

## School Council Meeting Minutes – September 2015

- Introductions, apologies and name tags.
- Split into boys and girls groups and took part in an activity labelling traits which a councillor should have.

Traits from the boys included: Realistic, Easy to talk to and trustworthy.

Traits from the girls included: Honesty, Empathy and Sympathy.

- Task completed about key words relating to running a meeting – e.g. agenda, minutes, action points, any other business etc.
- Returned to year groups and took part in an activity including statements that a councillor or pupil may say to us. We then came up with ideas of what to say to them.

### **Year group feedback:**

Yr13- Path as a walkway to the shop/bus bay area

- Mrs Grabham will be arranging for a quotation to be completed for a path and the details of this will be passed on to the school council. She will be enquiring about appropriate surfaces that will be durable during the winter months and will not need to be maintained on a regular basis. Careful consideration will need to be made due to the gradient in certain sections pupils are referring to.

Yr12-Toilets in Upper School are dirty and do not have toilet roll – girls in particular. Concerned about safety of bikes on site and perhaps students CCTV

- Mrs Perna has spoken to the site manager about the issues relating to the toilets in Upper and Lower School. They will be speaking to the cleaning staff and asking for soap dispensers to be checked on a more regular basis and for toilet rolls as well. Supplies of toilet roll can be made available from both receptions – please notify if they have run out.
- CCTV – currently coming towards the end of a long standing contract. The CCTV is of concern to the Headship team and they are aware that it is currently insufficient for the site size etc. When this contract is up for renewal it will be improved and adopted by Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) Please continue to report any concerns or sightings of people who you do not have visitor badges etc. to a member of staff.

Yr11- Boys request for shorts in summer, Girls would like to wear cardigans.

Concerned about thefts from changing rooms in PE – would like a little more clarity on what to do with valuables

- It was felt by the Headship Team (HT) that the summer period was too short and unpredictable for us to move towards shorts being an option during the summer months. The current uniform is due a review during this academic year and the HT will be consulting pupil voice as part of this review/revamp.
- Mrs Perna suggests that the student council set up a 'working party' with a small number of girls from each year group and research the various possibilities for cardigans. The HT stipulates that the cardigan must have the school badge on it and that agreement must be made on the style of the cardigan before being presented to them for further discussion. All girls would have to wear the same style of cardigan for it to be accepted.

- Mrs Perna has contacted Mr Rosser and asked him and the PE dept to raise awareness in the coming few weeks of where students should be leaving valuables during lesson times. Pupils should also speak to a member of staff and ask to leave valuables in a safe place should they have them in school – co-operation and awareness from all will be key in addressing this matter.

Yr10- Ties rather than a clip on tie, cardigans or hoodies, use of phones around the school site

- For safety purposes 'normal' ties will not replace the clip on ties. Pupils should report any concerns regarding silly behaviour/bullying to their appropriate Head of Year.
- Cardigans – see Y11
- Hoodies – were discussed by school council and not a proposal that will be taken forward due to public perception of youths wearing hoodies and the appearance of them in general.
- Phones – Discussed at HT meeting – Use of phones/devices in lessons will be under review this academic year. However, the consensus was that use of phones around the school site to communicate with friends/parents etc. is not acceptable and will not be changed. Please ask that parents contact the school office during school hours to pass on messages to students and that phones are not used between lessons. All students should continue to expect to be asked to put their phone away if it is seen out of a lesson and to have it removed from them if it is seen in a lesson.

Yr9- 3G pitch, fundraising

Yr8- Soap in the toilets need replenishing more regularly, sanitary dispenser in girl's toilets out of stock, whole school fundraiser

- Mrs Perna has spoken to the site manager about the issues relating to the toilets in Upper and Lower School. They will be speaking to the cleaning staff and asking for soap dispensers to be checked on a more regular basis and for toilet rolls as well. Supplies of toilet roll can be made available from both receptions – please notify if they have run out.
- Sanitary dispensers – these were from a contractor several years ago but it was found that it was an expensive way to provide these facilities to pupils. Mrs Perna and the LS Student Council will create signs to put on the machines stating that they are out of order – and eventually they will be removed from the toilets. School Council to create signs to be put up in both Upper School and Lower School to advise girls that they can visit both the Upper and Lower School offices during a lesson/break time should they need any sanitary items – both offices have a variety of stock.
- Whole School fundraiser – Discussed at HT meeting – watch this space – one will be planned before the end of this half term for all students to raise money for the school funds.

Yr7- Shelters for lunch/break time, place to store bags during lunch/break times for safety of bags.

- Shelters will continue to be bid for. Funding will hopefully be secured from Ford or sponsored events over the coming years may be used to finance an expensive project such as this.

- Mrs Perna contacted LS HOY about a room for storing bags. Mr Copp has responded on their behalf and said that we would need to have a member of staff who would monitor the room and there is currently no one who could do so. This however, would not mean that a potential 'thief' did not enter the wrong bag or that items would be any safer. Mrs Perna suggests that the LS Student Council create signs to display in/outside the canteen area to remind students not to leave valuables in their bags.

Thanks to all for valuable feedback – please pass on to your Form Reps or the year group as a whole.

**Feedback Week – 12<sup>th</sup> October**

**Be Heard sheets – W/B 9<sup>th</sup> November**

**Next Year Reps Meetings – W/B 16<sup>th</sup> November**

**Next 'School Council' Meeting – W/B 23<sup>rd</sup> November**

Red – Staff Action Points/feedback/responses

Green – Student Action Points