

## Trust Student Council meeting notes – 26<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at 4.30 p.m. via Teams

### Summary of actions from the meeting

Actions	By who?
Bring suggestions of external student leadership opportunities to the meeting on 28 <sup>th</sup> March.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trust Student Councillors</li> </ul>
Discuss the suggestions put forward in this meeting in answer to the questions with your Student Council and Student Leadership Co-ordinators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trust Student Councillors</li> </ul>

### Summary of main points made in each question

Question	Answer
The anonymous reporting tool you asked for is now live and on the website. Is it easy to find and use? In what ways should we be encouraging its use more?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Book an IT room for tutor time so that students can submit a practice report with their tutor.</li> <li>Advertise further in assemblies.</li> <li>Advertise on SatchelOne including the school code.</li> <li>Consider adding to any student's areas on Microsoft Teams if used by the schools.</li> </ul>
What are good ideas we could use to help our communities through this crisis even better?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mufti Day and proceeds to local charities.</li> <li>Opportunities to volunteer in soup kitchens.</li> <li>Hold a charity fundraising Sports Day.</li> <li>Bake Sale.</li> <li>Pre-loved uniform donations by school leavers/students who have grown out of their uniform.</li> <li>Link with local Foodbank and build 'tutor group hampers' to donate.</li> <li>Community Swap Shop for books, clothes, sports equipment, and toys.</li> </ul>
What are the best ideas you have done at home to save energy and how could we adopt some of these in school?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff could switch off lights/equipment when rooms not in use and at end of the day.</li> <li>Motion sensor lights in corridors.</li> <li>Shut down PCs instead of signing out.</li> <li>Use natural light where possible.</li> <li>Switch off lights in corridors when they are closed.</li> <li>Hold a Science Day to look at how electricity is made.</li> </ul>
What further questions should we be asking?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What are schools doing to support student wellbeing?</li> <li>How can we prevent pollution?</li> <li>Do teachers make you feel comfortable and how?</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What can we do to make schools feel safer? Ask students to plot areas they don't feel safe on a school map.</li> </ul>
<b>Imogen asked – what part time jobs (paid or unpaid for experience) would you be interested in?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create Student Leaders for subjects such as PE.</li> <li>• Student Librarians.</li> <li>• Sixth form students could teach lower year groups/help at break times.</li> </ul>
<b>Allana and Harry asked – what does your school do to help all pupils and all groups feel safe? For example, LGBTQI+ spaces?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Talk about LGBTQI+ more openly in school.</li> <li>• Internet Safety Day – helps students feel safer on the internet.</li> <li>• Teaches who can support at break times wearing high-vis so students can identify them.</li> </ul>

### **Staff Present:**

Mr Buckley, CEO  
Mrs Yelland, PA to the CEO  
Mrs Ball, Headteacher at Landulph  
Mrs Pipe, Headteacher at Dobwalls  
Mr Saberton, Teacher at Looe  
Mr Wendon, Headteacher at Liskeard

### **Student Councillors present:**

Achilleas and Erin from Looe.  
Harry, Allana, Imogen, Evie and Bethany from Liskeard.  
Jayden, Holly, Jake from Saltash.  
Ariel, Noah and Maggie from Dobwalls.  
Lolo from Trewidland.  
Isabella from Landulph.

### **Apologies:**

Mr Lovell, Headteacher at Trewidland.  
Adem from Saltash.

*Meeting started at 16.32.*

### **Outline of meeting**

Mr Buckley welcomed everybody to the meeting.

### **Notes from previous meetings**

The notes from the previous meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> November are available online via the Trust website, together with the notes of previous meetings. Please do let us know if there are any changes requested.

Mr Buckley advised that the meeting notes are circulated to the Headteachers, Local Governing Committees and the Trustees.

### **Rules of these meetings**

Mr Buckley stated the rules as follows:

- If you wish to speak, click on the 'raise hand' icon and wait for the Chair of the meeting to invite you to speak.

- Always keep your microphone on mute and camera turned off unless the Chair of the meeting invites you to speak. Please ensure your background is suitable if you switch on your camera and doesn't include anyone else who doesn't want to be on camera.
- When you have been invited to speak, unmute your microphone and if you wish to (we would advise you to if you can) turn your camera on. When you have finished speaking turn your camera and microphone off again.
- If you don't have a microphone that works, or you are uncomfortable with speaking, you can type your answers into the 'Chat'. If you don't have chat either you can send an email to [Rachel.Yelland@smart-trust.net](mailto:Rachel.Yelland@smart-trust.net) or your co-ordinator.

### **What is a public meeting?**

Mr Buckley explained that these meetings are focused on positive comments, suggestions, and solutions. Individuals are not named. If a councillor wishes to share a problem or something that is concerning them, this must be taken straight to their teacher.

### **Introductions**

Everybody on the call introduced themselves.

Mr Buckley was pleased the comments from the last meeting was used so widely and that some of the students' questions are being used this time.

Mr Buckley explained that this group is a representative democracy where members represent their schools' opinions.

Mr Buckley gave an example of how to answer the questions:

- Firstly, give your own opinion
- Secondly, the opinion(s) of the people that you asked

If you have managed to ask students, please let us know roughly how many you asked and haven't managed to have the opportunity to ask other students, don't worry and just give your own opinion.

### **Mr Buckley asked the following questions:**

#### **1. The anonymous reporting tool you asked for is now live and on the website. Is it easy to find and use? In what ways should we be encouraging its use more?**

Mr Buckley summarised the research that was used last year to prompt the creation of the creation of the anonymous reporting tool.

Jayden reported that he had asked his tutor group and suggested the following:

- Mention the reporting tool in assemblies to ensure everyone is aware of it and where to find it.
- Advertise the school code on the website.

Mr Buckley advised that we do not advertise the unique school codes outside of the schools to try and limit any vexatious submissions from outside of the Trust that aren't made by students within our schools.

Harry advised he had also asked his tutor group. They were not aware of the reporting tool until last week and suggested advertising it further across the school and be encouraged to use it more. Harry explained that Liskeard have a 'red box' outside the New Hall for students to report incidents of bullying etc.

Allana explained that she is in the same school as Harry (different year group) and they are regularly told of the reporting tool in assemblies. Allana also mentioned the 'red box' outside of the New Hall.

Erin reported that there are posters in all tutor rooms in Looe and it is advertised in assemblies. Erin suggested putting it on SatchelOne so that students can access the school code outside of school.

Holly agreed with Jayden's summary and suggested to add it to their Microsoft Teams area chat for tutor groups to make it easier to locate.

Mr Buckley asked if any other schools used Teams in this way?

No one did.

Bethany agreed that advertising the tool in assemblies is a good idea and suggested that tutor groups could practice submitting an entry in tutor time in an IT room so that students can see exactly how it works with their tutor.

Mr Buckley thanked the students for their suggestions and advised to report any issues to Mrs Yelland. Mr Buckley also reiterated the anonymity of the reporting tool.

## **2. What are good ideas we could use to help our communities through this crisis even better?**

Harry suggested charity fundraisers and giving students the opportunity to volunteer in soup kitchens or hold a mufti day with the proceeds going to local charities.

Ariel advised that her school has a 'book swap' and her class suggested expanding this to include clothes, sports, and toys. This could be used by the local community.

Allana agreed with Harry regarding a Mufti Day and suggested a Sports Day – raise money during the day for the local Foodbank.

Imogen suggested that this money could be spent to buy blankets for charities to give out due to the rising energy costs.

Jayden posed a bake sale in school to support a local charity.

Erin advised that at their last Student Council meeting, they suggested school leavers donating their uniform back to the school so that it can be reused.

Bethany suggested that the school could team up with the local Foodbank and each tutor group could donate a hamper of long-life food.

## **3. What are the best ideas you have done at home to save energy and how could we adopt some of these in school?**

- Jayden - staff could switch off lights, computers and projectors when leaving the room for long periods and at the end of the day. Mr Buckley asked whether creating stickers/posters may help with this?
- Bethany - motion sensor lights in corridors.
- Noah - hold a science day, looking at ways electricity is made.
- Achilles – instead of signing out of computers, shut down instead.
- Harry agreed with switching off computers and suggested using more natural light where possible, meaning lights could be switch off in the classrooms.
- Erin - switch off lights and appliances in the canteen when not in use.
- Holly - Saltash sometimes have closed corridors. Switching off the lights in these areas could indicate they are not in use (subject to Health & Safety requirements).

Maggie advised that their school has 'student monitors' who check unused equipment and lights are switched off.

Mr Buckley asked if there were ways that these ideas could be introduced in partnership with staff and suggested discussing these suggestions at their student council meeting. An example could be creating a student led energy team.

#### **4. What further questions should we be asking?**

- Erin - what schools are doing for student wellbeing?
- Harry - how can we prevent pollution? Look at the ecological impact regarding energy.
- Harry - do the teachers make you feel comfortable and examples how?
- Erin - what we can do to make the school feel safer?
- Bethany - provide students with a map of their school and ask them to mark areas they don't feel comfortable or safe in.

Mr Saberton recommended Bethany's suggestion. Looe have done this before, and it was insightful and led to a good debate.

#### **5. What part time jobs (paid or unpaid for experience) would you be interested in? (suggested by Imogen at the last meeting).**

- Lolo - student librarian, having the opportunity to manage the school library.
- Erin - ask PE teachers to select students to help with PE.
- Holly - student PE leadership. Saltash have an active break system where sports leaders in sixth form volunteer at breaktimes to supervise students in lower year groups taking part in activities. Holly will investigate making these more structured. Sixth Formers get a free lunch as an incentive.
- Harry - believed it would be a good idea to have sixth form students teaching a lower year group as it will provide an opportunity to teach younger students as a form of study for themselves.

#### **6. Allana and Harry asked – what does your school do to help all pupils and all groups feel safe? For example, LGBTQI+ spaces? (suggested by Allana and Harry at the last meeting).**

- Achilleas - Saltash have a club but feels it needs to be talked about more openly.
- Harry - Liskeard has created a caring environment and students appreciate this.
- Ariel - internet safety day - this helps students feel safer on the internet.
- Erin - teachers wear high-vis jackets at breaktimes so that students know who they can talk to.

#### **Comments relating to favourite subjects and what improvements could be made.**

- Jayden - open IT rooms so students can complete homework in break times. Mr Buckley asked if a student led system work in Jayden's school. Jayden suggested years 9-11 could run the rooms.
- Erin's favourite subject is Spanish as you can ask a lot of questions and covers a range of topics.
- Harry - more computers, trips, games, and active learning.

**Conferences:**

Mr Buckley informed the councillors that there will be an international guest from Australia attending the conference in March. Looe will be working on the conference theme in the coming weeks but would welcome any suggestions this group may have.

Mr Buckley advised that the last meeting of the year in July will be a celebration event based on leadership. Mr Buckley recognised that many leadership opportunities for students may occur outside of school and part of the conference in Looe will be to collect these external opportunities e.g. Army Cadets, St John's Ambulance. We will be looking at connecting with these organisations. Mr Buckley asked the group to spend time thinking about this and bring their ideas to the March conference.

There will be two questions circulated for councillors to ask at their schools and bring their feedback to the conference. These will be circulated week commencing 6<sup>th</sup> March.

**Date of next meeting – Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> March at Looe Community Academy starting at 10.00 a.m.**

*Meeting closed at 17.20.*