**Minutes**

**Chelmsford – Multi-schools meeting**

**Wednesday 9th October 2019**

**In attendance – 24 children**

Thriftwood school – Host

St Michaels – Including head boy + girl

St Joseph’s

Active Essex – From 10:30

Essex employability team x2

Apologies – Columbus, Terling primary, Broomford

**Minutes**

Unfortunately, after 2 last minute cancellations we didn’t have as many children as we had hoped for, but we did have a really energetic and exciting group! The meeting started with some information from myself on the last set of minutes. Our first discussion point was led by our head boy Jonathan who asked the group what stops you or your friends playing sport. Ideas included;

* Too much time being spent on electronics
* Disabilities such as blindness or being in a wheelchair
* Lack of understanding about children’s differences
* Negative talk about sports
* Lack of confidence

These ideas will be discussed with our sports contacts.

Keeping healthy was the next point on the agenda and I asked the group to think about all the things they would like to learn about, regarding health. A long list included understanding cancer, the technology used in food, allergies, what types of food to eat, our mental health and more information on rare diseases. The group were also very keen to hear more about differences in our brains and spoke about Autism. Kim was also very keen to share her views about visual impairment and Jonathan mentioned a parent’s diabetes.

Before break we still had time to take ideas on a brand-new fundraiser for the council either in school or on a bigger scale. This prompted ideas such as laps around schools’ field (daily mile), food sales, sponsored sensory boxes, family picnic, PJ days, drawing competition or another walk event. There was some talk about walking a long distance again!!

This was the best meeting for school to school conversation and at the break loads of children shared stories and expressed their interests. We then moved on to speak about what schools and clubs could do to get more young people involved in sport. Ideas included;

* Building more understanding about sport in school
* Encouraged sportsmanship and sporting values
* Trying more adaptable sports such as using bells in balls and being blind-folded
* More emphasis on fun and enjoyment
* Build up people’s confidence first

At this point Active Essex had joined us so they could note down these ideas. Parents was our next topic, so I asked the group could we get more parents involved in our work. A wide range of ideas included children going home and talking to them, newsletters, posters, get local companies to advertise, bring parents into the meeting, social media, use the song as positive promotion and speak to the PFA team.

Our final point of the meeting was delivered by Kim, our head girl. Kim asked the group how we could get more schools involved in each area. Ideas included ad’s in local magazines, speaking to friends in other schools, a collaborative showcase event, speak to SENCO’s and go in and visit schools. All ideas will be looked at. What a great meeting! It was time to thank both Kim and Jonathan for all their hard work over the past 9 months and I made a point of telling the group all about how brilliant they had been! It was also time to choose our star of the meeting who was Alex from Thriftwood for speaking clearly and growing in confidence. The schools took home mental health posters that were designed by Lola who attended St Michaels when she won!

Next meeting – **Wednesday 22nd January 10 – 11:30am, venue TBC**

**Follow up points;**

* **Are there any SENCO meetings you could get us involved in?**
* **Could you invite your parent council to the next meeting?**
* **Could you host a special non-uniform day to raise funds for the multi-school’s council?**
* **Poster competition – To design a poster all about the multi-school meetings. To be handed in at the next meeting. Winner to be professionally produced.**
* **Can any of the health ideas contribute to your PSHE curriculum.**
* **Head boy/girl nominations. More information to follow.**
* **Special school games – If you would be up for providing young leaders for the games please let us know what sport and how many children you could provide. Sports include; Athletics, Basketball, Wheelchair basketball, Boccia, New age Kurling, Football, Rock Climbing, Kwick cricket, Tennis, Handball, Archery.**