Mid Secondary MSC Meeting

Alec Hunter

11th October

**Attendance**

Alec Hunter

Chelmer Valley

**Apologises**

Belstead

**Minutes**

Welcome back to the first term of the Mid Secondary MSC Meeting! Thank you to Alec Hunter for hosting!

First, we started with:

1. *The Essex Local Offer – how would you get on there and what should be included on there?*

* To help children both in and out of school.
* To have support for young carers/ parents.
* To have a guide for CYP.
* Should be a child led website.
* To help CYP if they are struggling.
* To have Q&A on the website.
* To have a section about stress/homework/assignment
* CYP to submit their own writing about their experiences to support other CYP.
* To have a section about understanding their needs.

1. *Banjo Tag line – what could it be?*

* Being different is the brightest colour in the rainbow.
* Embrace your differences.
* Be who you are.

(If you heard anyone say anymore, please let me know! I was not able to catch some of it)

1. *Plans for children (one plans, EHCP’s, medical, any plans for young people) – how could young people have a voice in these plans?*

* To be allowed to speak freely.
* To enable the CYP to understand the question, and if they do not, to adapt it.
* To allow people (i.e. professionals, parents and CYP) to have a say (teamwork).
* To allow the plans to be changed regularly if it does not work out for them.
* To have examples of scenarios to allow them to understand it better.
* To let the CYP speak first.
* To have a range of options with the support they can have, as they may not realise what is out there.

1. *Mental health awareness – as a wide group, what would you like to focus on when it comes to children’s mental health?*

* Equal opportunity.
* There shouldn’t be a focus – as this will make some people feel like that their issues aren’t important.
* Homework lessons (as some will struggle to do homework if they have homelife issues)
* Don’t have someone to speak to.
* Not wanting to go to school.
* Mental health activities in between lessons.
* Stress
* Hidden aspects of mental health that people don’t think about often.
* Grief.
* Inclusion.

1. *School SENCO’s – why is their role important and how could they help more children with learning differences?*

* The fact that the support is put into place because of SENCO. If there was no SENCO, CYP would find it difficult to get by.
* To support CYP to learn in the best way.
* Not to make them feel like they are odd one out.
* Perhaps there should be a way that students can stay in lessons, rather than being taken out of the lessons because they require additional support with other subjects.
* To give them their own space.
* To make CYP aware of different support that other CYP may require in the classroom, so they don’t feel judged.
* To make it more discreet as some CYP may not like other people to know.
* To have more support listed (to have different options of support)

We have also discussed about what should be on the future agenda and those includes: is there an easier way to apply for further education, how can we make people feel comfortable in where they are, school curriculum, how can we want to go to school (not to dread school) as well as how can we support people in general.

Thank you to all who attended the meeting, it was great to see some familiar as well as new faces! The next MID Secondary MSC Meeting will be on Wednesday 11th December and we are looking for a host school!