**Minutes**

**Multi-schools meeting – South Essex**

**Canvey Island Infants**

**Monday 14th November 2022**

**In attendance**

Canvey Infants

Thundersley

Eversley

Glenwood

ECC Virtual Schools

**Apologies –** Great Wakering, Briscoe Primary, Stambridge (Attending virtual), Fitzwimarc, Montgomerie

**Minutes**

Great to be in South Essex where historically we haven’t had as many numbers so today was very positive. It was also great to get responses from lots of schools who hadn’t in the past too!

After we all made it inside and did our introductions, we looked at what could be done to prevent bullying. We had so many good suggestions such as:

* More lessons in class
* Make some PowerPoints and share with schools
* Have anti-bullying ambassadors in your schools
* Use technology to help people report it
* Have buddy benches
* Make sure there are more adults on playgrounds
* More assemblies (popular)
* Use smiley faces to help people explain how they feel
* Have a calm club in every school

Ideas will be forming part of a campaign we will look to launch at some point – more to follow on this!

After this we moved onto talking about deaf awareness, what might young people want to know and how could we raise more awareness as a group. The group would like lessons on sign language, assemblies, learn Makaton in school, how does it effect your everyday life, have a sign of the week and what might be hard about being deaf. This will form part of our work in the deaf units come 2023.

We stopped here for a break and as always at these meetings the school provided biscuits! Within our break we also played a short video from Clare Kershaw talking about the importance of this group and the work going in around school attendance. Immediately following our break we looked at what would support young people who are moving on or to cope with change better. Ideas included making good connections at the start, meet the teachers more regularly, visit a whole school rather than just a class, understand what might be new, preparation work, activities with the teaches, learn more about new teachers. Essex virtual school were in attendance, and they will be looking at these views.

Next up was the groups views on the cost-of-living crisis and how to support other young people and their families:

* Have food banks in schools
* More local support
* Posters with offer of support
* Use clothes swaps in school
* Think of more ways to look after people
* Have more support centres for people to talk to
* More advice how to cap bills

We will be asking for professionals to consider these views and work with the Essex youth service and the young Essex assembly group.

Finally, the group gave suggestions for a MSC mascot:

* Make it unisex with school council badges
* Include children
* A rainbow on a wheelchair
* An animal kingdom because we are all different
* A panda
* A tree which includes the school logo’s
* Giant teddy bear
* School logos should be included (popular)

Ideas will be looked at by our ambassador group in January!

All that was left to do was to wish everyone a safe journey and pick our star of the meeting. Not only for his contributions but for the way he listened to other young people Jack from Glenwood school was our star for this – followed very closely by many of the other young people.

**Next Meeting –** Wednesday 22nd February, 10am – 11:30am, Thundersley Primary

**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!