Trust Student Council Conference hosted by Liskeard School & Community College, 13th July 2022

Session	Notes
Attendees	From Liskeard: Matthew, Bertie, Jasmine, Sammy, Grace, Lexi, Evalyn, Izaac and Cerys. From Saltash: Jayden, Jacob, Zane and Charlie. From Looe: Archilleas, Tobias and Caitlin. From Trewidland: Lolo and Lowena. From Dobwalls: Lowenna and Isobella. From Landulph: Fleur, Mylee, Immy and Connie.
Welcome address by Matthew	The Liskeard (LSCC) representatives (reps) welcomed the delegates to the conference, played a welcome video in the background and introduced themselves.
	Matthew advised that the day would start with a tour of the school and if there was a subject the representatives would really like to see, to let their LSCC guide know.
	The Saltash and Landulph representatives were delayed, therefore the conference split into two groups and Trewidland, Looe and Dobwalls started their tours.
	Once the Saltash and Landulph representatives arrived, they started their tour.
	 As Looe students returned from their tour first, Mr Buckley asked for their opinions on the following in relation to the Trust Student Council (TSC) meetings next year: 1. Bidding for conferences next year, keep or give take in turns, meaning the schools that did not host this year would do next year. Looe confirmed they would prefer taking it in turns. 2. Keep the current model of 4 new TSC representatives each year or two permanent members and rotate the other two places amongst the School Council? As the first 3 meetings are online, more members of the School Councils could attend. Looe preferred the model of two permanent reps and two rotating members. 3. Open the invitation for the final conference of the year (July 2023) to schools outside the Trust that are in South East Cornwall? Looe agreed this is a good idea and that students could 'spread the word' of the conference with their connections (e.g. family members/friends) in other schools as well as Mrs Yelland contacting the schools.
Break	After the school tour, reps returned for refreshments.
Further introductions	Matthew asked the students to introduce themselves and tell the group their favourite hobby. LSCC reps went first. Sports and arts were very popular!
Drama activity with Miss Ellison	Miss Ellison who was supporting the LSCC reps today, introduced herself and asked if the students were comfortable with informing the group of their pronouns.
	The reps took in turns to introduce their pronouns.

Miss Ellison thanked the students and advised they were now going to play a game of two truths and a lie. Miss Ellison went first to demonstrate.

The students then organised themselves into mixed school groups to play the game.

Drama activity

To warm up, Miss Ellison asked the reps to walk around the room at a 'snail's pace', increasing in speed and when Miss Ellison called out a number, the reps needed to group themselves accordingly.

The game then became more complex, where a letter and a number were called; meaning they would need to group themselves and become something beginning with the letter e.g. B a bee in a group of 3!

Belonging

Miss Ellison asked the group the following questions.

1. What is meant by belonging?

The group came up with examples such as:

- Feeling connected
- Feeling accepted
- Part of something
- 2. How do we make people feel like they belong?

The group came up with examples such as:

- Being welcoming and kind
- Feeling part of something
- Give people a voice
- Inclusivity and respect
- Courage, Resilience and Kindness
- 3. What does it mean to 'other' somebody?

The group came up with examples such as:

- Not include someone by choice
- Exclusion
- People don't feel like the belong

Miss Ellison then asked the reps to create a short performance ending with a freeze frame. The theme is that someone in the group is 'othered' and then accepted by the group.

Some of the groups performed theirs to the whole group. Themes used in these performances were:

- Religion
- Dance
- Starting a new school

Miss Ellison asked the reps if they all have a place where they feel they belong. *The reps agreed they did.*

Art activity with Mrs Schooling in A5

Mrs Schooling introduced herself to the students and explained that the aim of this activity was bring together the experiences and knowledge of the reps and create something using these.

Mrs Schooling also explained that they would be making badges using their school styles from across the Trust. For example, the school colours.

Mrs Schooling asked the group to identify the colours used in their own school logo and the most common colours from across the Trust would be used. The top three were:

- Black
- Blue
- Yellow

Design brief: Create a design to represent this collective of schools using the colours above.

Mrs Schooling explained that designs could include the initials of the student's first names, colours of eyes etc.

The students spent time creating designs and then chose their final design and created the badges.

Mrs Schooling explained that they can wear their badges and explain about the Trust when asked what the badge represents.

Lunch

The reps returned to their base classroom for lunch.

Survey and closing discussions

Matthew introduced LSCC's survey about the conference and Miss Ellison took notes on the verbal feedback received.

All reps agreed they enjoyed the day, made new friends, felt safe, welcomed, and included. And most importantly had fun!

There was nothing the reps thought that LSCC could improve on and they enjoyed the drama and art activities but did suggest that may be next time it could include a sports activity.

Mr Buckley asked the reps how they would feel about the possibility of having a South East Cornwall Student Conference next year, inviting student council representatives from neighbouring schools.

The reps agreed that this would be a good idea to get a more diverse group, providing a wider views of the students in the area and would be a good experience for primary students that would be going to one of the secondary schools.

Mr Buckley thanked the LSCC reps for organising today's event, it was led and managed very professionally and congratulated them on it's successful.

Mr Buckley asked the reps opinions on the structure of TSC events next year: Is it right to have three online meetings followed by three conferences again? *Agreed*.

Keep the current model of 4 new TSC representatives each year or two permanent members and rotate the other two places amongst the School Council or, have a legacy team where two members stay from the previous year and train two new members? The reps discussed this and agreed to the legacy team model, keeping two members from the previous year who train two new members. Then the following year the trainees become the teachers.

How can we collect the questions to be asked at the TSC meetings next year? The reps agreed they should be submitted to Mrs Yelland as and when they are thought of.

Conference closed at 1.30 p.m.