Mid Secondary MSC Meeting

4th October at 10:30am

Location: Columbus School and College

**Attending**: St John’s Payne, Chelmer Valley, and Columbus College

**Apologises**: Alec Hunter

**Minutes**

Thank you to Columbus School and College for being an amazing host!

I started by asking young people to discuss about transitions and how we can make it easier. They all came up with great suggestions!

* The importance of having a good relationship is key.
* Greetings to make students feel at ease.
* Speak to someone who has done it before, so they are able to reassure people who are going through it.
* Having a tour around the school (or having a map so the students know where to go)
* To have two days instead of one day when you are starting year 7 or year 11 so they have more time to prepare.
* Teachers are aware of children and young people who needs extra support.
* To make the information booklet pupil friendly so they can resonate.

We then moved onto discussing about communications, what ways do we communicate and what reasons may people not be able to communicate? These were the thoughts of young people.

* Signing hands
* To have rules put into place so people know the expectations (i.e., no arguing, swearing and more)
* To make sure that we are listening to people communicating with us.
* Some young people may need an iPad but sometimes there is no funding for it, means they are unable to communicate.
* Asking questions.
* Teachers to support young people with their nerves by taking them out of the classroom and to reassure them.
* Writing notes down.
* Consider about the environment, is it suitable for young people?

We had our break with biscuits!

Onto our next agenda, we spoke about SATS/ exams/ baseline tests and what was our thoughts?

* The exams questions should be differentiated to meet the needs of young people. Not necessarily giving them answers but to phrase the questions differently so young people are able to understand it.
* Some young people think SATS helps to prepare for the exams.
* Support for those with mental health illnesses/ disabilities, for example, to communicate with young people and to check in on them before, throughout and after the exam.
* It would help if young people knew what to prepare for.

Final thing on the agenda was about how can we fundraise and spread awareness about what the Multi-Schools Council do.

* Disco
* Dress up days!
* Café
* Raffles
* Sponsorships
* Cupcakes
* Litter picking
* Homework!

Thank you to all the schools for attending the first Mid Secondary MSC Meeting of the term, I really have enjoyed it and it was great to see all the young people involved!

STAR OF THE MEETING – Nattie and Nathan from Columbus College for contributing some great ideas!