

Minutes of Inaugural meeting of The Mast Academy Trust Pupil Parliament

Date: 20th January 2022

In attendance were 2 pupils from each of our schools who were elected from their schools to represent the views of the pupil population within the Trust.

Terms of Reference:

The Pupil Parliament has been established in order to ensure that the views of our pupil population are heard in the decision making in the Trust.

Agenda:

- Introductions
- Review of the priorities of each school council
- Identify common priority area(s)
- In depth exploration of a key area
- Begin to explore the priorities for a Pupil Charter

Minutes:

Review of the priorities of each school council:

Kirkburton Middle School:

Rewards
Pupil Leadership opportunities
Careers

Scissett Middle School:

Catering
Rewards
Recycling

Birdsedge:

Yoga for well being
Clubs and greater opportunities for competitive sport
Eco and environmental issues

Shelley First School:

Inter school competitions
Environmental issues – overuse of paper/opportunities to compost

Common areas identified:

Recycling and environmental concerns were identified as a key area. After some discussion, the parliament also identified that health and well-being should also be a priority particularly given some of the challenges faced following the pandemic.

In depth discussion regarding Recycling:

Targets:

Reduce Plastic Use

- Particular focus on reducing the use of non-reusable plastics
- Set a reduction target
- Ensure there are lots of recycling bins
- Consider bins with markers to measure different types of waste and set reduction targets.

Off set our Carbon Footprint:

- Reduce paper waste and consider ways to reduce paper usage
- Explore opportunities for tree planting
- Raise the profile of recycling amongst school communities

Reduce 'black bin' waste to 0 – aim to only have recyclable waste:

- Increase understanding of the need to recycle.
- Consider ways to dispose of food waste – compost bins?
- Aim for 0% non recyclable products in school

Actions:

- MPPs will go back to their school Councils and school community to discuss ideas of ways to achieve our targets. MPPs should come back to the next parliament with these thoughts and ideas.
- Mrs Greenough to talk to Trust colleagues about these ideas including the Trust Operations Officer and Site Manager.

Pupil Charter:

We looked at considering what pupils within our schools should be entitled to by the time they leave middle school. We divided these into 3 areas and collected ideas. MPPs agreed to take these back into schools to discuss with pupils and collect additional ideas and comments to bring back to the next parliament. We agreed to work at formulating a charter by the end of the year.

Health and Well-Being: All child should have:

- A safe or quiet space to go to
- Emotional support at times of difficulty
- Access to ways to communicate problems.
- Someone to talk to and to feel heard (not just adults)
- Their achievements recognised and feel a sense of achievement
- Dignity
- Hygienic and clean environments

Experiences: Every child should:

- Overnight stays and residentials
- Visit a University
- Visit a different country
- Be in a school production
- Represent their school
- Have fun outdoors and enjoy the environment
- Visit a theatre

FREEDOM TO GROW; STRENGTH YOU CAN TRUST

- See a West End Show; a ballet or an Opera
- Watch a live professional/national sporting event
- Be rewarded and recognised as an individual
- Visit a theme park/zoo/cinema or activity park

Curriculum:

- Extra-curricular opportunities which make sport accessible and enjoyable for all
- Opportunities to try something new
- More competitive sporting opportunities for girls
- Have fun and enjoy coming to school
- Access to Makaton/sign language
- Help when you need it
- A broad and balanced curriculum for everyone

Actions:

- MPPs to share ideas with pupils and gather further suggestions. These should be brought back to the next meeting.

Next meeting date to be arranged.

