**Tendring MSC meeting**

**Cann Hall**

**2nd December 2024**

**Attending**

Spring Meadow

Chase Lane

Cann Hall

Millfields

Alton Park

Holland Park

**Apologies:** Frinton-on-sea primary, St Andrews

Through the coughs/colds and colder weather the turn out was still good and the ideas were still flowing. Everyone arrived well on time meaning we could get started with no delay. After our usual introductions our first agenda item was an activity linked to children’s rights. We shared with the group a PowerPoint that explained children’s rights and the different areas. The group then moved around, ticking or putting a cross where they felt those rights were given or in some cases not. Out of the different areas, early results from this group show that the majority of the group felt **safe** and that **their views were taken seriously.** Where young people there were examples where they didn’t always have these rights it was linked to not always being able to **take part in groups or activities** or not **being included in their community.** We will work across Essex to see what comes out and then look at how we can action some of this.

After this activity we switched to our first discussion. Earlier in the academic year some schools celebrated the MSC by hosting their very own day, all about embracing our differences. As a team we would like to build on this day and so we asked for ideas on what would make this better:

* Schools to hold their off raffles
* Opportunity to try different foods from different countries
* Learn about different religions and their clothes
* **Have different teachers for the day**
* Hold some assemblies
* Learn and talk about different needs
* Hold different fayre activities
* Do a fun run

As a team we will be putting together a plan for a new MSC day in the future! We paused here for a break and another move around!

Straight up after the break we discussed the names of these ‘meetings’. It has been suggested to us that meetings sound a little boring and so if we changed the name maybe more young people would want to come along. Suggestions included:

* Ideas council
* Catch up and speak up
* MSC meet up
* **MSC activity**
* MSC get’s talking
* MSC meet and greet

In addition to the names we also discussed what would make the meetings better in general. The group suggested more chances to meet new friends, play games, have some special guests, arrange some social gatherings, more child lead discussions and sit next to different children rather than just in the same school. As a team we will continue to look at how meetings can improve.

Finally, we had an interesting conversation about crime. Crime has been voted in by the group as one of the three areas that young people want to focus on over the next 3 years. We asked the group what is about crime that young people are particularly worried about or want to mention and Suzi and Ava (2 MSC ambassadors) helped lead this part of the meeting. So many areas were brought up including neglect/abuse, **drugs,** getting arrested, **kidnapping**, bullying, hate crime, hit and runs, robbery, racism, stalking, scamming/fraud, **knife crime, murder**, walking home alone, fire, assault. Some tricky issues to discuss but some real honesty and thought went into the feedback. We will be putting together a longer-term plan.

**As you know each meeting, we choose a star of this meeting and for her ideas bout also her support within the group Jayda from Alton Park was this meetings star!**

**Next meeting – Wednesday 5th of March, Holland Haven, 10am – 11:30am**