Student Voice Minutes - 29th September 2022 - Curriculum-related sections only

Attendance

Erin Cameron – Chair Ody Ozono – Secretary
Miss Harrison Mr Selby Mrs Maslin
Plus 18 Form Representatives

Change @ CCHS

- Students wanted more attention to be brought to Asian Heritage month
    - Erin agreed to speak to the diversity prefects about this, and also to Mrs Cross to feedback ideas for culture day
- Students would like a more diverse discussion on racism (especially to Asian people)
    - Erin agreed to speak to Mrs Buckley about including this in RTP
- Requests for details about culture day
    - Mrs Mulgrew told students that Mrs Cross is organising this with the diversity prefects and that details would be coming once things are finalised
- Students have requested that black history be taught in other years and not just year 9
    - Erin told students that time is limited as there are many important things that need to be taught, but she agreed to speak to Mrs Buckley about what could be done
- Requests to keep the LGBTQ+ flag up for longer during pride month
    - Erin said that she had spoken to Mr Hughes about this, and he said that there was an issue with birds being attracted to the flag and damaging it
    - She suggested that alternatively, a display board could be put up to celebrate LGBTQ+ people

Black history month:

- Students suggested that they wanted to see a talent show or performances
    - Erin agreed to bring this up with Mrs Cross and the diversity prefects
- Suggestions to raise money in school for black-owned businesses/charities
    - Mr Selby suggested that Erin speaks to Ms Porter about this to sort this out with the global citizenship prefects
    - Erin told the representatives to discuss charities and businesses with their classes and come up with suggestions
    - Students suggested a badge sale
        - Erin agreed to bring this up with Mrs Harrison, but warned them that there might be a limit on the number of badges allowed
- Students have also requested black speakers for assemblies or lunch time
    - Erin agreed to raise this with Mrs Cross

Teaching and Learning

- Students have requested more group activities for kinaesthetic learners
    - The student said that this would be especially useful for content heavy lessons such as science
        - Mr Selby agreed to think about this to see what he can do
- Students were wondering where they could find the specifications for their subjects
    - Mr Selby told students to find their GCSE specifications in the year 9 options booklet. He reassured students that even if the information is for the previous year, it will still be applicable to them.
        - Erin also said that students can ask their teachers for their exam boards and that they can find their specifications online

    - Year 8 students also reported feeling worried about GCSEs and they were wondering if they could have study workshops
        - Mr Selby reassured students that the KS3 curriculum is adequate preparation for GCSEs and that there will be more discussion of GCSEs in Year 9
- Students have reported feeling stressed about the number of pieces of homework they get per day
    - Mr Selby said that there is guidance on this and agreed to remind teachers of it
- Students also said that they often don't have time to do homework set on Fridays for the Monday
    - Mr Selby agreed to feed this back to the teachers

RTP

- Requests for a BSL programme
    - Erin reported that she has discussed this with Mrs Buckley and that it is currently in the works.
        - The year 8 representatives said that they would value this
- Students would like mental health sessions in RTP to be focused on prevention and awareness
    - Erin agreed to discuss this with Mrs Buckley
- Students have fed back that they prefer less writing in RTP
    - Erin told students that some writing is necessary as some things are very important, but she agreed to feed this back to Mrs Buckley
- Students have requested more coverage on topics such as drugs/money/lifestyle
    - Ody told students that more coverage normally comes when the topics are more relevant to students
- Representatives reported that students were not being properly warned of potentially triggering content before RTP
    - Erin agreed that this is an issue, and agreed to speak to Mrs Buckley about this
- Students have also asked for the RTP presentations should be put on teams
    - Erin agreed to bring this up with Mrs Buckley
        - She also suggested that an RTP plan for each year is published for students so that they know what topics they will be covering
- Complaints about the long paragraphs that are sometimes used in RTP PowerPoints
    - Mr Selby told students that sometimes this is necessary because there is standardised content that has to be taught to students

Student Enrichment

- Year 10 students have requested further details on the Jack Petchey speak out day
    - Erin agreed to get details on this from Mr Carter and feed this back to year 10 forms
- Students requested the reintroduction of school trips
    - Erin said that for year 10s and above, this may be difficult as there is limited time due to exam preparation
    - She also said that the school only has 3 days available for enrichment days in an academic year
        - Miss Harrison however did mention that there are things that are being planned and that students should look out for them

Student Life

- Requests for a bench ball team/club
    - Miss Harrison said that this was a good idea, and Erin said she'd speak to Miss Bellamy

        - Further requests for a dodgeball team
            - Erin said that the PE timetable is quite full, but agreed to look into it
- Complaints made about students coming too early to lessons and causing congestion
    - Erin said that this problem will reduce over time, as students are still getting used to the school
    - She also suggested that students follow the one-way system to reduce congestion
        - Erin told the year 7 representatives to feedback to their forms that they are allowed to wait for their teachers in their classrooms, **except for science and drama**

Sixth Form Council Minutes - 29th September 2022 - Curriculum-related sections only

Attendance

Sophie Dulake (Chair)	Mrs Hiett	Mrs Connolly	Mr Selby
Ivet Lobo (Secretary)	Plus 13 Student Representatives		

Sixth Form Learning and Teaching

1. **Speed of lessons.**
    - Suggestions were made for teachers to teach at a slower pace or to set optional pre-reading to introduce a topic. This concern was mainly among year 12 students and it was noted that this could be due to the transition from year 11 to sixth form.
    - Teachers are advised to ask for feedback from their students regarding the pace of their teaching and if possible, pre-reading to be set.
    - Students are encouraged to open discussions with their teachers if any such concerns arise.

2. **Focusing on the course.**
    - Queries were raised over whether some instances in which teachers were not focused on the course were necessary.
    - In many cases, content deviating from the specific narrow requirements of the course will prove useful to gain a deeper understanding of the topic. However, teachers are advised to clarify which information is necessary to the course.

3. **Exam practice.**
    - Requests were made by students (mostly year 12) studying essay-based subjects including English and Psychology to be provided with additional exam practice questions and have more set out essay structures.
    - It was noted that exam practice might not be necessary so early in the year as at this stage covering content is the key priority.
    - Furthermore, students are encouraged to communicate with their teachers regarding any queries or suggestions and teachers will obviously provide clarity on the expected structure of the exam questions at appropriate times.

4. **Rolling Tutor Period.**
    - Queries were raised over the value of simply filling in booklets and some groups expressed concern about missing curriculum lessons.

- Students were reassured that any lessons replaced by RTP would not be "missed" as the content would be taught in the following lesson and teachers would adapt their planning to ensure no issues arose.
- It was noted that all RTP lessons are interactive and students and staff should engage in discussions rather than simply filling in booklets. It was also noted that this comment referred to one instance and is not part of a pattern
- It was noted that the recent disruption in the timing of certain RTP sessions (and the placing of two RTP sessions on consecutive days) was due to national events. However, RTP will now carry on as usual.

5. **Catching up on missing lessons.**
    - Suggestions were made for lessons to be recorded as this would be preferable over using another student's notes to catch up on lessons.
    - It was noted that this will depend on the individual teacher and cannot be made mandatory; some lessons and some activities lend themselves better to being recorded.

6. **Concerns over NEA and Homework deadlines.**
    - It was noted that certain NEAs such as Geography, History and English have been spaced out to accommodate students with multiple NEAs.
    - Suggestions were made for homework to be accessible on teams. Students are encouraged to communicate such specific needs to their class teacher

7. **Sixth Form Council and Teaching and Learning:**
    a. Dr Palmer asked that representatives consider how we may better use Sixth Form Council to support good and excellent practice in teaching and learning. Many small concerns over, for example, communicating deadlines or suchlike can be dealt with in discussion with class teachers. It would be ideal if representatives could help their forms see SFC as a forum for sharing positive feedback and celebrating good ideas as well as for raising issues of concern.

<u>Other:</u>

8. **Regarding UCAS support for year 12.**
    - Year 12 students are encouraged to focus on their A levels as they will have ample time to deal with UCAS later in Year 12. They should be confident that excellent support will be available to them at the appropriate time. Furthermore, it was noted that teachers are currently occupied with Year 13 UCAS applications and it is necessary to prioritise these.
    - However, Year 12 students are encouraged to explore the UCAS hub as it is a good source of information for careers, courses, etc. Mrs Hopkins looks forward to working with them soon.

9. **Lack of quiet areas to study.**
    - This related to noise in the old library and during Year 7 library lessons in the new library. Supervising staff in the old library have been asked to enforce silence. A temporary arrangement has now been made as regards the new library. The librarians are also now enforcing quiet in the new library at lunchtimes.

10. WiFi.

- Concerns were raised over the poor WiFi quality in the library, as time for supervised study sessions was wasted loading documents, etc. Suggestions were made for supervised study periods to take place elsewhere.
- A delay in the delivery of Wifi equipment was noted – the school's suppliers cited a global shortage of equipment. However Mr Cable is now working hard to get this sorted.