Little Roos Day Nursery Parents’ Meeting – Improvement Plan Minutes - Wednesday 25th October 5.30-6pm

Thanks to all that attended this meeting. It was a brilliant turn out for the first meeting. Here is an update for those that couldn’t make this one:

- **Share Our Vision**
  Rami started of the meeting by talking to parents about her passion and intention for wanted to start a nursery: to create a legacy for her children. Each member of the Arora family has brought to the table their expert skills and each one of us is passionate about the wanting the nursery to succeed.
  Our Vision can be described as covering 5 special areas, transparency, trust, mentorship, communication and innovation. Our mission statement ‘Nurturing the New Generation’ describes how we will not only provide excellent care for your child but we want to emphasise that their learning journey at Nursery is just as important. We will do this by keeping abreast of nursery education developments, using the best staff, skills, knowledge and best tools and never missing an opportunity for a child to learn.

- **Improvement Development Plan**
  Sonia handed out the latest version of the Monitoring Progress of Plan sheet. Pop into the office for the latest version of this as it changes all the time. This showed how all our plans and improvements are RAG rated (Traffic Lights, Red, Amber Green). Most if not all of the points in the plan has started.
  The plan is setup under the following headings: - Quality of Teaching, Assessment, Leadership and Management, Curriculum, Parental Involvement and Marketing. The annual plan is split into three phases and our ‘Start Up’ phase and Phase 1 and 2. The Start Up phase has just finished which is why this is a great opportunity to show you where we are at and what we are going to do next.

- **Survey Results**
  A survey was completed by parents at the end of July. 48% of parents replied which is actually an excellent result and 59% of the responses were from the Big Kanga Room. 97% said your child were happy coming to school. 3% of you had some issues. So, it is our job to listen to all parent feedback, resolve any issues and equally let people know if they are doing well. Comments included “Make the Nursery look cleaner inside and out”, “Menus should be reviewed” and “Communication is Key” The next parents survey is due to be sent out again in October during Phase 1 of the plan.
• **What we have been up to?**

Sonia updated parents on the following topics.

- **Practice**
  The Early Year advisors have been on site and have now commented there is nothing else they can do...we are basically doing very well. There will of course still be on-going improvement in this area. Staff are being given clear, expert direction and training now. Even though we have had to fast-track a lot of the EY training, as the Ofsted inspection is imminent, staff are coping admirably. Sonia used to be a Teacher Trainer so is very experienced in giving help and guidance where needed. Staff are happier, more engaged with the children and we feel that morale is generally much better than we when we first started. Parents have noticed this too.

- **Menus**
  We have made some adjustments to the timing of snacks and tea based on parent feedback. Children are being given milk only (no snack) at 10am in order to make them a little more hungry at lunch and tea is now at 16:00 so children are not so hungry at home time. We asked for parent feedback during the meeting. A few parents have noticed and others will keep a closer eye now. Feedback on the menus is still required. Please do this by the Parents evening week commencing 14th October.

- **Building renovations**
  This is on-going. The porch area took two 2 weeks to rebuild! The front decorations and renovations have now been completed and the back is going to be done next. Internal decoration is due shortly also. The toilet and plumbing are also undergoing several improvements.

- **Deep Cleaning**
  Our cleaner and staff clean the nursery every day and intermittently does what we call a ‘Deep Clean’. Staff for example have rota for deep cleaning their room toys every Friday. Parents have mentioned they have visibly noticed the difference. We have changed a lot of our maintenance suppliers and we are much happier. For example we recycle properly in all rooms now as well.

**Reminder to Parents: Please bring in Indoor shoes**

- **Security**
  These improvements have ranged from simply fixing locks to cupboards and doors to prevent children from getting into any restricted areas, to organising/documenting staff procedures to the introduction of state of the art CCTV. We can now access live night and light vision video footage of all rooms at all times, even from our phones at home!
IT Infrastructure
We have been replacing and optimising several parts of the IT infrastructure. New wireless routers, proper setup of the two touch screen pc’s, 3 new printers and new software being installed all the time. This area will develop more in Phase 2 when we introduce more ICT...Tablets, Beebots and digital camera’s for the kids. One of our unique offerings is ICT lessons for the children 2 and above in what we are calling Techy Tots classes.

New Branding
The new logo and signage are now up. We hope that the right message is being portrayed now. Comments included the logo and branding is colourful, fun and fresh which is exactly what we are trying to market.

Staff – introducing new Deputy Head, Veshi
We introduced Veshi as the new Deputy Nursery Manager and she talked through her experience so far, commenting on the support she has had from management and parents. Veshi is an invaluable member of staff and we all congratulate her on this promotion.

We have also recruited a trainee nursery apprentice, Maryam who will be completing her Early Years Training while she works within the nursery.

What is our Action plan going forward?
Kiran updated Parents on what is still to come...

Outdoor Area
This is one of our most exciting developments in the Improvement Plan. We have a 8.5K grant from Buck CC and our own ‘top up’ budget to re-design and improve the outdoor area. Work will commence in October and we are looking to complete within a couple of months. Our plan is on the website under Newsletters. The highlights include:-
- Sensory area
- Climbing frame
- Track for bikes after we have taken down middle fence to create more space.
- Role play area
- Construction area

Ofsted
As you know Rami has over 50 years’ experience in the education field and with her Ofsted Inspector hat on, doing what she called BLINK (practice Ofsted) inspections, she has been working hard getting the nursery ready for the next inspection that is due anytime from now to the end of the year. We have addressed the issues highlighted in the previous report. Which were, to
develop the outdoor play area to challenge the older children’s physical skills, staff deployment and challenging children so older children solve problems for themselves.

- **Breakfast and After School Club**
  This has just started for Lent Rise School and we have 1 child! Leaflets will be distributed next week in book bags. We have an unused room on the top floor and this will house the Big School Club as their Lounge/reading area.

- **Open Day and Parents evenings**
  Parents evening is in week commencing 14th October. We will address any previous feedback given, i.e. it will be a 2 way conversation. We will discuss the learning journey and what needs to be done next.

- **Uniform and staff ID badges**

- **Classes in ICT (Techy Tots) and language classes.** One of parents has offered to do German classes already.

- **Feedback on Communication**
  - Now on Facebook, Twitter, Website newsletters, Parents noticeboard as well as email and nursery open door policy.
  - Parent commented communication is much better and they are happy that emails are being responded to.

- **What else would parents like to see improved?**
  For those that do not use Facebook and Twitter, could there be a secure area on the website just for parents. To that question, the answer is yes. That will be organised.