

<b>Year group:</b> Reception	<b>Venue:</b> Cambridge Primary
<b>Date:</b> Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2018	<b>Lead teacher:</b> Mrs Julie Lewis
<p><b>Issues:</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>School Readiness and Transition from Nursery</i></p> <p><u>Every</u> setting was asked to bring resources that they have found to be useful in transition from Nursery to Reception and also starting school documentation. These could be activities that settings do with the children or examples of information that they hand out to parents at welcome meetings or anything that they might share during home and nursery visits.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Staff were asked to be prepared to share their ideas.</p>	
<p><b>Actions from issues:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lead teacher for 2018/2019</li> </ul>	
<p><b>CPD requirements:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reception staff expressed an interested in any CPD specifically related to Early Years. They were reminded to consult the Yarlside Teaching Alliance website to register on courses at <a href="http://www.yarlsideteachingschool.co.uk">www.yarlsideteachingschool.co.uk</a>.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>What is working well in your year group?</b></p> <p>At this stage in the year teachers are currently feeling the pressure to ensure accurate judgements are made for the EYFSP for their current cohort, including Moderation as well as starting to think about transitioning 2018-2019 cohort from nursery settings.</p>	
<b>Questions for Head Teachers:</b> N/A	
<b>Next meeting:</b> 9th October 2018	
<b>Venue:</b> TBC	<b>Focus:</b> Baseline Moderation
<b>Future Dates:</b> 5th Feb 2019 21st May 2019	<b>Lead Teacher:</b> TBC

## Minutes from Reception Year Group Cluster Meeting

### **Schools attending:**

Nicola Corlett - Brisbane Park, Elaine Edwards - Brisbane Park, Mel Newby - Cambridge, Fiona Harris - Ormsgill, Barbara Bundy - Holy Family, Sarah Jackson - Ireleth St. Peter's, Kathryn Young - North Walney, Julie Lewis - St. Columba's, Sarah Leahy - Vickerstown, Mhairi Thomson - South Walney Infants and Nursery.

### **Apologies:**

Barrow Island, Fiona Gilmour - North Walney, Nicola Hazzard - Roose, Anna Craig - St. Columba's, Debbie Hurley - St. Pius.

### **Lead teacher for 2018/2019**

Debbie Hurley from St. Pius had kindly offered to be the lead teacher for the next academic year but has withdrawn as she will not be teaching in Reception Class. Therefore Sarah Jackson from Ireleth St. Peter's kindly offered to be the lead teacher at the next meeting in October. Her details will be passed on to Yarlside alliance. At this stage she cannot commit to the full year due to other work commitments.

### **Transition Workshop Event**

Several settings attended the transition meetings yesterday at Barrow Island school, which were intended to give teachers the opportunity to discuss face to face individual children and support their transition needs more effectively. Staff reported mixed feelings about the event. On a positive note staff felt that it was useful to be able to have informed discussion about new children but everyone agreed that this conversation works best when you are able to observe the child in their setting. Reception teachers are still planning to arrange their own nursery and home visits in order to gather information.

Reception teachers also commented on the possibly inaccurate data contained within the Transition Booklets from nursery settings. Some settings were still assessing their children as 40-60 developing on entry, which all agreed was high.

### **New Parents Meeting**

All schools invite their new parents to a meeting to gather valuable information about their child starting school, to meet the staff and have a tour of the school. On the whole these are very successful but some schools did report low attendance from their parents and in some cases none at all. We discussed ways of contacting 'hard to reach' parents including those who do not complete paperwork and assume their child has a place in Reception Class because they are attending the school nursery.

### **Taster Sessions**

All schools offer children a taster session to visit school in the Summer term, which we all agreed was invaluable. Observations and assessments can take place prior to the child starting.

## **September start**

We discussed different strategies for children starting school and there was a mixture of responses. Some schools have all children starting full-time from day one whereas others have a staggered start. Pros and cons to both were discussed and it was agreed that it was often a quite historical thing within a school.

## **Tracking**

We discussed different tracking systems and found that 2 schools were using Exxat tracking and reporting system, 3 were using Scholarpack, 2 were using Tapestry, 1 using 2Simple and 2 were using Target Tracker. Some settings designed their own system using Excel spreadsheets. Teachers' feedback is that while they are quite happy with their tracking and assessment systems, generally they do not tie in well with the rest of the school. Transition into Year 1 can still be problematic due to data systems.

## **Moderation**

3 schools attending are to be moderated this year.

## **Early Help**

Teachers discussed 'Early Help' and the best way to support any SEN children coming into their settings. Most agreed that schools were becoming more and more responsible for supporting children themselves with outside agencies such as Speech Therapy, were signing children off where teachers felt that there was still a need for support.