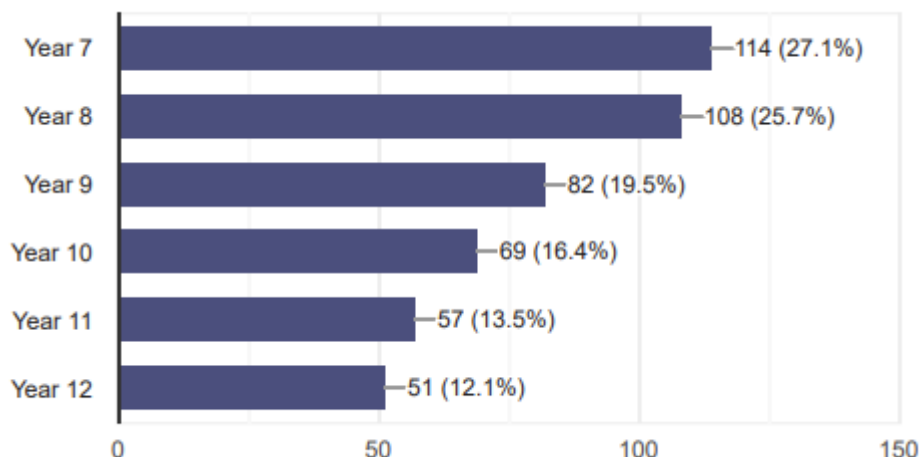


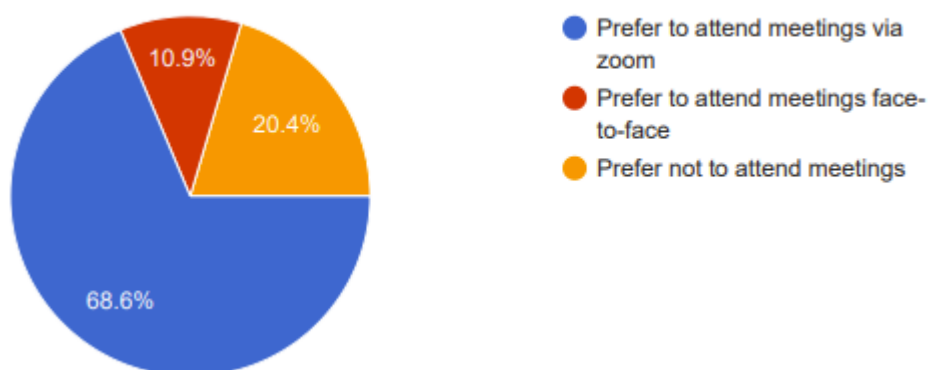
Chatswood High School and P&C Joint Survey, August 2022

At the beginning of Term 3, 2022, the Chatswood P&C and School issued a joint survey to parents and carers of students at the school. A total of 421 responses were received. The survey results are summarised below.

What year your children are in at Chatswood High School in 2022



The P&C holds two general meetings each term that parents can attend, starting at 7:30pm. The meetings are meant to be face-to-face, but since COVID began in 2020, all meetings have been via zoom. With regards to future P&C meetings, would you:



Main reasons for not attending meetings: (n=175)

66% (115/175) Work or other commitments/too busy

Interest among parents in social events (n=421)

	Yes	Maybe	No
Would you be interested in attending a social morning tea at school to meet other parents?	33.5%	31.8%	34.7%
Would you be interested in attending a social gathering at a local pub during the evening to meet other parents?	21.6%	38.2%	40.1%

The P&C manages the school Uniform Shop. If you have used the Uniform Shop this year, could you please rate your experience?

74 out of 421 parents have not used the Uniform Shop this year.

Of the remaining 347, 87% of parents were either satisfied or very satisfied.

257 parents provided comments about their experiences with the Uniform Shop:

- 163 parents (63%) described positive aspects such as the helpfulness and good advice from staff and volunteers, assistance with changing sizes of clothing, etc.
- 41 parents (16%) mentioned the convenience of online ordering and pick-up
- 40 parents (16%) raised concerns about stock availability, quality or price; sizing issues; wait times when the shop is busy; or difficulties for working parents with the shop's opening hours

“Service was outstanding. I joined a huge line before school, moved quickly, staff very patient and helpful especially under huge pressure”

“Easy to order online then have my child collect from the school office”

“Only open 1 morning per week which makes this very difficult for working parents”

The School is considering introducing a warm sloppy joe/sweater as a new uniform item to address the use of non-uniform hoodies. Discussions with students have been positive. Would you support introduction of a navy-blue sweater?

82% (345/421) parents supported introduction of a new sweater.

The School and P&C understand that COVID has had many impacts on families and especially students. Do you have any specific concerns about the well-being of your high school child/children? Please tell us briefly what your concerns are.

201 parents provided comments; the most frequent concerns were:

COVID safety	44 parents (22%)	Concerns about the ongoing spread of COVID at school; preferences for mandating of masks, social distancing, sanitising
Lack of socialising	20 parents (10%)	Concerns that their child/ren are not socialising as much since COVID, not interested in seeing their friends, have fewer friend, have become more socially isolated/withdrawn

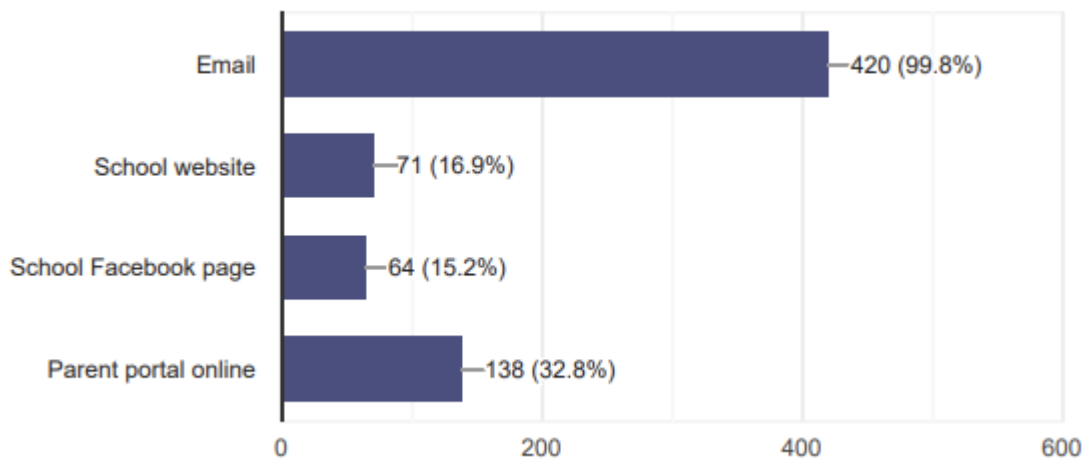
Academic performance	17 parents (8%)	Concerns about online schooling and casual teachers on the learning experiences and outcomes of students
Increased use of devices	15 parents (7%)	Concerns that devices are being used for learning, leisure and socialising
Mental health	14 parents (7%)	Concerns about increased anxiety and other mental health issues

“We are very concern to see that so many students do not wear mask indoor especially during class session. Wearing mask should be mandatory to protect everyone at School”

“Social difficulties, lockdown caused further technology dependency with peers who are reluctant to go out and socialise. They prefer to socialise online.”

“Keen on homework club or kids receiving help in the library after school if they have fallen behind”

The School uses different ways of communicating with parents. Could you please select preferred ways of communication? (Select all preferred methods)



Please rate your experience for parent & teacher meetings

66 out of 421 parents (16%) did not attend Parent-Teacher meetings this year

Of the remaining 355, 258 (67%) parents were either satisfied or very satisfied.

274 parents provided comments about their experiences:

- 120 parents provided positive comments about the online process and/or the feedback from teachers
- 60 parents said the 5-minute sessions with each teacher were too short

- 57 parents said that teachers were not available on the night, could not be accessed on the night although present, did not respond to follow-up requests for meetings with parents, or did not seem to know the student.
- Other issues raised included technical problems with zoom (teacher and parent sides), language barriers for some parents, and zoom bookings being filled up preventing some parents from attending. The combination of zoom meetings for students across two years (e.g., Years 8 and 10 on the same night) was too difficult for several parents with children in both years.

“All the teachers were very thorough in sharing the feedback”

“Easy to zoom a meeting. Teachers are always well prepared and happy to discuss my child’s academic wellbeing”

“5 minutes is too short – some were cancelled”

“Not all teachers were available and those who were did not run on time. Also the teachers who weren’t available didn’t follow up after I requested a call”

“Video speed dating is not useful for communication with all types of teachers ...”

Do you have any suggestions for the P&C and how it can help parents at the school?

131 parents responded. Suggestions included.

- More social events to help parents meet (by year group)
- Advice on how to access teachers
- Information about subject selection (Year 9 and Year 11)
- Include agenda item at P&C meetings for suggested improvements
- Strong support for the well-being seminars

Please let us know if you have any other concern or suggestion for school or P&C.

127 parents responded. Comments included:

- More communication, including more frequent school newsletters
- Sentral parent portal has limited functionality; can this be improved e.g., posting student assignments and grades, communications with teachers, etc.
- Increased focus on physical activity and structured PE sessions
- Vocationally oriented excursions for students in Years 10, 11 and 12 (not just university-and course focused)
- Tours of the school for parents when safe to do so
- Urgent need for addressing condition of toilets (cleanliness, graffiti, damaged doors, etc.)
- Information about how the canteen works, menu, prices, etc.