

# Minutes from School Council Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Pupils in attendance –KKa CHa, RHum, MHa JEv, JJe, DSm, RPe, CPri, RiaLe, JHa, ROx, CAB

Staff in attendance – BBa, GFr

Apologies – RPe

## Agenda (actions in red)

### Today's Single Agenda Item - RPe gave his opinion during the main school council meeting December 16<sup>th</sup> 2021

#### Curriculum

Mrs Francis provided questions – **Do you feel you are making progress in lessons?**

10 out of 12 said yes;

CHa – making progress in everything

KKa – Majority

JHa – Majority requires extra support in PE as everyone he feels is silly which hinders his progress

JEv – majority but struggles in Science

RLe – She quoted something Mrs Francis has said to her; she has made improvement with School life though her positive approach to learning.

DSm – is making progress overall

RPe – Puts himself down and recognises that he does this; with support of RHu he recognised he is making progress in PE; art and out he is not good at therefore feels he is not making progress.

Riding bikes in out and about is a life skill therefore is beneficial

MHa – Miles is focused on making additional progress in core subjects as he feels this is important – requires revision books – Mr Cross has sourced and awaiting

JJe – everything

CPri – Progress in Science, PE issues in class, spoke about AYP being emotional when he is not able to do as well as the others which impacts the group.

ROx – progress in everything but he finds academic subjects challenging

#### What are your thoughts on Votes 4 Schools?

RHu and CHa love theme.

KKa feels theme can be chaotic as there is no particular order as children can speak over each other but the topics are interesting. Suggestion, rather than duplicate slides which is current format, **Mrs Francis suggested more time for debate which is what that class enjoy most.**

CPri and RPea acknowledged why theme was suitable and how it fitted into school values. RPe found the LDBT topic informative.

DSmi, some of theme is extremely interesting but some subjects I have no interest in but it fits nicely into school values.

ROx unable to explain theme

CAB does enjoy some content but found it hard to explain why

RPe asked about accessing a mainstream provision as there are subjects he wants to do which we do not offer, he did not elaborate which subjects and has also shared how positive School is. BB explained how this has been possible for other pupils in the past however he would need to liaise with Mr Cross. RPe is enjoying out and about despite not being good at it. He felt this opportunity would not be provided within another setting. **LCross to discuss with RPe how pupils have been exposed to mainstream in the past.**

Ambassadors as a whole feel our curriculum prepares them for life which includes the need to discuss feelings as this will be required when they leave Elmwood. RHu also felt they receive a lot of support emotionally.

RHu asked BB if she felt it prepared pupils for life after Elmwood – BB was honest and stated that pupils are protected at Elmwood and our provision allows for a wraparound service supporting them emotionally. KKa wondered how he will manage in another provision; KKa is ready for the next stages of provision and he has developed immensely.

### **Out and About**

This subject allowed for debate, as you can see above, the bike riding was of value for RPe and CPr enjoyed it too. CPRI would prefer a block of time bike riding as he wanted to develop the skill once he had mastered the art of riding. CPr questioned why bare foot walking is part of out and about; RHu/CHa spoke about resilience and supporting mental health and well-being, CPR could not see reasoning therefore felt it was not something that should be included.

RLew spoke about School Values and how many experiences in out and about related to this however could not piece together axe throwing and making of items. A conversation was had about determination, overcoming barriers, mastery, sense of achievement.

Dsm said out and about is mostly good, we just need to trim the fat (meaning take some items out) and then it will be purposeful for all. Yr 11 ambassadors enjoyed out and about and understand the importance of getting out, being out of your comfort zone and having a sense of achievement.

### **Additional questions**

Study Leave - what is the plan? Mrs Francis spoke about lost learning; pupils would like the option to attend during study leave and increasing the length of core subjects to 1 hour. RLe would like to be included in this. **Mrs Francis to speak to curriculum leads regards this.**

**Mrs Francis to speak to staff regards votes 4 schools and suggestions of how they can structure the lesson.**

**Easter – Mrs Francis to speak to pupils with regards votes 4 schools and particularly which topics they have enjoyed**