

## School Council Meeting

17<sup>th</sup> October 2017

### Attendees:

|                   |                           |
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| Head Boy          | Bailey                    |
| Head Girl         | Hanu                      |
| Head of Mediators | Tianna                    |
| Head of Mediators | Simon                     |
| Year 1L           | Ria                       |
| Year 1S           | Nefertari                 |
| Year 2D           | Reuben                    |
| Year 2M           | Laiyla                    |
| Year 3F           | Emily                     |
| Year 3S           | Layan                     |
| Year 4B           | Klajdi                    |
| Year 4T           | Louis (in place of Rhian) |
| Year 5P           | Autumn                    |
| Year 5S           | Emilia                    |
| Year 6A           | Prisha                    |
| Year 6F           | Abeer                     |

Mr Leeming, Ms Campbell, Mr Wilkinson, Ms McEnroe (Minutes)

Apologies: Rhian (4T)

| Item | Note   | Action |
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| 1.   | <p><b>Welcome</b></p> <p>Hanu welcomed attendees to the meeting and explained that this was an opportunity to make their own choices.</p> <p>Hanu explained she would be asking attendees some questions.</p> <p>The attendees introduced themselves.</p>  |        |
| 2.   | <p><b>Introduction from Mr Leeming</b></p> <p>Mr Leeming explained that, up until now, the school council had been run differently and involved only Year 5 children discussing the school committees. This year, the council represents every year in the school. Pupil representatives will take it in turns to run the meetings.</p>  |        |
| 3.   | <p><b>Learning Ambassadors – Mr Leeming</b></p> <p>Mr Leeming stated that Ms Bridges will be starting the 'Learning Ambassadors'. This is an important group, which makes decisions on what the school will learn. Ms Bridges will be asking Learning Ambassadors to rate the teachers and what children learn. The school will examine what is good and what needs improvement.</p> |        |

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| <p><b>4.</b></p> | <p><b>Pupil Survey – Mr Leeming</b></p> <p>Each year, Year 3 upwards completes a Pupil Survey online. For Years 1 and 2, teachers will ask pupils for the answers and these go to Mr Leeming. The survey will go out after half-term break. Next year, there will be a survey about healthy living, questions will be included on areas such as exercise and fitness.</p>  |                       |
| <p><b>5.</b></p> | <p><b>Junior Road Safety Officers Update</b></p> <p>Nasir explained that his group has been learning a great deal about road safety. As a result of his involvement, he is a lot more interested in the topic than he was before. The Junior Road Safety Officers help ensure the roads outside the school are safe and pick up litter that has been dropped. They let an adult know if a car is parked on double yellow lines.</p>  |                       |
| <p><b>6.</b></p> | <p><b>Q1. How are the Toilets? - Hanu</b></p> <p>Layan commented that children do not flush them and they can be disgusting.</p> <p>Laiyla said that children throw tissues around.</p> <p>Emilia said that sometimes there is no soap, or the soap does not work.</p> <p>Ruben has said that there can sometimes be no toilet paper.</p> <p>Simon said that children block the toilets and throw tissue balls.</p> <p>Mr Leeming stated that the school is aware of these issues. Some children disrespect the toilets, e.g. by throwing wet tissue, and then Kevin has to scrape it off. A decision has been made to keep toilet paper outside the toilets.</p> <p>Mr Leeming asked Ms McEnroe to speak to Ms Frost about the Council members' comments.</p> | <p>Ms<br/>McEnroe</p> |
| <p><b>7.</b></p> | <p><b>Q2. How do the teachers treat you? - Hanu</b></p> <p>Members of the School Council commented that they are treated nicely and treated well and that teachers are good, friendly and kind.</p> <p>Louis said that sometimes his teacher was strict, but that this can be a good thing.</p> <p>Kladji said that he liked how he was treated because most of the time the class had fun as well as learning.</p> <p>Tianna said that she felt her teacher cared for her as an individual and took into account how she learns.</p>  |                       |

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|                  | <p>Abeer said that he felt his teacher tried to explain things as much as possible.</p> <p>Simon said he felt treated with dignity and respect, even if sometimes his teacher was a little pushy.</p> <p>Mr Leeming asked the members of the Council what they would do if a teacher was unfair.</p> <p>Bailey said he would talk to Mr Leeming.</p> <p>Louis said he would stay calm, not get angry and speak to his mum and dad.</p> <p>Kladji said he would stay calm and let Mr Leeming deal with it.</p> <p>Abeer said he would talk in private to the teacher, and not in a rude manner.</p> <p>Prisha said she would talk politely to the teacher, go to her parents, then go to Mr Leeming.</p>  |                                     |
| <p><b>8.</b></p> | <p><b>Q2. What do you think the standards of the school are like? - Hanu</b></p> <p>Tianna said that use of the BASICs Model, which was discussed in PSHE and the uniform show that the school is of a high standard.</p> <p>Simon said that the uniform coat is £25.00, which may be too expensive for some people.</p> <p>Mr Leeming said that, up until now, the school uniform has been sold by the school office. The school has had to spend a lot of money to buy and store the uniform and the school cannot afford to hold money in the stock any more. Close to the school, there is a uniform shop which will now stock Melcombe uniform, but prices will go up. The school did not make a profit on the uniform, but the shop will have to. The shop will be open from Mondays to Saturdays.</p> <p>Tianna said that the shop would need to be well stocked so that families travelling a long way would not be disappointed.</p> <p>Louis said that he and lots of other pupils like the school coat.</p> <p>Ruben said that, when pupils have finished with their school coat, perhaps they could be reused.</p> | <p>June to note for Mr Leeming.</p> |
| <p><b>9.</b></p> | <p><b>Q3. How does the teaching affect your learning? – Hanu</b></p> <p>Bailey said he learns skills and how to use them through the modelling.</p> <p>Louis said that he thinks that doing other activities besides the teacher doing modelling is good.</p>  |                                     |

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|                   | <p>Abeer said that it was good to have Mr Leeming come to his class to talk about his own experience in South Africa as the children learned a lot.</p> <p>Tianna said she had been struggling with multiplication with the decimal point and had been shown a way to get round this by her brilliant maths teacher!</p> <p>Prisha said, if you were confused, it was good for teachers to go over things with you.</p> <p>Simon said that sometimes the modelling talks too long and then lessons can cut into break time, but generally the teaching was good.</p> <p>Layan said that when lessons are too long, he can forget the skill.</p> <p>Mr Leeming said that all teachers try to do something interesting to start a topic.</p> <p>Mr Leeming said that when you go on a visit or someone comes to talk to you about their experience, this is called 'first hand experience'.</p> <p>Mr Leeming said that he and Ms Campbell observe teaching and work out how long a lesson takes to teach and how long to give children to do the work. This can be a difficult thing to do.</p> |  |
| <p><b>10.</b></p> | <p><b>Is there any bullying? – Hanu</b></p> <p>Tianna said there was not, but that sometimes children take photos on their phones and show others.</p> <p>Prisha said that it is rare and, when it does happen, teachers sort it out.</p> <p>Mr Leeming explained that if he and Tianna fought today and tomorrow they were friends, this would not be bullying. Bullying is happening when something is said or done over and over again.</p> <p>Layan said she was bullied for the whole of September and October. A boy was rude to her and said rude words. He has been in reflection and the bullying has stopped.</p> <p>Kladji said he was bullied by some older children, but he stayed calm and told the teacher.</p> <p>Layan said that her sister was bullied every day and their mum said they would leave the school if it kept happening.</p> <p>Tianna said, when she was bullied, she felt really down and all by herself.</p> <p>Simon said that, when he was bullied, people picked on him continuously. If</p>  |  |

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|                   | <p>you are bullied, tell an adult. You can tell Ms Campbell.</p> <p>Mr Leeming said that he can stop bullying, but only if he knows about it. If you are bullied, you can tell a teacher, Mr Leeming, Ms Campbell or Ms Hegazey. You can tell a mediator or you can go to the Pavilion at lunchtimes, where there will be a member of the SLT.</p> <p>Klajdi said you could also tell the Head Boy or Head Girl.</p> <p>Abeer said you can tell your parents.</p> <p>Laiyla said, if you are telling someone about it, you must tell them the details and why you are telling them.</p> <p>Mr Leeming agreed that the context was important.</p>  |  |
| <p><b>11.</b></p> | <p><b>Are the children happy? – Hanu</b></p> <p>Prisha said she thought the teachers taught very well, they have lots of fun and said she has lots of friends.</p> <p>Bailey said yes and no. He sees one or two children outside not playing and not joining in.</p> <p>Mr Leeming said he also saw this.</p> <p>Layan said that children can be unhappy if they feel confused outside. They can be confused, lonely and upset if their friends say they can't join in.</p> <p>Mr Leeming asked what children should do if this happens.</p> <p>Children agreed they should tell an adult and/or find other friends.</p> <p>Autumn said that in maths, children are joyful (as ever!), in literacy, some in the class are reluctant at the beginning, then they find they don't want to stop.</p> <p>Emily said children are largely happy, but some don't get along in the playground.</p> <p>Klajdi said some children don't get included. He wants to help and make people happy.</p> <p>Louis said that he was happy that Years 5 and 6 are now in the North Playground and 3 and 4 are in the South Playground. He likes the school's thinking on this as some Year 5 and 6 children bully Year 3 children.</p> <p>Mr Leeming explained that the classes were separated and lunchtimes changed so that the playgrounds were less crowded and everyone had more space to run around.</p> <p>Tianna said that it is good that children with packed lunch are not called</p> |  |

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|                   | <p>first. It means they can stay with their friends.</p>   |  |
| <p><b>12.</b></p> | <p><b>How much do you like School Dinners?</b></p> <p>Prisha said they are nice sometimes, but sometimes not great.</p> <p>Layan said the pizza can have too much bread or too much tomato. Also, pasta is sometimes not cooked enough or there is too much cheese.</p> <p><i>Ruben was excused from the remainder of the meeting.</i></p> <p>Emily said that lunch can be good, but once the kitchen ran out of food and served chips and cheese and this was unacceptable.</p> <p>Mr Leeming said that, every Monday, he meets with Ms Thomas, Dianne and Robbie. Ms Thomas explains what the meals were and how children liked them. She can tell this from the amount of waste. Every half-term, there is a meeting with Eden Catering, to go through the menu and items are taken off. The school does listen.</p> <p>The school complained to the borough when raw meat and raw tuna was found. The school complains when the children complain.</p> <p>Prisha said she does not eat beef and is just given cheese. There is not much variety.</p> <p>Emilia said sometimes the food can be too spicy.</p> <p>Klajdi said that last year, when there was no halal food, he had to have vegetarian food.</p> <p>Abeer said that when burgers ran out, he was given something so spicy that he could not eat it.</p> <p>Tianna said that there was not a good selection of food at breakfast club and the toast is really cold. Also, she does not like porridge.</p> <p>Laiyla said that, today, the pasta at lunchtime was mushy and bland.</p> <p>Mr Leeming says that he knows there are problems with the food and that it is not possible to make everyone happy, but the school does complain. He said running out of food is unacceptable. The menu comes from the government via Eden Catering. Healthy options are used because one third of primary school children are bigger than they should be. Melcombe is one of the schools in the borough with the most overweight children, so children have two hours of P.E.</p> <p>Hanu said that the food can be greasy and she has found hairs in it.</p> <p>Mr Leeming said this was unacceptable.</p> |  |

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| <p><b>13.</b></p> | <p><b>Mr Leeming introduced Mr Wilkinson</b></p> <p>Mr Wilkinson explained that he used to be a teacher and a head teacher, he has lectured in education, been an Ofsted Inspector and been in education all his life. He visits a lot of schools and rates Melcombe as one of the best schools.</p> <p>Mr Wilkinson agreed that there should be improvements to the toilets and the food. He said that some schools had very good food and that adults could visit other schools to have a look.</p> <p>Mr Wilkinson stated that the standards that the school has achieved in learning and progress are excellent.</p> <p>Mr Wilkinson said that he could think of one thing that should be improved and asked children to guess what it was.</p> <p>Mr Wilkinson agreed that Bailey's suggestion of 'presentation' was important, but not the answer he was looking for.</p> <p>Bailey guessed 'going to school'.</p> <p>Mr Wilkinson said that the area Melcombe could do better on was 'Attendance and Punctuality'.</p> |  |
| <p><b>14.</b></p> | <p><b>Close of Meeting</b></p> <p>Hanu thanked all for attending the meeting.</p> <p>Mr Leeming stated that Bailey will chair the next meeting.</p> <p>Mr Wilkinson asked how what had been said would be fed back.</p> <p>Mr Leeming said the school will look at a process for this.</p> <p>Ms Campbell stated that assemblies would be a good forum for this.</p>  |  |