

Parent Forum – 8th June 2023

Agenda:

1. Transition in to new year groups.
2. Wrap around care at Westfield.

General feedback on children's transition in to new year groups.

Feedback

- Love class swap days and feel it is a good idea.
- Transition to go to secondary schools has been good and gone well. The activities of 3 groups in afternoons gets them used to moving around and increases independence.
- Good communication between Ashyls and Westfield.
- Parents feel that it is vital that there is stability for children as there has been lots of change.
- Would like more communication about what is expected of the children in their new year group.
- It would be good to understand who teachers are as soon as possible so parents can speak to the children about them.

Questions

- Are the transition activities in the afternoon a Westfield way? Or wider? All schools will approach how they prepare for transition in their own way.
- Can there be a photo to go with the name of the new teacher? (especially EY and KSI). A letter goes home without a picture. If there are new staff then we would not have a picture to provide. Children will meet them face to face on transition morning.
- Can teachers start showing their face to their new class in Summer term? Spend more time in new class and tell them about them. Teachers have the transition morning with their new class and will make the effort to speak with them when they see them around the school. Unfortunately, it is not always logistically possible to release teachers to spend time in their new classes.
- Can they make displays on transition morning with new teacher? Most teachers will deliver an activity where children complete a piece of work that is then put on display ready for when they come in, in September.
- Can teacher or TA go up with class? This is not always possible and depends on the year group and staff member. Children move into their new classrooms with new faces and routines. This is good for developing their independence and building new relationships.
- What is transition day and what do they do? Children go to the classroom they will be in next year and spend the morning with their new teacher. They take part in a range of activities and get to know their new teacher and, sometimes, their new TA.
- September meet the teacher – What is the individual teacher's reward system? During meet the teacher, teachers can include what they use in class for rewards and behaviour management.

Feedback on wrap around care at Westfield

Feedback

- Staff are all great – Some concerns over the face-to-face engagement of the management and the interaction with children and parents.
- Most people are not happy with the options and volumes of food considering some children are there until 6pm.
- Some people are happy with the food provided.
- Some concerns about the food being cooked where the children are.
- Children unhappy with the portion sizes – would like some more.
- Seem to get plenty of food at breakfast.
- Sometimes unable to get fruit as it is eaten by others.
- Some people think that it has improved recently – new toys and adapting to parent requests.
- The hours are good from the morning to evening. (breakfast and after school club)

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- They do encourage the year groups to mix which is positive.
- They would like more flexibility to add adhoc days.
- Appreciated the survey to give feedback about the food. – Some didn't feel comfortable as it wasn't anonymous.
- Generally there is a real appreciation to have access to the wrap around care.
- Good that it is on site – helps with transition.
- People would like to see more communication about what they are doing (activities etc)
- Needs to be a partnership between Home from Home and school.
- It would be nice to have more structured activities/themes as well as free play.
- Children like using the hall and outside space, chess and pool table.
- Like the holiday club – shame they no longer do Fridays.
- Helps settle the children back in to school – environment is familiar.

Questions

- Does the school oversee Home from Home?
- What does the school do to make sure it is fit for purpose?
- Is there scope for them to have use of more space in school when the weather is bad?
- Could there be a designated quiet space?
- Could there be a parent, school and home from home meeting? Maybe twice a year?
- Can there be a question to new starters about if they intend to use the wrap around care? (helps with knowing what space they will need)

The above questions were discussed during the parent forum and we feel that the relationship between the school and wrap around care is important. It was agreed that this needs to be discussed with the new Head teacher and the parents have requested to meet with her about it at some point in the Autumn term. The above feedback and questions will be passed on to her.

AOB

- Positive feedback about the magical maths club
- Felt year 6 did really well managing the SATs – Loved the breakfast idea – went really smoothly.
- Year 2 SATs handled really well – Children didn't even realise they were doing them.
- Appreciation for Mrs Edwards – great teacher and parents are seeing children happy and stable in class. Like additional support that has been given out.
- Seems to be that some children are misbehaving and all children are punished – it is not fair, can effect behaviour and choices.
- If children get stuck on a maths wizards, can parents know what they are working on to help at home? Yes, please do ask your child's teacher which one they are working on and what it includes.
- Can we know what they are working on in maths to support at home? This is covered on the curriculum map where you can see what they will cover each half term. If your child is in need of additional support then this will be communicated with individual parents.
- Are we still a one way system? Yes, at drop off and pick, parents should be sticking to the one way system.
- What is the plan for parent reps next year? Shall we put it out to parents now? Please could the current parent reps liaise with their class to establish who will be the parent rep next year and let the school know.
- Can there be communication about stability of the school/staffing and changes going forward? Changes to staffing will be communicated to you as soon as possible.