

Sample Questions For Student-Led Conferences

Question Type	Ask the Child...	Ask the Parent...
Attitude Toward School	How are you feeling about school right now? Do you like coming to school? What do you like about it?	Are those the kind of things you're hearing at home, too?
Strengths	What do you think is your strongest subject? Why do you think that?	Do you agree? Was this a strength for your child last year, too?
Weaknesses	What subject has been the hardest for you this year?	Do you see that area as being the most difficult for your child?
Areas of Confusion	Is there anything we've been doing in class that is not making sense to you or that you think you need to do better in? How can mom and I help you with that?	Are there any procedures or assignments that you're unsure about or that you don't think are working well for your child right now?
Homework	How has homework been going (amount, type, etc.)? What has been helpful? Has anything felt like busywork that isn't helping you learn? What can we do to make homework really useful practice for you?	What are your feelings about that?
Home Support	What else can we set up for you at home to help you do your best? (Find websites, games, set up a HW routine, determine how you will get books to read at home, find extra practice work, etc.).	Are there any resources or extra practice activities you'd like for me to send home?
Social Development	How are you getting along with the other kids in the class? Who are your friends in class? Is there anything going on between you and the other kids in our class that we need to talk about?	Is this what you've been hearing from your child at home? Does s/he seem happy with the friends s/he's made in our class?
Goals	Let's set a goal for this quarter. What is the one thing you would most like to accomplish? Let's make a plan to help you do that.	Is there anything specific that you would like to see your child improve this quarter? What can I do to help support your child and your family with that?
Follow Up	If you think of anything else you need to do well in school, please tell your parents or me. We are here talking <i>with</i> you to learn <i>about</i> you. We're doing that because we care so much about you and want you to be successful in everything you do. We believe you are smart and we want to do everything possible to help you be your very best.	Please call (email, etc.) if you have any questions or concerns about anything. I will be happy to meet with you as often as you like. I'm so glad you came in and we had a chance to talk about all the wonderful things your child is accomplishing this year. When we meet again, let's talk about how your child did as far as meeting the goal we set today, and then we'll set another goal for the remainder of the year.