**Primary Multi-Schools Council meeting minutes**

3rd July 2024 – 10.00-11.30am

Venue : Littlegarth School

Chair – Kayleigh

Introductions and welcome to MSC meeting.

For those new to the meetings, MSC meetings are a chance to hear and learn from children and young people with SEND

* Welcome to Fay Velleman who will be introducing MSC into the Southend area.
* Welcome to the schools attending today: Lawford School, Heathlands School, Langham School and Littlegarth School. Thank you to Littlegarth for hosting.

Agenda point One – SEND Engagement Facilitators (SEFs)

SEFs are people who help you feel safe at school

They are new group of people from the local authority who come into schools to find out how to help children in schools

Question and discussion : Are you asked your views at school? If so, how?

Feedback from attendees:

* Some teachers might ask about parts of school like learning in class
* Being put on the spot is hard, not being put on the spot and having time to think about my answer is easier.
* We have a reflection sheet at the end of every school year, maybe that could be done at the end of every week.
* We have a poster with a QR code that takes you to a worry register, where you can write your worry, and a teacher will come and talk to you about it, when they have read it
* A thoughts box/ideas box could be used
* Maybe scientists could invent a robot

SEFs will help with joined up thinking between the school, parents, child/young person and will help with things that might be tricky. They will also help with transition, with one planning and help young people’s voices to be heard.

Question and discussion : What do you like/dislike about the idea of the SEF?

Feedback from attendees:

* It sounds like a ‘mum and dad’ coming in
* It sounds like child services
* It could be hard to trust them if you tell them something that they have to share
* I would dislike it if I had to communicate verbally, I would prefer it if I could write it down. It would be better if there are different ways to communicate.
* It’s good to have someone to speak to about feelings
* I like how they want to listen to children about their thoughts
* I only like talking to my mum and dad
* They need to make sure that they have the consent from the children to talk to them
* I like the idea of everyone working together to help
* They could use technology more to communicate with people

Agenda Point Two – Racism

Question and discussion – What are your thoughts about Racism?

Feedback from attendees:

* When you stop people of different colours from getting on in life, you could be preventing the next great thing, like an invention
* It’s better to learn about people of different cultures and about their lives
* It doesn’t matter when you come from
* Being different is a good thing
* Everyone should have the same human rights
* You can use books to learn about people’s cultures (like the Lewis Hamilton books)
* If we exclude people we are missing out on diversity
* If someone is racist to you, go to a calm space and relax and look after yourself
* Some people are mean because they don’t understand about people. Education like RE can help.
* What is normal? There is no ‘normal’
* We can learn things from difference people, religions and races.
* We need to understand how to connect and help people
* We all need space when we are upset
* Racists haven’t experienced racism so don’t know what it feels like
* It’s not fair that people are bullied for how or where they were born.
* Be kind and ask about their lives if you don’t understand about it.
* Someone was racist to me and I told my family straight away
* It’s none of people’s business
* I like the protests as it is doing something about Racism, but it’s still happening which is frustrating
* It’s just a skin colour, skin is skin
* Why can’t people just be friends?
* Unless someone’s lifestyle is harmful, just leave them in peace
* We don’t meet many people with a different skin colour at our school so we have to make sure we learn about different cultures

Agenda Point Three – Childrens’ Rights

Question and discussion – What are your rights? What rights would you like to have?

Feedback from attendees:

* Right to have an opinion
* Right to have lessons
* Rights to have a say
* Right to play outside
* Equal rights for boys and girls to go to school
* Right to food and water
* Right to fairness between genders
* Right to vote for who’s in charge
* Right to educate ourselves
* Right to say no
* Right to like what you like
* Right to choose your diet
* Right to talk about feelings

Agenda Point 4 – United in Diversity Event

Three ambassadors (Charlie, Jamie and Florence) came forward at the meeting to talk about their experiences at the United in Diversity Event.

* Charlie – ‘I gave a speech at the event. I spoke about my brothers with Autism and what it’s like to live with them’
* Jamie – ‘United in Diversity teaches you about difference’
* Florence – ‘There were great activities such as police cars, musical activities and design your own t-shirt. It was fun!’

Question and discussion – What activities would you like to see at a future diversity event?

Feedback from attendees:

* Activities to make new friends
* Play time to mix with others maybe through sport or music
* Meeting new people
* Culture stands about different races
* Awareness about devices
* Board Games Tent
* Stands about learning new rules and skills and new sports
* Meeting new people on the stands

Agenda Point 5 – Star of the Session

* Theo from Heathlands
* Shlok from Littlegarth