**Minutes**

**Virtual School MSC Meeting**

**Thursday 1st December AM**

**In attendance**

Baddow Hall Junior School

Wethersfield

Cooks Spinney

West Horndon

Millfield’s

**Apologises** – Stebbing Primary

**Minutes**

The meeting was held virtually, and it started with our usual introductions as we waited for everyone to settle down.

Our first item on the agenda was about anti-bullying and we have known that from speaking to young people, that bullying was the leading reason for why some people did not want to come into school. We, as an MSC, are looking to change that as a group. The young people had some great ideas on how we could change that, including having worry boxes where children can write down what they are worried about (Sophia suggested this idea, which she mentioned that it should be implemented across Essex Schools). Other ideas included making sure we are raising awareness about how bullying can have an impact from the person being bullied as well as the person bullying, which links to the chain of events (well done Oliver for raising this up!) as well as having an anti-bullying champion across schools, telling teachers what they should be doing and providing golden tickets of being kind! All these ideas will be taken forward with other ideas across the county.

Next up we discussed deaf awareness. Many young people have been talking about wanting to learn sign language and they are keen to learn more about the deaf community. We have said that any ideas about raising deaf awareness or asking questions they would like to know about deaf people will be raised with some of our deaf units, in January coming up. We discussed whether if deaf people are treated differently or do they feel differently, how would they prefer to communicate with people, TV shows should broadcast more sign language, to have a Christmas concert where people can sing as well as signing to make everyone feel included, to have an after school sign language club and it was mentioned that more teachers should learn sign language so they can support deaf children or teach children how to sign.

We then went for a break so children can stretch their legs and take time away from the screen!

After our break, we discussed about MSC mascot! This would be our first MSC mascot ever and we would like to launch this next year, so we asked the young people how they would design a mascot!

* Different shapes and sizes as we all look different, but we still achieve the same goals.
* Half human / animal.
* Percy the pigeon.
* Danny the dog.
* A heart with all the school’s logos (this was mentioned previously in other meetings so seems to be a popular one!)
* Tiger with hearing aids
* Big bear with heart
* Rainbow
* Star
* High five

All these ideas are wonderful, shows some creativity! The ambassadors will meet in January, and they will decide on which mascot they like the most.

Our final discussion of the day was about the cost of living, and we asked the young people their views and whether if they have heard their friends or adults discussing about cost of living. They had some thoughts, and they were

* People are worrying about how they can afford fruit, vegetables and the cost of petrol and how it has risen. A very honest thoughts which shows that young people are aware around their surroundings.
* All the things that we need to survive should be free.
* Raising awareness and supporting families through a difficult time.
* There should be more food banks.
* Creating posters about how not to waste electricity.
* Teach children how to budget and to spend wisely.
* Donate what you don’t need.

All these ideas as well as concerns demonstrates that they are aware of what is happening, and we should be listening to the young people.

We then decided on our star of the meeting which was difficult as everyone contributed well this meeting! The star of the meeting went to Oliver from Wethersfield as he had some really good ideas and he explained it clearly.

**Next meeting** – Tuesday 14th March 10am – 11am OR 2pm – 3pm

**Follow up points**

• Can you/do you include some sign language in your school – tell us about it!

• How do you share these minutes with your school – tell us about it!