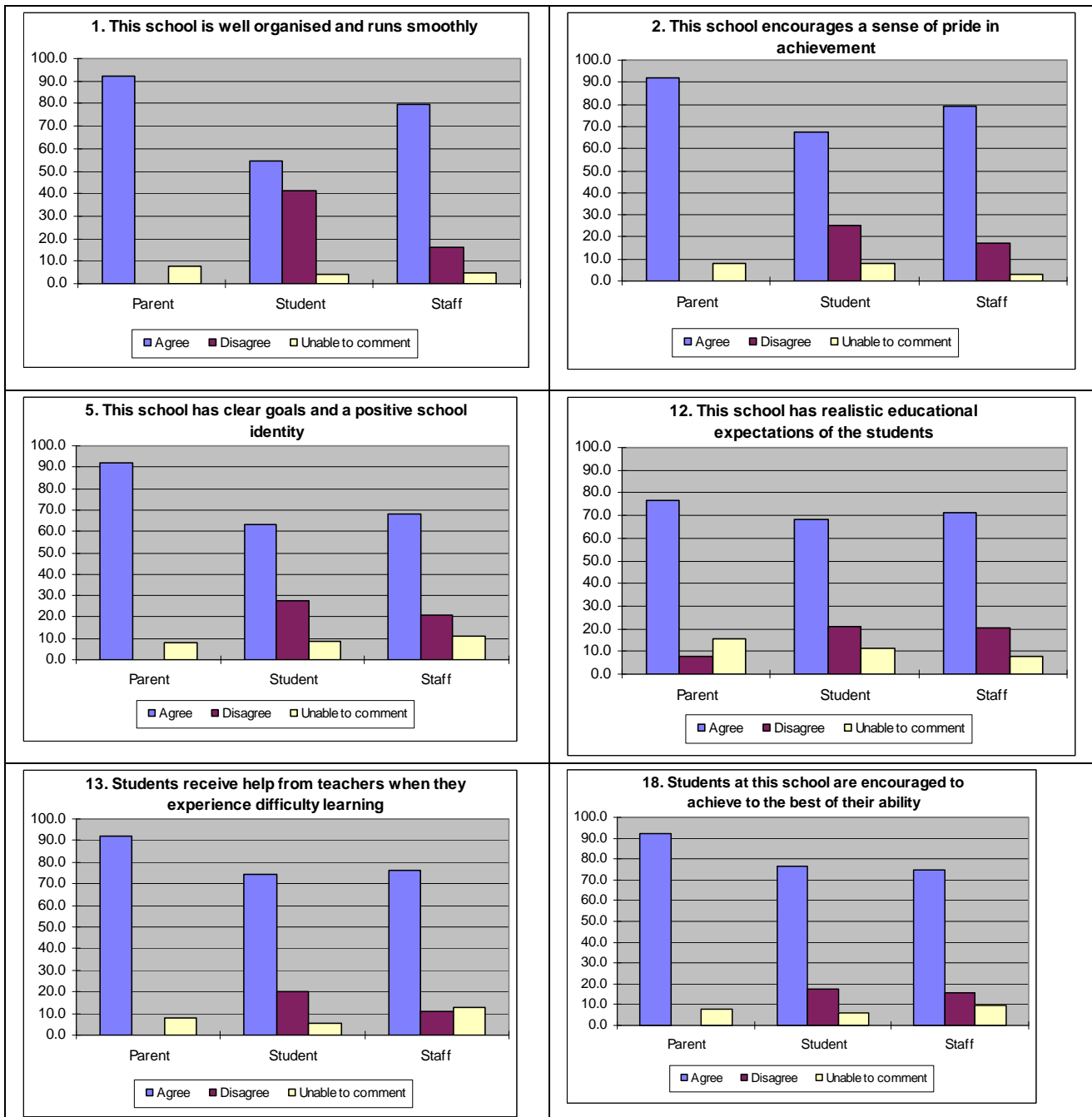


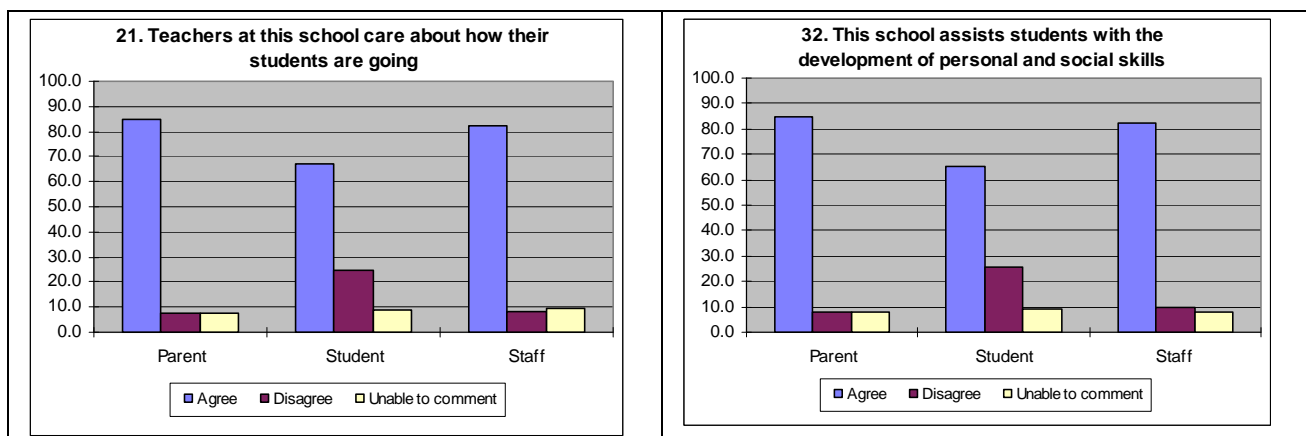
## 5. Parent, student and teacher satisfaction

A 2009 survey of staff, parents and the community identifies a number of strengths and an overall positive perception of the College and the programmes in place. In general all three groups were very pleased with the way the school is run, the expectations staff have of the students and the emphasis on individualised programmes for students.

A common theme of the comments made by all three groups is the feeling of ‘family’ that is engendered by the school. Parents and students genuinely appreciate the interest that staff show in the education and emotional wellbeing of each student. There is a very positive view of Big Picture inspired education.

The following graphs show a snapshot of responses.





Yule Brook College has a partnership with Curtin University in which first year teaching students participate in a 3 week introductory practicum at YBC. The following are a number of the responses from a survey of these students in 2009.

*Please comment on the strengths of the YBC model of education i.e. Big Picture Education*

- The respect the kids have for each other and their teachers. Have never met such a lovely bunch of kids, they know the consequences if they misbehave so they just don't. Treating students with respect (as the YBC teachers do) is one of the most important things a teacher could do for a student.
- Students can become experts in areas of their own choosing...The idea of "passion = motivation" has existed for so long and it is great that somebody actually put it into action.
- It's great to see this model of teaching strengthens the relationship between students and teachers and as a result see the students more willing to learn.
- Students get the one-on-one attention and time they need to learn.
- Most of the students I've interacted with have said that after transferring from a different school to YBC, they've actually started learning and enjoying learning.
- There is such an amazing family environment at YBC between students and staff and you don't see that at other schools.
- Students learn to respect each other as individuals.
- The close relationships between teachers and students are undoubtedly the greatest strength the school possesses.
- Students are treated as individuals and because of this their individual passions are given opportunity to develop and prosper.
- The supportive environment lifts the spirits of students with low self-esteem.
- It helps integrate troubled/low achieving students into a framework that is both rewarding for them, as well as helps them to set achievable goals in their lives. It offers a structure for people who might otherwise have been left behind, whilst being flexible enough to assist high achieving students.
- YBC has a very strong family feel, even between year groups which pleasantly surprised me.
- I think that the Advisory tasks are a great idea for students to explore possible careers for themselves. Also it's a fantastic way for students to learn research and other skills when they are engaged and enjoy the content they are learning about.
- Family centred environment was very enjoyable and worked well.
- Splitting the year groups up into separate buildings has led to a great sense of togetherness amongst the Year 9s.
- Students are free to study what is important to them from as early as Year 8. This is important as it makes the schooling process interesting and relevant to the students.
- Each student is included. Small classes means more one on one time. Great that teachers get to know and understand how each child works and what's happening in their life.
- Teacher commitment – all have great passion for teaching these students. Great to see and great to learn from!

- Big Picture is a great concept. Students seemed really engaged in their chosen topics and most are already looking into topics for next term.
- Students respond fantastically to choosing their own topic for assessment – they stay engaged and interested.
- I believe the internships/traineeships are a fantastic idea! It supports their future and advances their skills in any appropriate field. Well worthwhile!