

## Notes from half term meeting of the SMART Student Council 18/05/2018 at Liskeard School & Community College

### Student Council members present

Joseph, Oliver, James, Kekessa, Edward, Rebecca, Jaeda, Milli, Jamie, Izaak, Jamie, Eric, Fionntan, Milly, Maddie, Sam



Adult facilitators – Mr Buckley, CEO SMART Multi Academy Trust and Mrs Yelland, PA to Mr Buckley to record notes from the meeting.

### Focus for this meeting: Students to receive leadership training.

#### Introductions.

Mr Buckley welcomes the students to the meeting and the students introduce themselves. An ice breaker is then played – the students choose Thumbs up, Heads down led by Joseph.

#### Session 1 – Update on leadership scheme level 1 by each school and actions from last meeting

##### Dobwalls

Actions from previous meeting – At least two Student Council members to have gained Level 1 Leadership badges by the next meeting. Mr Buckley is available to attend next Student Council meeting to assist launching the scheme to the school if requested by students.

**Not completed – Dobwalls haven't launched yet as they have not had enough chance at Student Council meetings to discuss it. Action this time – Mr Buckley to discuss the Student Council meetings with Mr Gray and see if further time can be made available.**

## **Landulph**

Action – More badges to Landulph, Landulph Councillors to request more time to organise council business.

**Mr Buckley delivered the badges and is aware they have been given more time to organise the Student Council meetings – Landulph are not present to provide a further update.**

## **Looe**

Action – Mr Buckley to attend a Student Council meeting to assist with Level 1 launch, or Ellie to organise launch with the Council.

**Year 11 study and exams have now started and the management of the project has now moved to the Head boy, Joseph. Mr Buckley provided Joseph with more level 1 badges. Joseph to arrange the leadership launch as Ellie is currently doing her GCSEs.**

## **Liskeard**

Actions – Mr Buckley to liaise with Mr Taylor. To try to set up independent Student Council meeting before next Student Trust Board meeting in May. Looe and Liskeard to exchange email addresses to share ideas.

**There has now been a Student Council meeting as well as one meeting regarding leadership. The Student Council now have 30 students ready to start level 1 of the Leadership scheme. Mrs Birkbeck is assisting the Student Council.**

## **Saltash**

Action – Council to liaise with Mr Bond to launch Level 1 to the school as soon as possible.

**Mr Buckley is aware there has been one Student Council meeting – Saltash are not present to provide a further update.**

## **Trewidland**

No actions required from the last meeting.

**No further actions required – 7 or 8 students have Level 1 badges and discussion have started about how the year 5 can be trained before the year 6 leave in the summer.**

## Session 2 – Leadership training

Mr Buckley delivered a presentation in a popular leadership system in the workplace today – Future, Engage, Deliver! Student council explored these ideas to see if this was something they should use in their own councils.

### **Activity 1 – look at the future:**

The first part of FED is to have a vision for the future. Mr Buckley tasks the students to divide into groups and think of ideas the MAT Student Council could develop next year.

Students had an open discussion and shared all the ideas they developed:

1. Student led radio station and newsletter;
2. Show my homework for primary schools;
3. YouTube leadership channel;
4. New equipment for the schools through raising money;
5. More student run clubs.

The students go back in to their groups to discuss the ideas further and come up with one idea from each group, ready to vote on which ones to take forward.

Students from each group who feel passionately about each idea presented their reasons for why each idea should be supported. Students all then took a vote for which idea they would like to develop most. These appear in order of priority below;

1. **Student led clubs:** To make use of the different skills students have. These will also be an opportunity for the person who leads the club to get their level 2 badge and helpers to get level 1.
2. **YouTube channel:** Students creating videos to explain leadership training and how to develop your leadership. They also will talk about the role of SMART student council,
3. **Radio station and newsletter:** Led by students in each school but sharing programmes. Music to be heard between lessons or at break times.

### **Activity 2 – deliver:**

The students then start to develop an action plan on how to implement student led clubs across the MAT. They begin with what needs to happen first and what last. They complete these timelines to help build the project.

The students agreed to start the scheme with level 1 leaders temporarily so the clubs can start, and then they will be coordinated by level 2 leaders once the Councils have awarded some students level 2 badges.

Someone running a club for four or five sessions with students they don't know, was seen as a big achievement and something that would be right for a level 2 leader or a level 1 with lots of help.

### **Activity 3 – engage:**

Mr Buckley asks the students to vote on what they think are important traits of leaders so they can work out who they should be encouraging to engage in these projects. These were then arranged in order

<b>Word/statement</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Total</b>
Looks at both sides of an argument	8		8
Intelligent	4		4
Reliable	4		4
Determined	6	2	4
Listens well	3		3
Offers ideas	3		3
Interested	3		3
Asks questions	4	1	3
Thoughtful	4	1	3
Strong opinions	4	1	3
Caring	4	1	3
Friendly	3	1	2
Smiles	3	1	2
Fair	3	1	2
Notices	1		1
Calm	1		1
Clever	1		1
Curious	1	1	0
Serious	1	2	-1
Takes your side		2	-2
Quiet	1	3	-2
Nervous		4	-4
Keeps secrets		4	-4
Loud	1	5	-4
A bit scary		6	-6

Words not listed in this table received no votes.

### **Activity 4 – Bringing it all together:**

Students studied a chart showing a way of breaking up leadership into six areas of skill. Each of these were explained then students had to rate themselves in each area of skill currently and make sure they put five ticks next to the skill that they feel most confident in. To do this they had to take two ticks from somewhere else that was a skill they have not yet become good at.

At the start every quality has three ticks like the chart below:

## Which types of leadership do you need to improve?

Poor		OK		Ace	
✓	✓	✓			1. Visionary – able to paint the future
✓	✓	✓			2. Positive – praising people
✓	✓	✓			3. Directive – telling people what to do
✓	✓	✓			4. Democratic – deciding by voting on ideas
✓	✓	✓			5. Pace setting – really efficient do-er
✓	✓	✓			6. Coaching – asking questions not telling

The students used this analysis for improving their own leadership styles, reflecting on what they currently do well and what they need to build on.

Mr Buckley then gave the students some scenarios to discuss in their groups which leadership quality would best suited to the scenario given.

### Session 3 – Observe lessons

Mr Buckley explains the idea around lesson observations – to get a feel for the school and the students take 15 minutes to go and see lessons.

### Session 4 – Next steps

To complete the actions above and if possible, start to look at the action plan for implementing a student led club before the next meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> July.

Mr Buckley explained that to start the level 2 leadership scheme the students could use the following ideas:

- Set up a student led club with at least 5 attendees and run for at least 3 weeks (Liskeard, Looe or Saltash.net).
- Video on leadership for 2 min to show at next session (all schools).
- Set up a student newsletter (all schools).

Lastly, the students sat in their school groups and created an action plan and notes of what they were going to feedback back on from this meeting to their next local Student Council meeting.