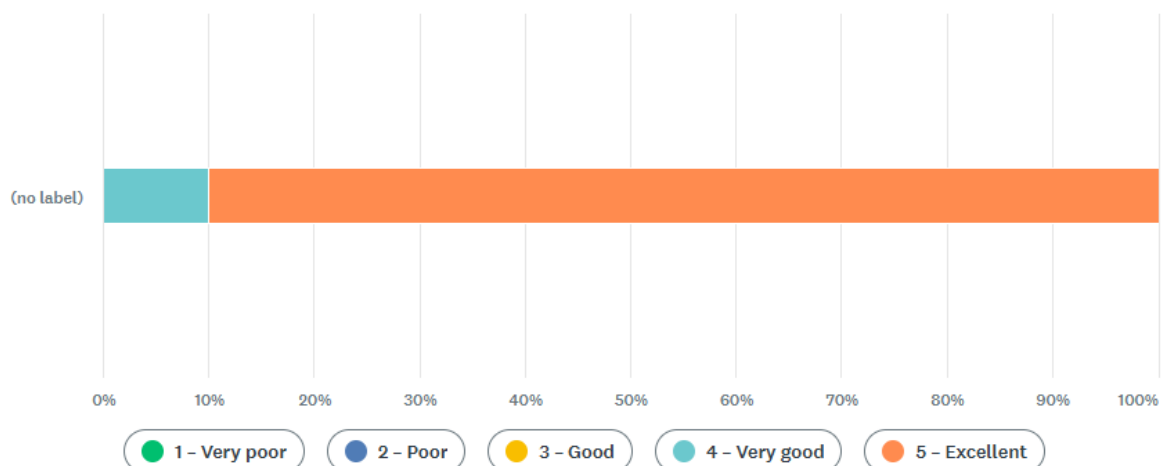
Following today's session, to what extent do you agree with the following statements?



^ Collapse

Strongly disagree, {
 Disagree
Neither agree nor disagree
Agree
Strongly agree

Having experienced a Stay & Play session, how would you rate the quality of children's play opportunities at Eastling?



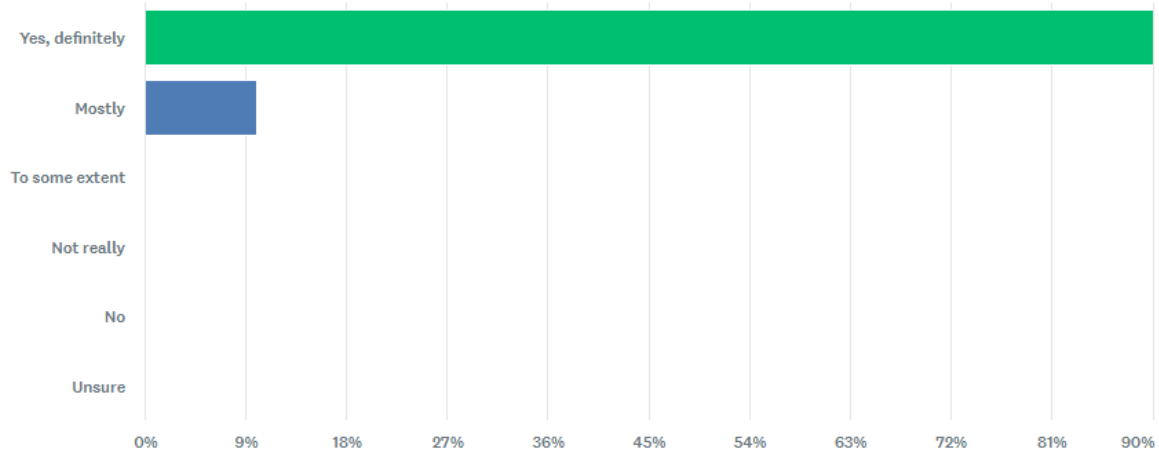
1 - Very poor
2 - Poor
3 - Good
4 - Very good
5 - Excellent

Which aspects of our OPAL provision do you think have the greatest positive impact on children?

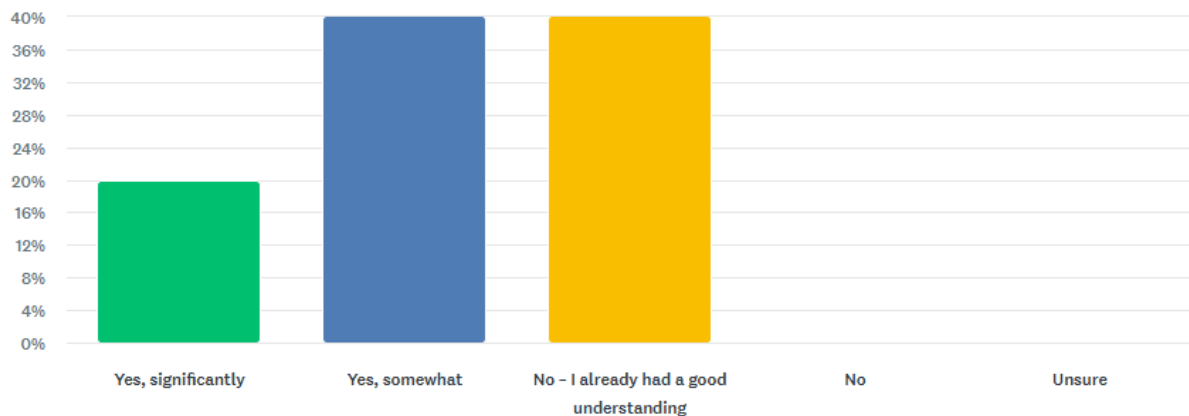


Answer Choices ↓	Percentage ↓
 Physical activity and development	80.00%
 Confidence and independence	80.00%
 Resilience	50.00%
 Creativity and imagination	90.00%
 Problem-solving	50.00%
 Communication and language	30.00%
 Friendships and social skills	60.00%
 Playing with children of different ages	90.00%
 Inclusion and belonging	50.00%
 Emotional wellbeing and self-regulation	50.00%
 Learning to assess and manage risk	90.00%
 Teamwork and collaboration	90.00%

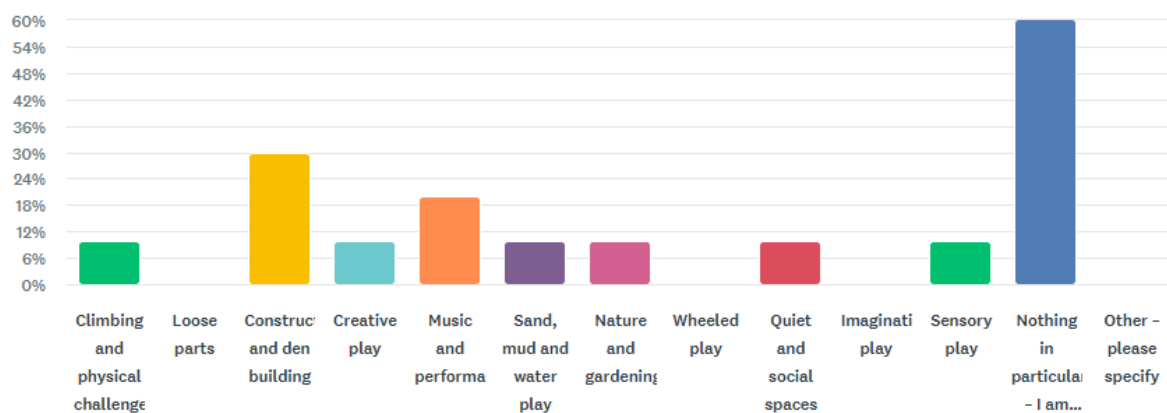
From what you observed today, do you feel that OPAL provides opportunities for children with different interests, ages and needs to find ways of playing that suit them?



Has today's session changed your understanding of children's need for risk and challenge in play?

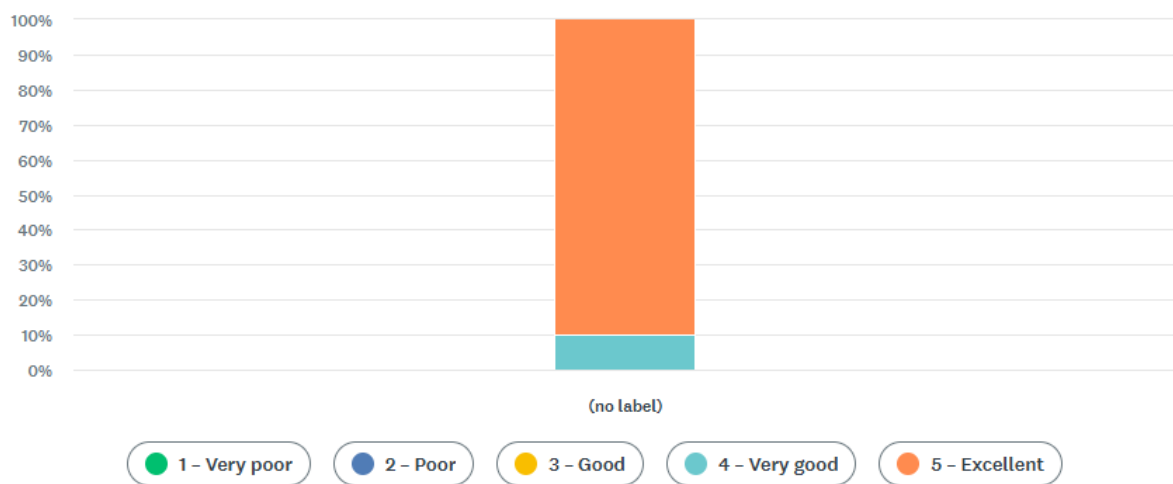


What would you like to see more of in our OPAL provision?



Answer Choices ↓	Percentage ↓
● Climbing and physical challenge	10.00%
● Loose parts	0%
● Construction and den building	30.00%
● Creative play	10.00%
● Music and performance	20.00%
● Sand, mud and water play	10.00%
● Nature and gardening	10.00%
● Wheeled play	0%
● Quiet and social spaces	10.00%
● Imaginative/role play	0%
● Sensory play	10.00%
● Nothing in particular – I am happy with the current provision	60.00%

Overall, how would you rate today's Parent Information and Stay & Play session?



OPAL Stay & Play 2026 – You Said, We Listened!

Celebrating Play at Eastling Primary School

At Eastling Primary School, we believe that children only get one childhood, and we are committed to making every playtime a rich, exciting and meaningful experience.

Following our recent OPAL Parent Information and Stay & Play session, we invited parents and carers to share their views about our outdoor play provision, the benefits of play and their experiences of the event.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete our survey. Your feedback helps us celebrate what is working well and identify how we can continue to develop our Double Platinum OPAL provision.

A Greater Understanding of OPAL

One of the main aims of our parent information session was to help families understand why high-quality play is such an important part of children's development.

Before the session, 80% of respondents described their understanding of OPAL as *well* or *very well*.

Following the presentation and Stay & Play experience, this increased to 100%, with 90% reporting that they now understood OPAL very well.

This was particularly encouraging, as it demonstrated the value of bringing parents into school to see our play philosophy in action.

What Did Parents Think?

Parents' feedback was overwhelmingly positive across all aspects of our provision.

- **100%** agreed or strongly agreed that they understood why high-quality play is important for children's development.
- **100%** agreed or strongly agreed that they understood how OPAL supports physical health and wellbeing.
- **100%** agreed or strongly agreed that they understood the benefits of play for children's social and emotional development.
- **100%** agreed or strongly agreed that they understood how play develops resilience, independence and problem-solving skills.
- **100%** agreed or strongly agreed that they understood Eastling's approach to appropriate risk and challenge.
- **100%** agreed or strongly agreed that they felt confident risk and challenge were appropriately managed.
- **100%** agreed or strongly agreed that they understood the importance of wellies, waterproofs and suitable outdoor clothing.

- **100%** strongly agreed that they supported Eastling's approach to outdoor play and learning.

The Quality of Play at Eastling

After experiencing our outdoor provision first-hand:

90% of parents rated the quality of children's play opportunities as excellent, with the remaining 10% rating them very good.

We were also delighted that parents recognised the inclusive nature of our provision. When asked whether OPAL provides opportunities for children with different interests, ages and needs, 90% answered "Yes, definitely", while the remaining 10% answered "Mostly".

This reflects our commitment to ensuring that every child can find opportunities to play, explore, create, challenge themselves and develop friendships in ways that are meaningful to them.

What Benefits Did Parents Recognise?

Parents identified a wide range of positive outcomes from our OPAL provision.

Benefit of OPAL	Parents selecting this
Connection with nature and the outdoors	100%
Creativity and imagination	90%
Playing with children of different ages	90%
Learning to assess and manage risk	90%
Teamwork and collaboration	90%
Physical activity and development	80%
Confidence and independence	80%
Friendships and social skills	60%

Parents also recognised benefits for resilience, problem-solving, inclusion, emotional wellbeing and communication.

It was particularly pleasing to see that every respondent recognised the importance of children's connection with nature, and that so many valued opportunities for children of different ages to play together.

Understanding Risk and Challenge

An important part of our OPAL philosophy is helping children develop the confidence and judgement to manage appropriate risks.

We believe that climbing, balancing, building, exploring and overcoming challenges are important experiences that help children develop resilience and independence.

Following the session:

- **60% of parents** said their understanding of children's need for risk and challenge had improved.
- **40%** said they already had a good understanding.

This reinforces the importance of sharing our approach with families and providing opportunities for parents to experience adventurous play alongside their children.

You Said, We Listened!

We also asked parents what they would like to see more of in our OPAL provision.

We were delighted that 60% of respondents were happy with the current provision and did not identify any particular additions they wanted.

For those who suggested further developments, the most popular choice was construction and den building (30%), followed by music and performance (20%). Smaller numbers also expressed an interest in additional opportunities for climbing, creative play, sensory play, nature and gardening, and quiet social spaces.

We will use this feedback alongside children's ideas, staff observations and our OPAL development planning to ensure that our play environment continues to evolve.

Finally, 100% of parents rated the Parent Information and Stay & Play session as very good or excellent, with 90% choosing excellent.

We are incredibly grateful to our parents and carers for their continued support, whether that is attending Stay & Play events, donating resources, providing suitable outdoor clothing or simply embracing the muddy, imaginative and adventurous experiences that make OPAL so special.

As a Double Platinum OPAL school, we are proud of the play culture our children, staff and families have created together.

Children only get one childhood. Thank you for helping us make every playtime count!