

Minutes

Multi-schools meeting - Tendring

Tuesday 08th June 2021

Virtual meeting

In attendance

Holland Park

Holland Haven

Market Field

Alsford

Millfield's

ECC SEND Navigator

ECC Social Care

Cann Hall

Two Village Primary

Apologies - All saints, Great Bentley, Rolph, St Joseph's, Bradfield

Minutes

Back to a virtual meeting again as we still find different ways to listen to children! We hope we are now working towards in person meetings again. We started this meeting with our normal round of introductions followed by an update on what schools got certificates for in regards to last terms work - **Market Field, Holland Haven, Holland Park, Cann Hall & Rolph primary!** We also have a new head girl and boy for Tendring - well done Melody & Logan.

Moving on to this meeting's agenda the children first spoke about what they would like to know about when it comes to people who may be visually impaired or blind. The list included;

- How do blind people use home appliances?
- How do they get around?

- How can people learn braille?
- What equipment do they use to help them with life?
- Can people with visual impairments drive?
- What can cause blindness?
- What more could help them in schools?
- What support do they get with balance?

The main point from two of the boys was that they are still humans no matter the differences they may have - a very important point to remember. A group of our ambassadors will be working on this project.

We went on to discuss the idea of having a big awareness event in the next academic year, either big or small scale. Ideas included having a day on blind or sign language awareness, hosting a talent show or fair, something sport related (very popular) with a focus on disabilities or some kind of group trip/party. The group felt it was important we also tried to raise some money alongside these ideas too.

As we worked at such a pace, we discussed one more topic before our brief break. We know that through lockdown children were spending a lot more time online, which has come with its challenges. The group were asked to think about ways to keep children safer online and away from bullying. Two of the group suggested an app that filters out negativity, more awareness in schools for children (very popular), giving users access to the owners to report more problems, having a button that filters out abusive language, a website where children can go and talk about these things, fine children who bully others online, have higher age restrictions and get people who make an account to do a face recognition/date of birth test. It may be we need to do some sort of campaign on this! We then stopped for a break with the weather still very warm!

On return we discussed how we can help boost the self-esteem levels of children in schools. We know from our resilience work that self-esteem levels of children are generally low and ideas were given such as;

- Working with parents, having more support lines in place
- More positive praise in schools
- Equipment to help deal with emotions
- Positive mindset work
- Inspirational posters around schools
- More positive praise assemblies
- Working more on children's self confidence

- Helping children with friendship skills

Lot's to consider as we take ideas from other parts of Essex too.

Our final agenda point was to look at ways of raising awareness on our big 2021 fundraiser - our climb up Mount Snowdon. We will need everyone's support with this and the children would like to see more awareness on our website, making the most of social media, getting some t-shirts sorted, getting schools to do an assembly, having a trailer made, getting schools to do a non-uniform day, having a cake sale, or advertising on buses/radio/billboards. We will be pushing these ideas out to our network of schools.

Star of the meeting was Adam from Holland Haven school for some excellent ideas and talking really well about different issues!

Next meeting - Thursday 14th October, 10am - 11:30am, 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>**