

## Minutes

### Multi-schools meeting - Basildon

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2021

### Virtual meeting

#### In attendance

Birchanger Primary

Cherry Tree

Glenwood

ECC SEND Inclusion Partner

**Apologies** - Bardfield, ECC SEND Navigator, ECC SEND Quadrant manager, Fitzwimarc, Our lady of Ransom, Woodlands, Noak Bridge, The Appleton, Whitmore, Mountnessing, St Joseph the worker, Lee Chapel, Circles alternative provision

#### Minutes

Meeting online does raise it's challenges but we were able to get some schools together for our South Essex meeting. As technology was not always on our side for this we skipped our updates but **Cherry Tree** can expect a certificate coming their way for their work last term following up on the minutes.

After our introductions we discussed first about people who may be blind or visually impaired. We were looking for ideas from the group about what they would like to learn about. Ideas included how do they find their cane, how do they learn to drive, how do they play games, do all blind people need a guide dog, how do they learn to read and who trains a blind dog? These questions will be answered by our VI ambassador group and supporting groups we are connected too within Essex County Council.

Next up was our discussion around a big event for us to run during the next academic year. The event would be designed to break down negative perceptions

towards children with SEND and bring different schools together. There was a range of suggestions;

- A celebration party (popular) - this should include music
- Talent show
- A sports day
- A focus on different personalities
- A Big collaborative trip
- A big cinema!

We will be working with other groups across Essex to see what we combine and come up with!

Before our break we also discussed children's use of social media and computing. We also wanted to discuss how to prevent bullying online. The schools really engaged for this one and suggestions such as making parents more aware of dangers, more education in schools (popular), make report buttons clearer, limit peoples time online, better age awareness on games, more posters and school workshops, regular messages/adverts online about how to use it. We then stopped for a 15-minute break.

Next up we spoke about children's self-esteem and how we might be able to improve those levels. Ideas included;

- Schools having a 'me' day focused on complimenting yourself
- Encouraging more compliments
- Encouraging people not to 'edit themselves' online

This prompted a really good conversation about how social media can be dangerous for children's self-esteem it is not helpful either. As we were having some technical challenges throughout their will also be more views sent through from **Cherry Tree & Glenwood**.

Our final discussion point was to speak about our big summer challenge when we climb Mount Snowdon on the 1<sup>st</sup> of August! The climb is designed to raise awareness and funds for the multi-schools, and I asked the group how we could do this. They would like a video to be made to spread awareness, have more information on our website and other schools websites, a piece in the newspaper, posters made by schools, ice lolly sales and schools to join in each mile walked. Can you help with any of these?

Our star of this meeting was Freya from Birchanger primary, not only for her brilliant ideas but also as other schools struggled with technology, she was so

supportive towards them! **Cherry Tree** are also sending over their ideas so just to reassure you they will be added to our project list's once we start following up!

Next meeting - Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> October, 10am - 11:30am, Venue TBC let us know if you would like to host ASAP.

#### **Follow up points**

- **Can you do anything to support us with our fundraiser building on the ideas in these minutes? Here is our go fund me page - <https://gofund.me/7b5f2b51>**