

**Parent Reference Group
27th January 2010**

**Old Treasury Building, Catherine Street
6:00pm- 8:00pm**

1. Present: CM, SM, WD, PB, BB, JT, JC, WD, EP.
Apologies: IB

2. Single Point of Contact (SPC)- PW.

- PW explained the background of SPC and how families can access it.
- PW handed out the draft profile of SPC.
- Question: If you need advice can you ring and ask? Yes, it is not an advice line but they have knowledge on certain areas. Needs to be quite specific.
- Question: If the process carries on until the young person is 18 years old do they keep the same keyworker? No. a non designated keyworker takes over. If someone were to work with a family for 18 years professional boundaries could become blurred.
- Parents felt misled by KK at the P & FF. They were not told that SPC was not for everyone.
- Team Around the Child (TAC) is a model of practice, not a service. PW will send JT information around TAC.
- You can gain SPC through the CAF process (an assessment for a child who has an unmet need).
- If you would like information about CAFs go to:
<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/everychildmatters/strategy/deliveringservice/s1/caf/cafframework/>
- PW is delivering Working in Partnership training.
- Nurseries and special schools will be Key Workers but mainstream settings will not.
- PSAs can support the parent to fill in the CAF form but cannot be a Lead Professional as it compromises impartiality.
- There are too many barriers to get through as a parent when trying to contact professionals.
- PW would like some case studies, real situations that she can take back to ChIDS.
- The funding for SEN is with the schools, 95.6% of the budget. They only give additional funding in case of very complex needs.
- If your child is in the Excellence Cluster you can access the Mast team.
- It is very difficult to access an Educational Psychologist as their time is very constricted.
- Parents sometimes feel that they are not told yes or no straight away.
- PW will take all of these issues back to ChIDS.

- A ChIDS intake meeting is held every week. It is a multi agency team, PW can bring issues to this meeting.
- Question: How can a small team cope when lots of parents find out about the SPC? PW will use this as evidence that she needs a larger team.
- Advice and Assessment can also refer families to SPC.
- PW sits on the Child Development Centre intake meetings.
- PW gave out a questionnaire. It is not to be circulated.
- PW can be contacted on 304239 at the Jan Cutting Centre or can be emailed at penny.whitell@plymouth.gov.uk
- WD and SC will be PW's case studies.
- PW is in the process of developing leaflets for parents and professionals

3. AOB

- AD is coming to the next P & FF to talk about the Inclusion Policy.
- Childcare grant- Plymouth has been allocated an amount for childcare facilities in the city. JS will be attending PRG soon to discuss this grant.