

Parent induction feedback – Autumn 2023



- 35 (35%) responses in total from across the school
- 100% agree information prior to starting was useful and informative along with 100% of those who attended Open Days found them a positive part of the settling process
- 100% found the Home Visit and Settling in process a useful part of their child's induction
- 100% of those who have had a parent meeting/SEND meeting found that this was a good insight into the progress of their child
- 25% of respondents would like the offer to attend Coffee Mornings

Settling in – some positive comments



“It was tailored to each child and family and was very gentle and effective”.

“The staff were kind and intuitive. We felt like part of a team”.

“My child was really anxious coming into big nursery, but the staff ...were quick to recognise what would work best for them. I always felt reassured he was ok, and was enjoying himself even after the initial separation anxiety. Although he’s still a little anxious, he’s doing so well”.

“My child settled so quickly into a room which I really didn’t expect him to cope due to his needs. But the staff pulled all the stops to make it work and he has thrived”.

“Dorking Nursery is amazing and has changed mine, my son’s and family's life! You guys got him walking at age 3, what more can I say! I can’t speak highly enough about this nursery”.

“Being able to come in and play with him initially whilst he settled, then gently reducing the time I was there each day was a fantastic approach. My son grew in confidence naturally, became comfortable in his surroundings and with the lovely staff really fast, without any sudden surprises”.

“Having tried 2 nurseries before which had very little/ no settling in process it was amazing to have the opportunity to take time and go at the child’s own pace to ensure they were genuinely happy in the setting”.

“The settling in process was fantastic, very slow and taken at the pace of each individual child and parent. I was the one of the very last parents still sitting at the classroom watching my son. I was never rushed to leave and never made to feel like I was in the way. My and my son's feelings of anxiety and worry were clearly understood and appreciated by the teachers. I was given time to come to my own conclusion that I needed to leave to give him and the amazing teachers a chance to get to know each other. I feel so extremely grateful for the understanding and consideration given not only to my son but also to me as a parent”.

Parents meetings – some positive comments



“A lot of useful information was given and my child’s key person clearly knows my child well in such a short space of time. Very positive and any concerns were dealt with sensitively!.

“Yes definitely - it gave me an insight on how to better my child’s skills at home. The progress she has made is just amazing”.

“I felt like the team have worked hard to build a strong relationship with me!.

“My key person was extremely well prepared and clearly knows and understands my child very well. She gave us some great ideas to continue their development at home. The key person is clearly extremely knowledgeable and a real asset to your nursery”.

“I feel like you know my child well and you always go above and beyond”.

“The consultation didn’t feel rushed at all, my key person went into detail and would elaborate on any areas I asked about. It was so lovely to hear how my child has settled and how she spends her time at nursery”.

“My key person clearly knows my child well already, including his interests and personality traits. She went through the settling in process in detail including relationships he has formed with staff, what he enjoys getting involved with during his day and next steps. It was lovely this being in person and to have the opportunity to ask questions”.

You said, we will – some suggestions

You said...

I was pleased over all with the meeting but felt it was a little bit too focused on the negative, ie his anxiety. But overall I felt happy and reassured he was doing well, and felt all my questions were answered.

Time was limited but the session was useful

A suggestion to help the settling in process for children coming from 2-3s might be to make sure at least one of their 'buddies' starts back the same day as them. I appreciate this may be difficult but it would have helped my child.

We will...

It is always hard to get the balance right, and we will always try to focus on the positive feedback too. There are some cases where there may be a barrier that needs to be discussed in more depth in order to set next steps.

We allocate each parent 20-30 minutes of time, which should be sufficient. We can arrange follow up meetings if there is a need

This is a great suggestion and we will build this into our start dates and induction programme where possible! Thank you!

You said, we will – some suggestions



You said...

Would love to see more on tapestry please



We will...

Tapestry is such a useful tool to share information with parents. We have streamlined the information and frequency that we share information in line with the statutory requirements of our curriculum. We need to balance the time for key people carrying out administration, compared to when they are teaching the children. Our focus is their interactions with the children.

My only criticism would be just a little bit more info at hand over, I know this room is a particularly busy one and time is short. But there have been a couple occasions my child came out wet from an accident or saying she hasn't eaten etc. So, it would be good to have a quick catch up/chat to let me know how she's been. My child is getting better at communicating with me and staff I think. But she still needs a helping hand from time to time.



We appreciate how vital this information is, however, we could be dismissing up to 20 children per session, and it would not be possible to do an individual handover to each parent. We always try to give feedback where there is a need, so please let us know if you need to know something.

Some lovely comments!



“Excellent, all of it”!

“The nursery have been just amazing, not only at settling my child in, but also reassuring me too. I know the staff are always so busy but I’m always made to feel they have time to talk to me about my child if needed, and there’s always a warm welcome every morning”.

“I really thank the whole nursery for how the settling in sessions went. My child has just come on leaps and bounds and the staff are just as supportive to the parents as they are with the children. The team should be so proud of themselves and I hope they truly realise how incredible they are. Thank you”!

“Thank you all for your help and kindness not just to my child but our entire family”

“Only that each and everyone of you are amazing and you’ve made our life so much better and easier”.

“I can’t praise the nursery and it’s amazing staff enough. The care, resources and dedication to the children’s learning and wellbeing is second to none”.

“Just to add that before starting at Dorking Nursery, my child was shy and quite clingy with separation issues and now to see her wake up each morning excited to go to nursery, not worried about me leaving her and talking about friends she’s played with, is amazing. I believe this is down to the thorough and child focused settling in process. Thanks to all of you”.

“I would like to thank the team from the bottom of my heart for making what was a very scary process so easy. I felt reassured and well informed throughout the settling process and that my fears were considered and understood. Please don't ever change the way you all are because you truly are amazing people and you make Dorking Nursery School the best place for early years education for little people. I am extremely happy that my child has had the opportunity to attend your school and I will be forever grateful for all the care and assistance you provide for him”.