

Minutes

Multi School meeting – Doucecroft

Tuesday 12th October 2021

Meeting At Doucecroft School

Schools in Attendance

Colne School

Doucecroft

Apologies – Kierran Pearce, Stanway, Clacton County High

Andrea opened the meeting by asking everyone in the room to introduce themselves. An agenda for today's meeting was shared with children. Andrea explained that we will go through and the children can write down and suggestions that were discussed. We will all talk about each others ideas.

Certificates up date: None to date

The first item on the agenda was to ask the children how they can keep children in and out of school more active.

The children in their groups came up with some suggestions:

- Having more puppets to help build up the muscles in your hands
- The council providing better park areas with better equipment in them for example slides
- More soft play areas for bigger children to go to with bigger equipment
- For children with sensory issues a building with multi-sensory rooms
- Water parks that are fun
- After school clubs like football
- Parents encouraging their children to run with them
- A disco with flashing lights, dance floor good music as dancing helps keep fit.

Once of the children explained that she had a cousin has Autism and they have an extra PE curriculum that they do such as horse riding. Andrea explained Doucecroft was a school for children with autism and we have extra PE curriculum as this helps the children to stay engaged and focused and helps them with social skills.

Emma is the Doucecroft Liaison officer and part of her role was to organise the transportation of the pupils. Emma asked the children in their groups to think about things that would make your journey to and from school.

The children in their groups came up with these suggestions :

- To choose who you travel with this can include friends or family
- More technical equipment such as TV's in the back, use mobile phones
- Listen to a variety of music but headphones should be provided so people can listen to their own music

- Flexibility with school transport being provided to collect children later who wish to attend after school clubs.
- To also use trains as transport
- To have refreshments available in the vehicles.
- For schools to conduct a survey to see what percentage of children do not attend after school clubs due to them not being able to get home after.

We all discussed the impact the school transport has on children not being able to attend after school clubs, and the lack of flexibility with them taking pupils home outside the end of the school day. The implications for the schools having to hire a mini bus, as well as staffs time driving the children home.

Lindsay is Doucecroft careers advisor, she explained her role and asked the children to come up with ideas of the kind of things they would need to prepare them from leaving school. Between the age of 16- 18 years of age

These are the ideas that children came up within their groups:

- Learn to drive and road safety
- Be taught life skills such as cooking and cleaning the house
- How to apply for a credit card or open a bank account finance
- Learn basic skills for a job as well as writing a CV and the interview process.
- Career days
- Traditions that other cultures and countries celebrate
- Lessons about puberty
- How to call or where to get help if its needed.

Andrea explained the midnight walk will be the multi school council fundraiser. In the groups the children discussed ways of getting more people involved, publishing the event, and make it successful in raising money

The suggestions the children came up with in their groups:

- Take head phones to listen to music
- Make sure you get a good night's sleep the day before the event. Do the event on a Friday night giving people the opportunity to recover over the weekend
- Stand out by dressing up, wearing glow in the dark clothing, taking touches and wearing glow sticks
- Have a minimal amount for each person to raise and provide a prize for the person who raised the most money. Charge a signing up fee, set up a just giving page, ask parents to share sponsor forms
- Ask companies to sponsor the event or get a celebratory involved(eg the queen)
- Post the event on social media, posters around the school and the school website

Andrea explained what equal opportunities in sport was and asked the children to come up with some suggestions that may stop children becoming involved:

- To busy watch you tube and spending time on electrical devises
- The recent lockdown rules the Government have put in place
- Availability of child care
- Making sure people explain the rules clearly

- Ensure suitable equipment is available for different needs
- More opportunities and various PE activities while in school
- Instead of playing monopoly on a computer spend time playing the board game version.

Andrea asked what after school clubs the children's school provide:

- Football
- Stem club and natural environment
- Chess club

Tom from active Essex said thanked all the children for their ideas and explained how he will be working with Kiran. He shared information regarding the daily mile and how Essex can provide a map so children can complete the daily mile in various places.

We had two starts of today's meeting:

Callum for his ideas and for him encouraging Doucecroft children to be involved and listening to their suggestions

Chloe felt confident enough to ask if she could sit at the table where all Colne children and be involved with the discussions and making suggestions.