

Parent and Carer Questionnaire Comments April 2016

You Said.....	We Did.....
<p>LUNCHES The daily provision of mostly fatty and sugar laden pudding is NOT helping my child to have a healthy lifestyle. The provision of fruit is however.</p> <p>Lots of sweets come home!</p> <p>Water only policy is great. PE classes as well. School dinners are unhealthy and massive pudding follows every meal.</p>	<p>I have emailed NCC with your comments about school lunches. They stated that they use the best quality and fresh ingredients and source locally. They also say the sugar content and different food groups are closely monitored for balance through the school menus.</p> <p>It has always been a bit of a tradition to bring in sweets for birthday celebrations. Please speak to your child's class teacher if you would rather not allow your child to receive sweets.</p>
<p>GENERAL I am not at school during the day with my child obviously and do not really know if she is, safe, if the teaching is good, if the school deals well with challenging behaviour etc. How can I know the answers to these questions? The teaching appears to be safe etc but I have no first hand evidence or knowledge.</p> <p>As both parents work full time, it's hard to do some of the extra activities put on as these are always 9am on a weekday. We totally appreciate that it means teaching staff staying late if events are done outside working hours but it would be nice if sometimes the events were more suitable times for parents who work, so we don't miss out.</p>	<p>The OFSTED report would be the first port of call to find the answer to your questions. This is available on the website. We also do rigorous monitoring of all these areas as part of our School Improvement Planning. It is also the role of the governing body to ensure school is safe and teaching is good.</p> <p>I appreciate it is so hard to get time off work to attend events. Some events we have scheduled for school time as the children have been presenting information and we like them to be a part of all we do. We do schedule parents meetings where children do not need to be involved for later times however.</p>
<p>THE PROCESS This form should have a box that says 'neither agree nor disagree'. My child is in. This questionnaire should have a N/A option as some of the question does not apply. For example, 'website is helpful' you may not have used the website.</p>	<p>We will make sure these changes are made for the next questionnaire.</p>
<p>SPELLINGS/HOMEWORK Year 1 and has not had any spellings since Easter in foundation (2015) as he had completed them all. When queried, no action taken. Homework is the same for each child regardless of ability - no difference I would like his reading book to be updated more regularly. Sometimes he has the same book for 1-2 weeks.</p>	<p>A new system of spellings has been implemented and this has had positive feedback so far. The children can self select their level and can push themselves as far as they can. We Have also implemented a new system of home learning where children are rewarded for what they complete linked to their topic. We want this to be based on their own interests so that they are leading their own learning, following their own interests and are inspired to learn. Please come in and see me if you feel no action has been taken to issues raised.</p>

You Said.....	We Did.....
	Reading books should be changes when your child is ready so leas see the class teacher if you feel this is not being done often enough. T is important that children do read the same book a few times to build skills and confidence with a familiar text. It is also important to ask questions to make sure readers have understood the text, so we would recommend the same book for about three reads.
<p>GOVERNORS I don't know how to contact the Governing body. However, I'd check the website for info or ask at Reception if I wanted to contact them (or ask a friend who is a school Governor) Would like to know more about the Governing Body and what they do.</p>	The governor page on the website has been updated and we are in the process of putting up display so you can out names to faces. Please ask at the school office if you need to contact a governor and they would be happy to help you.
<p>WEBSITE School website could be updated more regularly. Class pages are not consistent.</p> <p>The general communication from school can vary. The website doesn't hold all the information the newsletters do.</p> <p>A web portal where we can upload and view children's progress/work would be really great.</p>	<p>We are having a huge overhaul of the website and hopefully you can already see some of the changes that have been made.</p> <p>The Westdale App is also under development, which means communication can be more consistent and hopefully will be easier for all parents. In the meantime we will make sure all newsletters are uploaded onto the website. I have also spoken to class teachers about ensuring class pages are updated and adding on learning where appropriate.</p>
<p>HEALTH AND SAFETY Safety - wooden structure is not safe. There have been a lot of accidents recently.</p>	We are currently getting quotes to see what can be done to update the play equipment.
<p>WRAP AROUND CARE Not enough wraparound care in Woodpeckers. Could be more after school activities, as groups are currently full.</p> <p>MUSIC Compared to previous years we are concerned of the poor offer of music at a basic level (no recorder, no choir). We would encourage the school to nominate a teacher with a music developmental role to cover this as music is great for brain development, a sense of community. Both our boys 15 & 12 had a fantastic music experience at Westdale which has inspired them to continue.</p>	<p>We are currently reviewing what can be done about this with the Juniors and providers. I appreciate that this is a concern.</p> <p>I agree that music is so important in school. A music teacher has started at Westdale from the beginning of the Summer term. She takes all classes for music skills and development sessions; they have been so successful so far!</p> <p>We have also started a recorder club and choir at lunchtimes.</p>