

Student Voice Minutes



Student Voice Meeting
Wednesday 30th September 2020
Via MS Teams

Attendance

Mary-Beth Kogbe –chair

Fleur Smith –secretary

Miss Harrison (had to leave halfway through due to another meeting)

Mrs Mulgrew

| | C | G | H | S | F | A |
|----------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Year 7 | Oviya Vashisth | absent | Fatima Ahmed | Abhinaya Naren | Leia Beaken | Katie Maddison |
| Year 8 | Sara Khan | Arya Bagmar | Nafisa Sanna | Fran Maranca | Alina Berezina | |
| Year 9 | Lillie Mizera & Kavya Agilan | Mackenzie Lister | Shaniya Fatema Shaniya | Habibah Ahmad | Tara Kaerhikeyan | |
| Year 10 | Humairaa Mohmmmed | Stephanie Tomide-Johnson | Rhythm Dhir | Matilda Mitchell | Ankita Tiwari | |
| Year 11 | Mariella Jasper | Emilia Bozza & Sandhana Ray | Swati Singh | Mahnoor Dewan | Rose Whitwam | |

Senior Leadership

Ideas for board games and outdoor games equipment

- Miss Harrison suggested that board games and outdoor games equipment could be available for use of year group bubbles during lunch and break times as it is difficult to run clubs under current COVID procedures due to the mixing of our bubbles. Miss Harrison asked for feedback on whether students would like this
 - Students said this would be a good idea, and especially asked if card games could be included in this
 - One student raised that many girls in her form are already bringing in card games from home
 - Some asked if there was a way the school could provide some games to form groups to use so they don't have to bring games from home
 - Some students were concerned about outdoor games equipment such as ball as if the ball rolls into another year groups' outdoor area there may be some mixing of bubbles

COVID procedure

Student access to toilets

- A year eleven student raised concerns that she had seen sixth formers using the year 11 bubble toilets
 - Mary Beth recognised this and has agreed to raise this with Dr Palmer who, as head of sixth form, will be able to notify sixth formers not to cross bubbles to use toilets under any circumstances
- The year nine representatives raised the issue that between the year group, they have access to two toilet cubicles, one of which does not lock and the other which does not flush
 - Mary Beth recognised the difficulties that there are only 2 toilet cubicles between the year group, however reminded the representatives that there are limited toilets in the whole school and aren't any other toilet blocks that the bubble could access. Despite this, Mary Beth will follow this up with Mrs Mulgrew to see if there is any possibility of more toilet access
 - Mary Beth also has recognised the issues with locking of doors and flushing of toilets and will follow this up with the site team to ensure the toilets that are accessible to the year group are functioning properly
- A year ten student raised the issue that the year nine toilets are within the year ten bubble area, which has caused some mixing of bubbles
 - Mary Beth reiterated the issue around toilet block shortages, but agreed that she would raise the issue with Mrs Mulgrew to see if there was anything that can be done to resolve this issue

Reminder of COVID rules

- It was raised that some staff are forgetting the COVID rules within the classroom, especially the rules surrounding handing out paper and keeping two metres between students and teachers at all times
 - Miss Harrison explained there had been a faculty leader meeting on the evening of Tuesday 29th September, where she had already raised this issue, asking faculty leaders to feed back to all faculty staff with a reminder about the COVID rules
 - Miss Harrison also added this can be added as a reminder to weekly staff meetings
- It was suggested that there may be a possibility of a whole school email reminding all students and staff of a clear list of COVID safety rules

Students leave school

- Concern was raised by many students that bubbles were being mixed when leaving school as people queue for traffic lights crossing as well as leave via the languages gate, meaning many students from different years are in close proximity all at once
 - Mary Beth explained this issue had also already been raised at sixth form council and was being looked at by SLT
 - One student asked about the possibility of staggered leaving times so to reduce the number of people leaving the school at once
 - **This will be looked into**
 - Miss Harrison raised as an easy initial solution that students should not loiter and wait for friends outside of school in order to reduce the number of people waiting as they try to leave school
 - Fleur raised that if there is a necessity to wait for a friend, students should be encouraged to wait in the indent in the road outside of Keene Homes in order to keep people off of the pavements when waiting

- Students also raised concern about year groups entering and exiting the school through the wrong entrance – especially year groups using the junior entrance
 - It was suggested an email could be sent reminding students which entrance and exit they should be using
 - It was also suggested that at the beginning of term, teachers were stood on the doors monitoring who used them, however this had now stopped and people had begun to use the wrong doors since there were no monitors. Students requested that the doors could be monitored again to prevent this

Cold season

- Students raised concerns that as we go into winter, cold season begins. Students were concerned about people coming into school with symptoms similar to coronavirus. It was suggested that people were anxious both about catching coronavirus whilst in school and also about catching a cold in case it lowers peoples' immune systems, making them more susceptible to catch COVID and have worse symptoms
 - Due to this, students suggested that anyone with symptoms of a cold should be asked to stay at home in order to prevent colds being spread through the school
 - Mary Beth explained to students this would not be possible as the vast majority of students get a cold over winter and, having missed so much in school teaching already, missing more days of school for a cold would be detrimental to peoples learning
 - Mary Beth also reminded students that not everyone is in a position where students can simply stay at home due to parents being at work (this applies especially to younger girls)
 - Miss Harrison reminded students that people with persistent coughs, temperatures and loss of smell and taste should be isolating at home and getting tested
 - Miss Harrison suggested an email could be sent to parents reminding them of this
 - Mary Beth also suggested an email could be sent to all students reminding them of symptoms of COVID and symptoms that are simply the common cold

Wearing of masks

- Students raised concerns that students had been walking around the school without masks on – it was said that sixth formers in particular had been seen doing this the most
 - Mary Beth suggested a whole school email reminding everyone to wear masks around the school
 - Also, the possibility of highlighting this to Dr Palmer in order to highlight sixth form wearing masks in particular
 - A representative also suggested that posters could be placed around the school reminding people to wear masks, especially at outdoor entrances and exits so people coming from outside remember to wear their masks
- A representative asked if there was a way in which students can notify the school of another student who is coughing a lot, which Miss Harrison encouraged, saying it can be fed back to the office about people who have persistent coughs
 - Representatives are encouraged to feed this back to their forms

Premises and canteen

Food collection

- Representatives raised that there is no distancing when they try to collect their food as all year groups are trying to collect their lunch at once and so the queue mixes the bubbles

- A student suggested that there could possibly be a rota as to timings when students from each year can collect their food so not to create a big queue of mixed years
 - Mary Beth reminded students that packed lunches are preferable and suggested this is explained to both students and parents in an email in order to reduce the volume of people getting school lunches and in turn reduce the queuing

Library and printer use

- Students raised issues about being unsure of when they have library access
 - Mary Beth said she will get the library access timetable and email this around to all year groups, so people know when they have access to the library
 - Following the meeting, Fleur followed up the access to the library and has a timetable, however Mrs Martin requests that all students are reminded to check their emails regularly as she had sent the library timetable prior to this
- Students were also very concerned about access to printers especially exam year groups, who wanted access to print things both for class and revision. This was especially a problem with some teachers requesting that sheets were printed for lessons when some girls have no printer at home and no access in school
 - During the meeting both Fleur and Mary Beth were unsure of the access to printers available to years 7-11 and so agreed to look into this
 - Following the meeting, Fleur followed up on printer access and found that lower school currently have no access to printers as sixth formers use fobs to print their work so not to touch the printer and lower school do not have fobs
 - Mary Beth suggested that an email is sent to all teachers informing them that students do not have printer access so that teachers are not asking for students to print worksheets for lessons

Outdoor premises

- Representatives had concerns about confusion over where year groups outdoor spaces were as well as the distribution of benches in these outdoor spaces as some years were concerned, they didn't have anywhere to sit other than on the floor
 - At the time of the meeting neither Fleur nor Mary Beth knew about the outdoor spaces rota in enough detail to answer questions, so agreed to form a timetable which can be sent to all students
- There was also concern from students about inappropriate use of outdoor spaces including standing and messing about on the grate over the pond in the languages quad from year sevens
 - Mary Beth suggested that she sends an email to the year seven year leader informing them of this and asking that the girls are told not to do this as well as teachers being aware to look out for silly behaviour around the pond like this

Uniform

Warmer clothes

- Due to COVID procedures, all doors and windows must be kept open at all times. This is causing issues for some students, who are now finding the classrooms very cold. There was a suggestion at the start of term we could wear coats when the temperature was too low

- Students suggested coats were difficult to wear in class as they made it hard to write as they are so big; as an alternative the girls asked if there is a possibility of wearing hoodies/sweatshirts which are less bulky but still warm
- There was also a suggestion that some teachers were asking students to remove coats in class so students requested confirmation that they can wear something warmer over the top of school uniform
 - Mary Beth agreed to look further into this as neither her nor Fleur knew the exact answer as to whether students can wear hoodies in class
- A student also asked if we could find out if they may be able to wear warmer clothes over the PE kit on days in which they have PE lessons. They asked that students are allowed to wear plain black tracksuit bottoms and/or leggings as the school uniform tracksuits are expensive and do not fit the girls in a flattering way, which some girls find uncomfortable
 - Mary Beth agreed to discuss this with both Miss Harrison and the PE Department to see if there is a solution to this problem

Other business

Use of laptops

- Students requested that they could bring in laptops to use in school as access to computers is now limited and it would allow them access to worksheets without printing them, which is now challenging for those without printers at home as there is no access to printers in school
 - Fleur explained to students that is unfortunately not a possibility as the school cannot take any responsibility for loss or damage of laptops, which are expensive items that parents would be cross if got damaged/lost

Clubs

- Students asked about the possibility of clubs starting again soon during lunchtimes
 - Mary Beth explained that this is currently not possible due to COVID as clubs mix bubbles, especially as they are normally run by sixth form, meaning mixing of bubbles even further

House events

- The students asked about house events starting, including house karaoke
 - Mary Beth explained that there are currently meetings about which house events will be possible to run, however explained the issue with singing for house karaoke