

Trust Student Council meeting notes for the extraordinary meeting on 8th February at 4.30 p.m. via Teams

Summary of actions from the meeting

| Actions | By who? |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Create the online reporting tool. | Rachel |
| Launch a poster competition | Student reps and Student Leadership Co-ords |
| Investigate if the survey launch and code can be added to SatchelOne | Student Leadership Co-ords |
| Speak to students about participating in the assemblies to launch reporting tool | Student Leadership Co-ords |

Present:

Mr Buckley, CEO
Mrs Yelland, PA to the CEO
Mrs Gallie, Teacher at Saltash
Mr Saberton, Teacher at Looe

Achilleas (Looe), Aaron (Saltash), Jayden (Saltash), Amy (Saltash), Charlie (Saltash), Jacob (Saltash), Ruby-Dawn (Looe).

Liskeard representatives were ill and unable to attend.

Meeting started at 16.30.

Outline of meeting

Mr Buckley welcomed everybody to the meeting and introduced himself. Mr Buckley explained that this extraordinary meeting was called so that there could be more discussion regarding the online reporting tool.

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.
- 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, 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 or your co-ordinator.

Public meeting

Mr Buckley explained that these meetings always focus on positive comments, positive suggestions, and positive solutions. If a councillor wishes to share a problem or something that is concerning them, this must be taken straight to their teacher. Names cannot be shared other than as positive praise because this is a public meeting. If there is something that a student would like to ask, please do so and it can be answered during the meeting or added to the agenda of an upcoming meeting.

Introductions

Everyone introduced themselves stating their name and which school they attend. Mr Buckley advised that as Liskeard is unrepresented in the meeting, they will be consulted before any final decisions are taken.

What is 'Everyone's Invited?'

Mr Buckley summarised that a national survey was conducted of children of school age to see if there was widespread sexism within schools. It was discovered that up to 70% of girls in secondary schools reported they had to put up with daily sexism and had become to accept this as 'normal'. This has become a major concern and need to change the view of pupils to no longer accept it. Mr Buckley explained that there was a 5 year plan in place on how to address this. This group identified that an anonymous online reporting tool would be a good way of finding out what types of behaviours occur within the secondary schools. The primary students are happy to use their 'worry monster' boxes to report any concerns.

Mrs Gallie wished to clarify that whilst the focus is aimed at sexism against girls, the online reporting tool can be used for anyone of any identity to report any issue through this tool.

Mr Buckley agreed and reported that within the national survey results, 5% of boys also reported they were subjected to daily sexism.

Questions on the anonymous reporting tool

Achilleas asked if the tool will be used for school problems or can also be used to report personal problems such as Mental Health?

Mr Buckley thinks it should cover everything that makes people feel uncomfortable at school, no matter how small the discomfort is. Mr Buckley asks if this definition is clear enough or should it be defined in other ways?

Achilleas agreed this is sufficient.

Introduction text

Mr Buckley asked for feedback on the introduction text that would feature at the top of the reporting tool. Is it clear enough and gives the right message?

Majority vote agreed text is clear.

Question 1:

DB explained that whilst the tool will be anonymous, we do need to know which school the report is in relation to. He advised that simple way to do this would be to have a four figure code for each secondary school similar to parking meters where using the code identifies which car park you are using. It also means that people who are not in the school cannot use the tool maliciously. The code would be displayed on posters around the school rather than on the website.

Mr Buckley asks can we improve on this idea?

Achilleas suggested that whilst it is a good idea no one outside of school can use the tool, we need to ensure the code is in as many schools places as possible so even if students are at home they can find the code.

Mr Buckley agreed but advised we cannot put it anywhere public (such as the website) as it would leave it open to hacking. Mr Buckley explained the Trust previously conducted a survey looking at staff's view of Trust but we received more items from outside the Trust than we did from staff. Mr

Buckley advised that we could ask students to put the code in their planners, so they have it with them at home.

Charlie suggested an alternative option, could there be an email address in SMART whereby it could automatically send the code to students?

Mr Buckley answered that whilst this is an excellent idea, the anonymity would be lost as the student would be identified due to the ICT systems that are in place to safeguard students and staff. If we believe the code has been 'hacked' it can be changed if required.

Mr Buckley asked if the group agreed with question 1?

Majority vote received.

Question 2:

Mr Buckley asked how the group feel about the list of options on this question?

Mr Saberton reported that this question created most debate in this meeting. There was concern around the word 'feel'. The students didn't think it would be taken seriously by using this word. For example, a student was called a name, by using the word 'feel' they believed it puts a question mark on whether it did happen. The students suggested having a more positive approach to the language, or if there could be other options for anything that physically happened. For example, "made me feel uncomfortable" and "physically inappropriate what happened".

Mr Buckley suggested removing the word completely and changing each option to "I was uncomfortable" etc.

Mr Saberton agreed and advised this was suggested by the students.

Mrs Gallie agreed with Mr Saberton's summary and advised that social media platforms use models like this for reporting online abuse and that using similar direct language would be familiar to students.

Mr Buckley agreed and using firsthand drives home the point we do not want reporting to be third hand.

Mr Buckley asked if there are any options that should be removed or added?

No comments received.

Mr Buckley asked whether the last two options, "I didn't feel bad, but it just should not have happened" and "I felt I should have said something but didn't feel I could" should be kept on the list?

No comments received.

Charlie asked if there could be a free text option added.

Mr Buckley agreed this was a good suggestion and we will add this to the tool.

Mr Buckley asked if the group agreed with question 2?

Majority vote received.

Question 3:

Mr Buckley asked if there were any issues raised?

None raised.

Question 4:

Mr Buckley asked if there were any issues raised and suggested removing the word 'think' in line with the positive language discussed in question 2.

None raised.

Question 5:

Mr Buckley asked if there were any issues raised?

None raised.

Mr Buckley asked that taking these three questions in to account, was there anything further the group would like to raise?

Jayden suggested a box for whether the incident happened in or outside of school.

Mr Buckley agreed that we could add if it happened on the journey to or from school (as well as in school).

Mr Buckley advised that the school do not have any jurisdiction for any people who are not in school uniform. Mr Buckley was concerned that even though schools would like to know about these incidents, he did not want to raise expectations that incidents beyond the school's jurisdiction could be dealt with.

Mr Saberton suggested that we could bring incidents to the attention of the relevant authorities. He also suggested adding an option on whether it occurred online.

Mr Buckley agreed and summarised:

Include a question with the following options:

- In school
- Online
- Coming to and from school
- Outside of school and in the community.

Mr Buckley asked the group to vote on if they agreed with questions 3-5 and the additional one above.

Majority vote received.

What should be reported back to students?

Mr Buckley explained that research has shown (Hart and Arnstein) that if there is no feedback following surveys, the surveys will no longer be used and suggested the following:

- Annual summary – 'what you said and what we did'.
- Choosing a one item that has been reported as the topic for a PHSE lesson/tutor group each month/term.
- How the numbers of submission change over time.

He noted that reporting back is difficult due to anonymity.

Achilleas advised that students had discussed this recently and suggested a monthly summary of the reports and discuss in tutor group what we could do to prevent them happening. Mr Buckley agreed this would be a good idea and the tutors could provide feedback to this group after the discussions to encourage continuous improvement.

Mrs Gallie likes the idea of having a focus on PHSE but is concerned that students may worry their peers could work out who had originally reported the issue. Mrs Gallie asks what students on the call think about this.

Achilleas agreed this is a good point and believes it would be good if any identifying details were removed.

Mr Buckley advised that reporting could be high level, and the most common issues could be reported rather than one issue (more than one report on the same area).

Achilleas agreed with this suggestion.

Mrs Gallie agreed that this would be a good compromise and would not threaten the anonymous nature of what the survey was trying to achieve.

Mr Buckley suggested setting a rule that matters will be discussed if reported more than once, he suggested that this across the Trust rather than per school so that there is less chance of identifying the person who reported it.

Mr Buckley asked if there were any views on this suggestion.

No views from the students.

Mr Saberton agreed it was a good idea.

Mr Buckley asked for the group to vote on the following model:

Half termly report to all three secondaries that highlights the most common item to discuss in PHSE or tutor time.

Majority vote received.

What could we do to give this the best chance of working?

Achilleas posed there are many ways we can do this such as:

- Assemblies
- Tutor time
- Posters where students line up (outside canteens/classrooms)

Mr Buckley thanked Achilleas for his suggestions and explained he had been reading a piece of research that found that message delivered to students by students were more powerful and asked if there was a way of including students in the launch so their voices are heard?

Achilleas agreed that students should be selected to help design posters and deliver the launch.

Mr Buckley asked the group if a poster competition would be a good idea?

Charlie agreed it would and the higher quality the posters are the more interested the students would be in reading the information on them.

Mr Buckley asked if assemblies could be run by students?

Mrs Gallie agreed it is doable, especially with online assemblies. She believes it would have to be voluntary to take part.

Mr Buckley summarised what we had in place so far:

- A launch – describing what it's about

- A poster competition
- Another launch when the posters go up and the tool is ready to be used.

Mr Saberton reported that the students suggested adding it to the homework platform, SatchelOne. The online assembly could be added here as well as the unique school code for the reporting tool.

Mr Buckley acknowledged that it would take a while to get everything in place ready to launch and asked students to keep debating the subject with their peers and to inform Rachel of any further ideas or suggestions.

Mr Buckley suggested getting the tool ready for launch at the start of the summer term.

Any other business:

None raised.

Mr Buckley thanked the group for their time and commitment to this extraordinary meeting.

Meeting finished at 17.15.