

Are families getting the information they need from schools?

Three parent 'must-haves'

Through focus groups with families, we learned that parents are seeking three types of information from their child's school or teacher:

1

How my child is doing academically

2

The key skills my child is supposed to learn

3

How to support my child's learning

To learn more about these 'must-haves' we conducted a national, online survey with parents of 3- to 18-year-old children. A diverse sample of 412 parents completed the survey in February 2017.

n = 412

All three 'must-haves' are highly valued

Percentage of parents who said that the following information was 'very' or 'moderately' important to receive from their child's teacher/school:

97% How my child is doing academically

93% The key skills my child is supposed to learn

95% How I can support my child's learning

Parents look to their child's school and teacher for this key information

But, communication focuses more on how children are doing academically

Are you getting the information you need from your child's teacher/school around:

How your child is doing academically **91% Yes** **9% No**

The key skills your child is supposed to learn **73% Yes** **27% No**

How you can support your child's learning **73% Yes** **27% No**

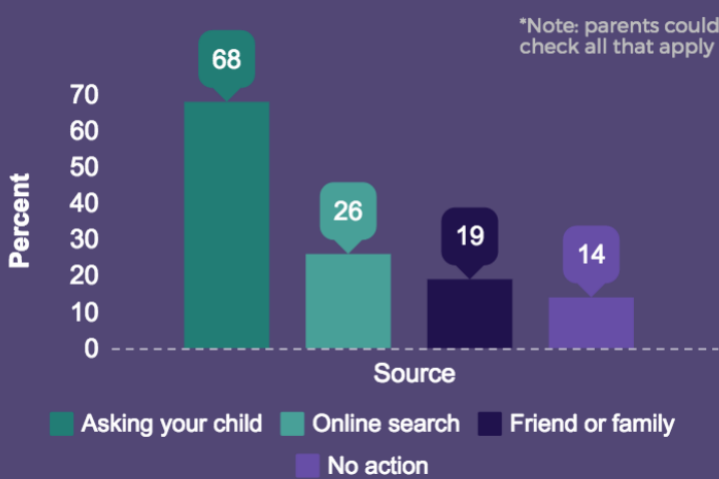
There is an important gap to fill around communicating the key skills children are supposed to learn and how parents can support their child's learning



To fill the information gap, many parents ask their children

68%

How do you get information that you're not getting from your child's teacher or school?



Nearly 1/3 of parents are not highly satisfied

Overall, how satisfied are you with the information that you're getting from your child's teacher/school?

68%

Are 'very' or 'moderately' satisfied

32%

Are 'not at all,' 'slightly' or 'somewhat' satisfied

What makes school-home communication work well?

Share what you've seen work @FamilyELab #schoolhomelink

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT LAB

Our mission is to help schools ignite the potential of millions of families to support their child's learning.

Vidya Sundaram
co-founder and CEO
vidya@familyengagementlab.org

Elisabeth O'Bryon, PhD
co-founder and Head of Research
elisabeth@familyengagementlab.org

www.familyengagementlab.org

@FamilyELab