

## Minutes

### Multi-schools meeting - Braintree

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2021

### Virtual meeting

#### In attendance

Edith Borthwick

Henham & Ugley

Great Easton

John Bunyan

Terling

ECC SEND Navigator

ECC Engagement Facilitator

ECC Workforce team

ECC SEND team

**Apologies** - Bentfield, Holy Family, Birchanger (attending another area), Braintree Council, John Ray, St Francis, EYS

#### Minutes

Another virtual meeting for us and the Braintree group. We started with our usual introductions and then onto our updates. We were delighted to be joined by our head girl Katlyn from Edith Borthwick who serves a second year with us! We also spoke about the key topics for 2021/2022 and the schools **Edith Borthwick & Birchanger primary** who get certificates for their follow up work following previous meetings.

Our first agenda item was to come up with questions for our VI and blind awareness group. Ideas included;

- What would help them better in school?
- Have more awareness books

- More sensory equipment/materials in schools
- Do they dream?
- How do they learn to read?
- How does it feel?
- How does it effect your everyday life?
- How do you travel around?
- Do you get anxious?
- Are you always born blind?

Some questions are being repeated across our 9 groups, but we will prioritise those and then work with our chosen group.

We then discussed our idea of having a big event to raise awareness of the multi-school's council. Ideas on this one included having an inclusive fair with lots of great ideas attached to this, an inclusive sports day, an event based on people's creativity or group litter picking. The group were keen that as many schools involved in the MSC get involved in what we decide to do. As it was such a hot day we stopped there and had an extended break to make sure we were refuelled!

The group certainly looked refreshed and came back early ready to start again. We know over the last year online use by young people has increased and so we asked the group how children could be better using social media. This promoted answers such as;

- Educate those who may be bullying others online
- More awareness programmes in schools
- Get the police into to schools to talk about the severity of bullying people online
- More rules around ages and better policing that
- More family friendly apps
- Guidance on how to better use online tools
- Limits around how much time people can spend online
- Easier blocking tools
- Encouraging involving parents too

Up next, we discussed children's self-esteem levels and how to improve them, which could directly link to some of the points made above. The children would like to see more positive feedback, more work on what people can do, not can't, more quotes around schools (Great Easton had some brilliant ones!!), a bigger

emphasis on words such as 'trying' & 'practicing', better checks on schools anti-bullying policies, circle time opportunities, compliments and a push on growth mindset's.

Our final agenda item of this meeting was to look at how to raise awareness of our big summer event 'Climbing Mount Snowdon'. Ideas for this were better social media campaigns, getting the go fund me link into school newsletters and magazines, going onto the radio and making sure we do a review of the climb (there will be a video!) and writing to Boris Johnson and the Queen to raise awareness of what we are doing. These ideas will be worked on with our Snowdon group!

The star of this meeting was Erin from Great Easton primary school for a very good meeting, but especially her quote when speaking about boosting children's self-esteem - it was wonderful!!

Next meeting - Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October, 10am - 11:30am, Holy Family Primary School

#### **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>**