



# School Council Minutes – Tuesday 12 July 2022

## Venue: Staff Workroom 2pm

### Attendees

<b>Chairs of School Council</b>	<b>Sixth Form Leadership Team</b>  <b>Principal Student</b> Tabitha Gray  <b>Deputy Principal Students</b> Finlay Gregory    Scarlett Gray  <b>Assistant Principal Students</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ameila Darke - Equality</li> <li>• Nyah Warner - Environment</li> <li>• Amelia Dean - Wellbeing</li> <li>• Harvey Parrish – Events</li> <li>• Ellie Gibson – Ocean Rep</li> </ul>	
<b>Year</b>		
<b>7</b>	Emily Plant	Thomas Hubbard
<b>8</b>	Megan Allin	Edward Wilcock
<b>9</b>	Aimee Suttle	Harry Gilbank
<b>10</b>	Molly Range	Kieran Mok
<b>11</b>		
<b>Fusion</b>		Charlie Rowell
<b>Sixth Form Reps</b>	See above	

### Absentees

Megan Allin  
Harvey Parrish

### Minutes

Mr Torrance outlined a new proposal for a more engaging reward system at Birchwood. The new reward system would tie in with the school values A Achieve, B Belong, C Conquer and will link with the students participation and achievements inside and outside of school. Currently, it is in the developing stages but would consist of Bronze, Silver and Gold awards along with other awards such as Subject Ambassador and Colour Awards. We now need to agree what should be included in each award and how we record the students achievements. Generally, this new system was well received but there needs to be more thinking about how students evidence, record and are rewarded.

### Site Developments

- **Toilets** – C block toilets are happening now in the October half term break due to the availability of the builders.

- **HOY Offices moving** - dispersed around the school – students thought this was a good idea stopping students congregating near Reception.
- **Reception area** - revamp taking place over the summer holidays.
- **PLC Area** – expanding into the Lower HoY Office area
- **BDC** – to become an intervention centre for students to have 1:1 tutoring or small group support for English, Maths and Science
- **New computers**
- **New CCTV** will be fitted in the corridors
- **Energy consumption** – massive concern with the increase of energy costs. Vital for more students to join the Environmental group and therefore if you know of any students who would be interested in joining the group please let CIE or Nyah Warner.

#### **Further to these developments**

- New CCTV would be brought in outside and in corridors. Students thought this would help identify the small number of disruptive students or those who vandalised property.
- Replacing computers – very warmly received
- Reducing energy bills – this had become a major issue– the school needs to really focus on energy efficiency and conservation. Students keen to support this and increase student engagement. There is an Environmental Group led by Miss Crossley and Mr Bowman.
- Students also need to do their bit to reduce their carbon footprint including seeing if they can walk or bike to school

#### **Year Council feedback**

##### Year 7

To date there has been no recent year council meeting with Miss Munro. However, Emily raised a few concerns raised by others in Year 7.

- Year group toilets students mixing and sometimes makes it uncomfortable
- Tutors don't always relay the notices and messages in form time
- Raise more awareness of Fusion with staff and teachers
- Targets and expectations too high in Year 7 – Mr Gilbank reviewing
- Not being informed of detentions at the time of the incident by some staff

##### Year 8

Year council meeting has taken place with Miss Payne

- The main concern was that ParentPay is not working properly and that students are not able to buy food from the café and this is exaggerated by the removal of the money machine due to the school moving to cashless
- Year 8 looking forward to moving to the Astro and social area near Sports Hall when in Year 9

### Year 9

No recent school council meeting with Mr Ruggins although Aimee and Harry reported:

- Equality in PE options – can girls have full access to team sports including rugby
- Make the non-school uniform days to be less discriminatory and suggested may not wear a blazer for the day

### Year 10

There had been a quick school council meeting with Mr Stock and the School Council Reps:

- Concern with some low-level disruption in their Year Group
- Wrong year groups using the wrong toilets (issue also reported in Year7)

### Year 12

- Sixth Form Council meeting regularly and well attended
- Timetabled sport opportunities eg. Rounders – considerable interest in seeing the return of Wednesday afternoon enrichment time
- Can non-school uniform days changed to promote student awareness groups eg. LGBT, Fusion

Dr Ingate thanked everyone for their contributions in the school council 2021/2022 and asked the members to think about their role and if they would like to continue to stand again next academic year.