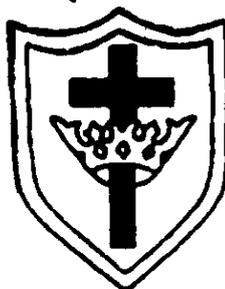


BISHOP TUFNELL C of E (AIDED) INFANT SCHOOL

Headteacher- Mrs. Rosemary Appleby B Ed (Hons) MA
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FOUNDATION STAGE INDUCTION PROGRAMME – PARENTS' QUESTIONNAIRE

Dear Parents & Carers

March 2014

Thank you for responding to our questionnaire. I am delighted that you child has settled well into our school family. I have responded in **red** to some of your comments where appropriate.

1.) The evening meeting for parents in June gave me all the information I required

Agree **Disagree**

44

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Comments: All staff who were present gave informative presentations, we came away very reassured. As I work at the school and have an older child already gone through the system I have inside knowledge so all I needed to know was class teacher, class peers and anything that may have changed which was all covered. There was a lot to take in but the welcome pack was very informative if I forgot anything. Just the right amount of information, any more would have been overload for one night. Very informative and friendly. Very reassuring and supportive and listened to our concerns. Found it to be extremely useful and very informative. It was nice to have peace of mind my child had settled. Extremely useful to meet the class teacher(s) to put a face to a name. The meeting dealt with any concerns I had and I left feeling happier about my child starting, A friendly welcome for all parents. Very informative. **Thank you – I enjoyed the meeting as well.**

2.) The induction pack was very informative and helpful

47

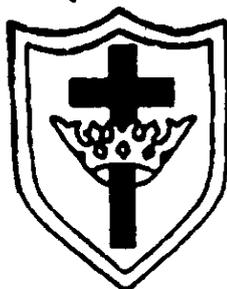
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Comments: Rather a lot to read (some stuff was skimmed over and returned if needed) but good to have. Very useful. We found this contained too much information, too many options for a staggered start. It was confusing. So many forms but well organised and useful to refer back to as needed. Very comprehensive. The pack was very complete, easy to read and gave us the information we needed about the school. Wasn't clear on PE kit, or that the children are only allowed book bags. Lots of useful information. On both occasions my children have started school we have not been told that plimsoles are not required for year R initially. Despite missing the meeting I found the pack easy to go through and full of helpful information. **I will check that information PE kit etc is clear. It is a legal requirement that I inform you of all the options regarding a staggered start, although I agree it can be confusing.**



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3.) The home visit was worthwhile (If you requested one)

6

1

Comments: I had a home visit as my child has difficulties, not sure what the benefits were. I was very concerned about ***** starting school, I felt the home visit gave me a chance to explain my concerns, being given this opportunity allowed me to relax about him starting school. Instead of a home visit I opted to see the teacher in school. I felt assured his needs would be met. I was given lots of practical information about how and what would be done to help him with any difficulties. I wasn't offered one. Didn't receive one, neither was a visit to playschool arranged as we live in Bognor, I had to ring teachers to ask.

My Foundation Staff do try to visit the majority of settings; we contact all the settings to ask for information about pupils if we cannot visit. Ideally we would visit all settings.

4.) The arrangements for starting school – staggered start times; gradual introduction into school – helped my child to adapt to the new routines and expectations of school

41

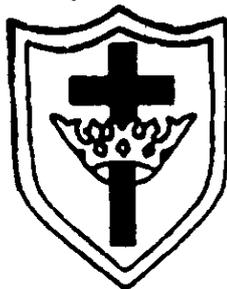
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Comments: My child went full time from the start x4. The part time week at the start of term was unnecessary and too long. **** asked to start all day from day one – a staggered start would have been better. I opted for full time as this was the best start for him, it's beneficial to have a choice, rather than have the timings stipulated by the school. Due to my child's birthday being in November it was easy for me to take the decision of full days after the first week. I felt this worked well and allowed time for me to discuss how she felt each day before she started full time. The gradual introduction was really helpful and flexibility was ideal for a child who was anxious about starting full time. Two way process, again listened supportive and advice given. This worked extremely well for my child, wouldn't have had it any other way, Thank you. We started full time straight away – it's always a hard time seeing other children in tears and saying your own goodbyes, but look at them all now, so happy to go in and settled into activities. My child followed the induction plan and settled really well. He enjoyed school and was desperate to start staying for lunch, which was positive. ***** has settled into school routine very well, as parents we are very happy with his progress, we believe this is due to the continued support he receives from the daily basis from his teacher and support team. We decided on full time straight away because our daughter was almost five, she coped really well. Was good to have the choice and let the children settle gradually. Although my daughter is an Autumn born child only doing mornings for the first eight days helped with the settling process, especially the tiredness. Great Idea. Timescale was perfect, staggered but not too drawn out – some areas it can take 6 weeks. I liked having the suggested options so that I could consider what was best for my son and family life. I thought this worked really well, and I also only sent my son part time which was right for him. I think my son had been very well prepared for school by 'Little Toads'. He had a great time at the induction afternoon which gave him a positive attitude when school started. I believe so although I found it difficult to judge when they would be ready for full time.



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5.) My child has had a happy induction into school

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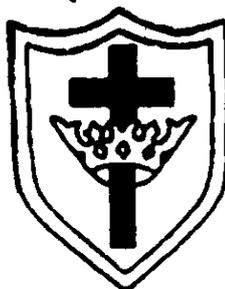
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Comments: I don't think we had much communication the first couple of weeks, would have been nice to know more but parents evening was informative. My child is thoroughly enjoying school. Seems very happy going into school. My child has settled very well into school x2 and is very happy, he looks forward to going into school. My child has settled in very quickly and happily. More than happy to go into class, likes the routine. My child loves every minute and has been raring to go since day one. ***** seems to have no problems, ***** has expressed a lack of people who will play with him but I mentioned it in class and he seems to be fine, just knowing someone is watching out for him – thank you. He got a little upset at first but I think this is down to other children getting upset. My son was initially very upset when he started school, I felt the teaching staff were unsure how to handle the situation and found myself staying in the classroom for some time. I felt they should have intervened and asked me to leave, however after a couple of weeks the teaching staff used distraction techniques. Appears to be very happy and has adjusted to school life really easily. ***** struggled to be away from home to begin with but loves her teachers and enjoys school activities. The school allowed flexibility, working with us to build our sons confidence, he has settled very well as a result. Phased start worked really well for ***** , we are happy it helped him get used to school without being too much. He loves it, he has settle in really well. Having attended nursery without any problems we anticipated no problems at school, however our child felt they had no friends in class, this is possibly because of attending a nursery out of the area, but a few more visits may have helped her to get used to it rather than only one visit with half the class present. My child thoroughly enjoys school. My child loves school she is always happy to come. Definitely happy to go to school. She came home tired but happy, telling me all about the new things she was doing. I could not have asked for a better start for our child, very proud! He loves it! The school have been fabulous, I could not have asked for more for him. ***** has loved it, he really likes his teachers and is happy amongst his peers, considering some of his issues I have been extremely impressed. **Thank you**



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6.) Information provided by the school has been helpful and sufficient

Agree

47

Disagree

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Comments: I wasn't told about things like Celebration Assembly and what they are for, I had to find out from another mum. School communications have been sufficiently clear that we have not needed to ask further questions. ParentMail is a super idea. ParentMail is a wonderful use of contact. It would be extremely helpful if the school could text/email reminders every week for the following week, when you have 2 children in the school it is impossible to remember everything. Have been kept well informed. Extremely, they have all been there to listen, offer advice and supported when needed. Sometimes there is a lot of information/letters to digest, but it is best to be kept up to date. Emails work well. ParentMail is useful rather than lots of paper. The first term seems a little overwhelming with so many events, special days, requests, letters etc., but yes all the information we could ever need was provided. Always helpful and sufficient. I have always been told if my child had any issues at school and I have been approached by the teacher if she feels a particular up and coming event may cause **** any distress, this means we can decide on the course of action to help my child enjoy his experiences. **There was information about Celebration Assembly in our first Tufnell Times, but I appreciate that it is difficult to read and remember everything.**

7.) I found the workshop about teaching in the Foundation Stage informative. (If you did not attend the information can be found on our website)

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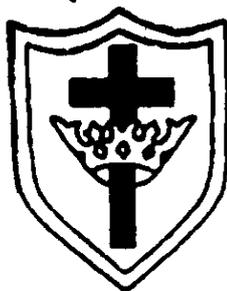
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Comments: Agree, however due to my younger son being on the move I was unable to give Mrs Leslie my full attention, the pack was good though. Unfortunately I could not attend and did not realise it was on the website. Although I am a qualified Early Years Teacher myself it was very helpful to see how things were done at Bishop Tufnell. Very useful. Very helpful. Did not attend but have accessed the information online. The meeting was too short for the quantity of information being presented. I am unsure if it was a "workshop" I attended, but was certainly a very informative morning meeting, seeing and hearing about all the methods and reasons behind them. I couldn't attend. I was disappointed as I would have liked to attend but I work and so unable to attend things during the day. An evening session would have been helpful. Website not clear, seemed to end up clicking my way on to W.S.C.C website!
I will look at making the website clearer.



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Any other comments not covered in the questions: Please could more workshops be held early evening or mornings. I am very satisfied with the help and support that my child is getting in her first year. The list of foods not allowed in my child's lunch has had a negative impact on her and she now believes she is allergic to almost everything. My daughter has thoroughly enjoyed her transition from nursery to reception and I also have been very impressed and relieved it has been so easy, Mrs Leslie and Mrs Baldwin are just the teachers you hope for, for your child's introduction to education – thank you. Doing this for the second time, 4 years on, I am able to see how well organised and lovely it is for the children, very noticeable is the amount of academic work covered with excellent results and how happily occupied the children are – thank you. My child is very happy at school, thank you for settling her in so well to school. Very good transition process, thank you. My child has settled well into school, I think that what you are doing works! I have always felt able to talk to the staff if I have had any concerns, my child enjoys going to school and is always happy to go, long may that continue! My child loves going to school (at the moment anyway!) he has only had two days sick so far, but has been disappointed when he could not attend. Very happy with the extra help and support he is getting, we have seen significant improvement in his social interaction skills, and he is more confident and is progressing well. Thank you once again for providing another positive start to school life for my children. Would have liked my child to have done more 'taster sessions' in the summer term before starting school, I didn't feel like one was enough. The school visit made by the children on 'taster' day is very useful to iron out any problems the child may have, and to meet the teacher before they start school in September. Bishop Tufnell is a fantastic Infant school and the leadership and enthusiasm of Mrs Appleby is outstanding. I am extremely happy with my child's introduction, he can be a very anxious child and instead I have seen his confidence and social skills grow as well as his academic progress already. He is very happy at school and I couldn't ask for anything else! Although I said the letters can be overwhelming, the opportunities provided in foundation stage are amazing. The Foundation Stage Welcome Party was an unexpected and lovely extra for the children. Thank you. Flexible to adapt to the children's needs (and parents), valuable experience shared to help. Mrs Appleby went above and beyond her call of duty during a difficult time her words of kindness and support were priceless. Many thanks, I am so glad I fought so hard to get my children places at Bishop Tufnell Infants.

It is always hard to know when to hold workshops / meetings we will consider timings when organising them for this year. I am sorry about the 3 foods that currently we cannot allow in school due to extreme allergies. These allergies are extreme and we have changed our cleaning products as well to accommodate these pupils' needs as well. Thank you for all your kind comments. I will ensure that our Governing Body receives your comments as well – Mrs Appleby

