

Student Council Meeting – 18th May, 2021

School Canteen Provision – Tony Lane, Regional Manager of Caterlink /

Bullying - Miss K Yarnold

Mr McNaughton gave a summary of Covid effect on catering in school. Implications of shortened lunch hour, staffing challenges etc.

Discussions were to be based around what is working well, and what are the issues on provision and improvements you would like to see.

Students – Why isn't the food labelled as sometimes you can't find out what food is what?

TL – As from 1st October everything pre-packaged will be labelled due to Natasha's Law, in future we will write what everything is on the glass cabinet.

Students asked about the plastic and waste and the fact individual items were wrapped.

TL – The pots that have fruit or jelly will be reusable as from September and won't have lids on, some of the drinks have changed already and we will introduce tetra packs. Individual items were wrapped for Covid but they will start to be removed now.

Students asked why fish and chip Friday, and Tuesday Taco is not happening? Also why there are no themed days from different Countries?

TL – There are no reasons this should have changed but because of Covid the business shrunk to grab and go. We will ensure these things return.

Students – It's too expensive, unhygienic, and doesn't taste good. Some incorrect items and charges are applied. Unhygienic as the sausage rolls stick and have gunk on bottom and people pick up items and put it down again.

TL – We are checked for health and safety and the food should not be touched if you don't want it or we have to throw it away. Sometimes the item might not be on the till but the same price as something else so that item will be used. Challenge staff and request a print off if you think they have overcharged you, don't be scared to speak to kitchen staff.

Students asked about product changes but price increases for paninis and the meal deal of pizza and jelly is more expensive than buying it separately.

TL – If products change there may be different price speak to manager and the meal deal should include a drink which I will speak to the manager about that today.

Students asked why there were not more vegan and vegetarian options and that there should be prices on display. They queried the cost compared to ASDA and asked if instead of 13p sachets of tomato sauce squeeze bottles for free could be provided. TL agreed.

Students - How often do you check the quality of food?

TL - Food is checked every day and by me when I come to the school.

Students asked if more locally grown food could be provided and TL said he could use our home-grown food if we grew anything and could look at local suppliers.

Students queried the £5 limit especially for 6th formers and the fact that not everything i.e. hot drinks were accessible to all year groups which is due to Covid bubbles and the school limit.

There were a number of issues with the quantity of food and the price of food.

TL - The meal deal price is set at £2.15 and has been for 3 years. If there are any requests for meal deal options please speak to the manager.

Mr McNaughton ended the discussion and said that towards the end of the summer term he will take more feedback from the student council.

Bullying

Miss Yarnold explained she had asked students across all year groups about all issues related to bullying and she had some results but was keen to get the school council's input.

Students - Sometimes you get bullied at school but when you go home then the bullying carries on outside of school.

KYD - Cyber bullying should be reported to school but it is difficult to deal with for us if it is outside of school. You can block people or groups on social media.

Students - Bullying is long term

KYD - Because you report it and nothing gets done but if bullying doesn't stop you need to keep reporting it every time. We record each incident and escalate consequences for bullies. Not always the same outcome as each scenario is different.

Students - Sometimes it's self-defence. People get bullied and if they defend themselves they also get punished. Not many people want to report it to the nest as they are called snitches.

KYD- I understand self-defence but we do collect witness statements and sometimes it's necessary for the individual to also get punished. We need to unpick what has happened in the bigger picture. Would you prefer to email me rather than report to the nest? Or have a drop box where you report the

incident, or complete an online form? Staff will be confidential. Forms can be completed by witnesses not just victim.

There followed a discussion regarding the online forms and that they would be filtered by Miss Yarnold and the Nest to pick up on any similar reports and any racist or homophobic comments.

Student's asked if they could have more lessons about types of bullying and the outcomes of bullying but Miss Yarnold explained that individual outcomes are confidential but that students can have a step by step explanation of what happens when anything is reported. More CCTV cameras were suggested and camera's on school transport.

Miss Yarnold requested that student's let her know if they have any other ideas on reporting bullying.