

## Minutes

### Multi-schools meeting - North Secondary

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2021

### Virtual meeting

#### In attendance

Doucecroft

Clacton County High

The Colne

ECC SEND Navigator

**Apologies** - Market Field College, Langham Oaks, ECC Social Care, Honeywood, St Helena

#### Minutes

Great to still be meeting with our secondary schools and colleges even it is still virtual, but we are getting there! I gave the group the news about our three focus topics from September 2021 which will be Racism, Animal cruelty and Keeping active, after children across Essex voted last term.

Onto our first agenda point which was all about people who may be blind or visually impaired and the kind of things children want to know about. The group asked to find out more on how they might view themselves in modern day society and how they control their guide dog and others around their dog. The group also want schools to do more to accommodate those with these differences by allowing the child a key worker in each school and giving them early passes in schools so they beat the crowds.

Second up we focused on a perception breaking event that we could potentially run some time between September and July. The group would like to see another talent show or potentially some kind of challenge event, a bit like a maze, getting different people in a room and ensuring they work together to get out. The group wanted to steer away from sport as they felt this didn't always promote inclusion.

Flying through the agenda we then focused on young people's use of social media. I asked the group what needs to be done to promote better use and reduce bullying. They came up with;

- Insta for kids - a new app with better parental controls
- More councillors in schools focused on supporting cyber bullying
- Speaking to people who have been cyber bullied and getting their stories
- More education in schools (popular)
- Easier ways of reporting
- Having a badge system in place that prevents bullying and shows people are real

We then stopped for a short break from our own way of using technology to connect this meeting!

With just two more agenda items we moved onto young people's self-esteem. I asked the group to consider ways to help improve levels of self-esteem in schools and within society. A real range of ideas including;

- Having more age-related expectations
- More compliments in schools - but knowing the individual as not everyone likes them
- More comedy/jokes
- More posters around schools about being yourself
- Having more self-care days
- Advice around how to use social media
- More adults, not to give advice but just to listen
- More after school gym opportunities

One discussion linked to the topic of social media above about how social media can certainly have a negative affect on children's and adult's self-esteem and this needs looking at.

The final part of our meeting was to focus on our climb of Mount Snowdon. Really good ideas here on how we could raise more awareness of this event and funding such as going to the newspapers, produce posters/leaflets (could your school do this?), better use of social media, use tik tok, get schools selling items, going on the radio, using a YouTube Advert, having a Mascot (popular), and videos from schools on why people should support us.

Star of the meeting went to Aaron from Clacton County High. Aaron came in right at the start of the meeting with a great idea thinking about those who are blind or visually impaired and built on that throughout the meeting.

Next meeting - Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> October 10:30am - 12pm, if you would like to host please let us know 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>