

Minutes from School Council Meeting held on 25th March 2021

Pupils in attendance –KKa CHa, KSa, CLa,, JJe, DSm, RiaLe, JHa, CAB

Staff in attendance – BBa, JHa

Apologies – IH, ELR

Agenda (actions in red)

Welcome – Can I take this opportunity to thank School Ambassadors for attending their first School Council meeting since October 2020.

I am delighted to introduce CAB; new recruit from year 8. CAB attended the meeting despite IH not accompanying her. I am alternating ELR and IH as they both bring different skill-sets; this allows other year 8 pupils to experience Council.

Our meeting was carried out social distanced within the pathways community room. JHa was evidently apprehensive regards distancing and kept his chair further than the 2 metre distance; his snood remained on at all times.

Outstanding actions from 20th October 2020

Assembly Feedback

Ambassadors would like more videos, continued interaction between staff and pupils; occasionally modified

RLe said that the assemblies are working well; she feels they are age appropriate and purposeful. She cannot remember seeing more videos but is enjoying content.

Action – The pupils would like more informative assemblies; breast cancer awareness could be another.

Mr Cross will deliver this assembly when he is able to deliver in the assembly room

Covid- 19: Risk Assessment (RA)– reset and recovery

Action - RLe and JHa believe the class has relaxed the hand washing slightly and would like staff to remind all of the pupils in their class of the importance of washing hands up to 6 times a day. I did ask RLe to share this with Miss Millerchip but RLe explained that the majority of time Miss Millerchip was not in base. BB to share with all staff who work in the base.

Hand washing is happening regular and all pupils said they felt safe

RLe is completing an assembly about pod life.

Complete

CHa and KKa want to use the pathways community room, BB spoke with Mrs Francis who shared that they have a time slot; they just need to ask Miss Pow and utilise their time slot.

Complete – they are now in pathways base

KKa was concerned about the behaviour from some pupils in his class. One pupil who is usually silver or gold is now getting no points in some lessons. He did acknowledge there may be some outside influences. CHa confirmed that behaviours have deteriorated.

Behaviours have improved and class are now settled.

RL and JH were particularly concerned about the year 9's. There has been a lot of disruption and some pupils are reacting aggressively towards staff. They believe behaviours have deteriorated since moving into transition base. BB explained that 9's have been discussed and an intervention is in place.

There are 3 groups in pathways and this will remain for the foreseeable future

Agenda today is an open agenda – Ambassadors to lead

It is evident that Ambassadors prefer a fixed agenda although going through previous actions allowed discussions to follow.

Covid- 19: Risk Assessment (RA)– reset and recovery

Ambassadors asked why some pupils are in for 1 day when others are in for 4/5 days. BB explained that all pupils are individuals with differing needs. JHa spoke about his fears of coming back and understood that an integrated return was better for him although once he was back, he was happy to be in more days. CAB said she was anxious but attending 1 day a week helped her to feel safe; she then requested more days which subsequently followed.

RLe mentioned Mrs Francis losing her visor; she said visors require 2 extra items on them, neon lights to make them easier to see, a tracker for when Mrs Francis is searching for hers.

Snoods – pupils are now comfortable with their snoods and feel removing snoods will impact some pupils. This is due to self-esteem/confidence and the snoods are becoming comforting for some.

Visors to be reviewed for staff; snoods to continue

End of day reflection

CHa shared that this is making him frustrated. He said he knows what his positives are and finds it frustrating when someone else is taking a long time to share theirs. RLe then shared the same sentiment but understood reasoning. BB explained that it is important to leave school on a positive and to celebrate success. CHa asked if this could be modified in some way.

BB to share feedback with Mr Hawkes

Mentoring

KKa misses mentoring and would like it to be reintroduced.

Fridays

Ambassadors asked about activities on a Friday and timetable

Mrs Francis is completing the timetable and all will be clear

Emotion check in discussion in comparison to behaviour reward system

RLe would like to visit nurture to allow her to understand what check in and out is

Mrs Francis to ensure this action is completed

DSmi explained what nurture do however he stated he would prefer the behaviour reward system as this would allow him to address others behaviour which impacts his emotions. BB asked DSm why he does not do this during check in and check out as he can state he is sad because another young person said something which has upset him, DSm does not believe he has this option.

Martin Hawkes to explain and observe

This was a short and purposeful meeting; School Ambassadors are essential and they need to understand how important they are to the development of Elmwood.

A very proud leader.

Beverley Bailey

Family Welfare Officer