Parent’s Focus Group

29th April 2015 @ 9.00am

1. Welcome and refreshments

Apologies from: Leanne Battersby & Natalia Power

1. Introductions

Amanda Davidson – Governor, had 4 children attend Westfield

Katrina Passfield – 2 children, both attended/ing Westfield, also attended Westfield when first opened

Hannah Pollard – 2 children attend/ing Westfield

Stephen Lomas – 2 children attended/ing Westfield

Chris Begley - Senior Practitioner

Amanda Muller – Class Teacher

Ann Simpkins - Headteacher

1. Discussion and approval of aims and objectives of Group

Amanda researched aims and objectives of parent forums and shared several examples with the group. These were discussed. The group decided that we needed the following:

* How parents and staff can work together to help the children be ready for school
* Better communication
* Help parents with home learning ideas e.g. playdough workshops
* To work as a team
* Benefits parents and children of Westfield

The following aim was agreed temporarily until the next meeting so that members of the focus group can consider them and change it if necessary. It is a starting point.

*AIM:*

*To work together and communicate with parents/carers to enable our children to have the best possible experiences in nursery ensuring that they are ready for their next steps in education and life.*

*OBJECTIVES:*

1. *To further encourage communication between parents and staff e.g. by newsletters, email, text, website and the easel*
2. *To meet regularly once every half term*
3. *To encourage parent’s understanding of school readiness*
4. *To work together to prepare children for their next steps in education and life*
5. *To respect and value everyone’s views and opinions*
6. *To find ways to help parents to work with the nursery school to help their children to learn at home*
7. School Readiness – working group/s to make 10 points of school readiness more pertinent to home. (Sir Michael Wilshaw – Unsure Start report enclosed)

The 10 points were discussed and a ‘parent-friendly’ version agreed by the group. See attached form.

1. Discuss focus for next meeting

* Review minutes and matters arising
* Discuss which workshops to do, thinking about which ones will be most beneficial to our parents
* School readiness

1. AOB

It was decided that we would delete the Westfield Facebook page and ensure all information etc. would be available through the website.

FOW website will also be deleted and a page added to our main website instead so that all the information is in one place.

Suggested workshops:

* Toilet training
* Playdough
* Letter formation
* Sharing books
* What to expect when
* Encouraging your child to talk

In order to get things up and running for this term we have decided to hold a playdough workshop for the parents on Wednesday 3rd June both morning and afternoon.

1. Date and time of next meeting

Tuesday 7th July at 9.00am