

# School Council Minutes

## Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May

### 2022



Meeting commenced: 3.20pm

Present: Mr Holt

46 students attended the meeting:

Year 7 – 14

Year 8 – 12

Year 9 – 9

Year 10 – 8

Year 11 - 2

Year 12 - 1

#### 1. Summer Uniform

Following the item on general school uniform matters which was discussed at the last meeting (1/2/22), several members of the Executive Committee had done some research into possible changes to the school uniform during the summer months.

The last School Council meeting found that a large proportion of students (41 out of 51 students) like our current uniform and are proud of it, but would also welcome the chance to wear lighter clothes during the summer term

Students explained the rationale behind the idea of a summer uniform:

- Climate change means we are experiencing more regular and longer periods of extreme heat
- It can be very uncomfortable to wear the current uniform on the warmest days and this inhibits concentration and learning in a building not designed for hot weather
- Many modern workplaces have changed their approach to dress from formal to smart-casual over the past decade or so

Students presented a series of images from other schools who have adopted a summer uniform. The most popular options were to replace the blazer and tie with a polo shirt emblazoned with the school badge. Students were adamant that this should be navy blue and not white. Girls in particular do not like the idea of wearing a cotton blouse without a jumper or blazer as it leaves them feeling self-conscious. Many stated that they do not currently remove their blazer in hot weather for this reason.

The majority of boys wish to have the option to wear tailored shorts instead of long trousers. Girls would like the option to buy a tailored skirt similar to the one used during PE. Most students feel like the option to wear a sun hat of some sort is a sensible one and many stated that they would like the opportunity to do so.

## 2. WellyFest

Ideas and suggestions for the next WellyFest were forthcoming. It is worth noting that students value this day and see it as a genuine reward and community event. Two Y11 students present bemoaned the fact that they would not be in school following their exams and asked if they could attend, and several Y7 students stated that they had been looking forward to the event since Year 5!

Suggestions for this year included:

- Burger vans / street-food carts
- A water-pistol zone
- A second 'wipe-out' inflatable to reduce queues
- Open classrooms to avoid the heat (last three events have been very warm)
- Cinema in the Adshead Hall on our new bleacher seating
- Popcorn for sale (see cinema above)
- Trampolines
- Archery
- Slushies and snow-cones
- Raffle with prizes
- Giant boxing glove ring(!)

## 3. Open discussion

Year 10 students led open discussions with younger students with a view to finding out what should be discussed at forthcoming meetings. These topics will be brought to the Executive meetings ahead of the next full meeting which will be held on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> June.

Topics included, but were not exclusive to:

- Gender neutrality at Wellington (language, toilets, PE kit etc.)
- Equal opportunities for all year groups regarding trips & visits and extra-curricular rewards like discos

Meeting closed at 4.10pm