

From: JShepley [mailto:JShepley@dphs-tkat.org]
Sent: 19 May 2015 14:56
To: Diane Butler
Subject: Feedback

Hi Di,

Here is the questionnaire.

Thanks,
John

EFYC questionnaire

The two ambassadors have had significant experience to enhance their profile.

Students have been given the opportunity to reflect on modern world issues such as democracy and drugs.

They have not been as prominent as I hoped. I have had to chase them to do things. This may be because they are in year 11 and have their GCSEs. In future, it may be better to elect students from younger year groups.

It is a good opportunity for our students to get involved. It would be better if there were more opportunities for a wider range of students to get involved.

Yes -- we use it as part of our delivery of British values.

It did amongst the students that attended, however this hasn't drip fed across the school.

It gives students the chance to get involved in a democratic process.

Unknown

No additional comments

From: Bell, N [mailto:NBell@westhatch.essex.sch.uk]
Sent: 20 May 2015 10:07
To: Louis Walton
Subject: RE: Review of Epping Forest Youth Council

Please see our responses to the questionnaire

Responses to the questionnaire - Epping Forest Youth Council

1. The opportunities which have involved the students being in the council chamber seeing democracy in action has been very useful. The students have enjoyed being part of the youth conferences and the debating with local MP's and other agencies.
2. Our Youth councillors have been very difficult to engage and have done very little within the school community. Despite constant reminders and attempts to engage this have done very little with the Student Voice or whole school body.
3. Prior to this year we have only had one Youth Councillor and she didn't stay at the school the whole year. She did lead a couple of assemblies and helped to arrange a Student Voice election
4. We Have a good relationship between the PSHE coordinator and Epping where we have Dropdown days such as the reality roadshow which contributes to the schools citizenship agenda
5. I feel the Youth Conference is good at engaging a small number of the students involved in the day's events. However, without the support of the Youth Councillors within school there is little follow up from the conference.
6. This is very dependent on the experience and work of the councillors and I am sad to say this year there has been little engagement from these individuals.
7. We did a volunteering project last year which was brilliant for the young people involved they showed their ability to help others and work hard for those who needed their help. They have since volunteered within school and have joined organisations which doing volunteering projects in their own time. This is a valuable life skill and I feel it has been brilliant for those students involved. I would like to have had more opportunity to arrange a trip this year. Sadly my timetable only includes one hour to do all the Student Voice work and this is simply not enough.

Many Thanks

Nick

Questionnaire for Epping Forest Schools – Your views about Epping Forest Youth Council

<p>What do you think have been the benefits for the young people from your school that have been involved in the Epping Forest Youth Council?</p>	<p>We have taken our Yr11's to the conference and found them excellent opportunities for discussion. Delegates have grown in confidence and they have gained valuable insight into the working of local government/politics.</p>
<p>How effectively do you feel your school's two currently elected Youth Councillors engage with their peers and all strands of your school community? (For example, have they delivered assemblies to promote initiatives such as their anti-bullying work, or youth volunteering wallets?)</p>	<p>This is something we could do more frequently. Our delegates have not really fed back to the rest of the pupils.</p>
<p>Your school has supported the Epping Forest Youth Council since 2009. How effective do you feel the work of your school's previous Youth Councillors has been overall?</p>	<p>Some have been more engaged than others but Amalise Amitege and Gabriella Ernst were extremely good. The experience has helped shape their career plans I think.</p>
<p>Does the school's working relationship with the Epping Forest Youth Council contribute towards your citizenship agenda and, if so, how?</p>	<p>Yes : our PSHE courses draw on some of the work the EFDC does.</p>
<p>Do you feel that your school's participation in Youth Council events, such as the Youth Conference held in Oct 2014, has helped to raise awareness of the local democracy agenda amongst your pupils?</p>	<p>This has been one of the best things we have participated in. Quite a few Yr11's choose to take Government & Politics, partly due to the exposure this gives them.</p>
<p>What value do you feel there is to your school in participating in the bi-annual Epping Forest Youth Council elections?</p>	<p>The experience of taking part in the whole electoral process is very valuable. It also gives our pupils a sense of place within the borough.</p>
<p>Over the past two years, have pupils from your school participated in the annual volunteering days that the Council offers? If so, what benefits have you seen from your schools' involvement in these?</p>	<p>NO</p>
<p>Would you like to add any further comments?</p>	<p>Would it, perhaps, be possible to widen the remit of the conference so that the issues discussed were more varied? Perhaps include something on the working of the chamber? Thank you for involving us and our pupils</p>

CHIGWENK

Questionnaire for Epping Forest Schools – Your views about Epping Forest Youth Council

<p>What do you think have been the benefits for the young people from your school that have been involved in the Epping Forest Youth Council?</p>	<p>Development of leadership skills, experience with public speaking and an excellent opportunity to be involved in their community.</p>
<p>How effectively do you feel your school's two currently elected Youth Councillors engage with their peers and all strands of your school community? (For example, have they delivered assemblies to promote initiatives such as their anti-bullying work, or youth volunteering wallets?)</p>	<p>They have been involved in the delivery of assemblies, for both anti-bullying and youth volunteering. They have ensured that the EFYC suggestion box is used and monitored and where appropriate, have shared feedback.</p>
<p>Your school has supported the Epping Forest Youth Council since 2009. How effective do you feel the work of your school's previous Youth Councillors has been overall?</p>	<p>We have had outstanding previous Youth Councillors, including students that have gone on to remain involved in politics. Every Youth Councillor has taken their role and responsibility seriously, however we should mention and praise Jaymey McIvor for his above and beyond work and efforts.</p>
<p>Does the school's working relationship with the Epping Forest Youth Council contribute towards your citizenship agenda and, if so, how?</p>	<p>Yes, when Youth Councillors share the 'major issues' we try to link this in with Citizenship, however this could be better.</p>
<p>Do you feel that your school's participation in Youth Council events, such as the Youth Conference held in Oct 2014, has helped to raise awareness of the local democracy agenda amongst your pupils?</p>	<p>Definitely. We recently held a mock general election and members of the Youth Council were instrumental in delivering speeches and 'leading' their parties.</p>
<p>What value do you feel there is to your school in participating in the bi-annual Epping Forest Youth Council elections?</p>	<p>It gives young people the opportunity to be involved and have their voice heard. It teaches them very important life skills and contributes to their personal development.</p>
<p>Over the past two years, have pupils from your school participated in the annual volunteering days that the Council offers? If so, what benefits have you seen from your schools' involvement in these?</p>	<p>Some of our Youth Councillors have participated. We always encourage them to share their experiences and feedback to school council and other groups of students.</p>
<p>Would you like to add any further comments?</p>	

Questionnaire for Epping Forest Schools – Your views about Epping Forest Youth Council

<p>What do you think have been the benefits for the young people from your school that have been involved in the Epping Forest Youth Council?</p>	<p>They have used the opportunities given to them by the council to grow personally & have taken the representation of our school voice on a wider platform very seriously.</p>
<p>How effectively do you feel your school's two currently elected Youth Councillors engage with their peers and all strands of your school community? (For example, have they delivered assemblies to promote initiatives such as their anti-bullying work, or youth volunteering wallets?)</p>	<p>Our councillors report back to our school council have given presentations in assemblies. The role of EFYC is known by all members of the school community.</p>
<p>Your school has supported the Epping Forest Youth Council since 2009. How effective do you feel the work of your school's previous Youth Councillors has been overall?</p>	<p>Some of our early representatives have recently finished degrees at University and have reflected how the council encouraged their public speaking & overall confidence.</p>
<p>Does the school's working relationship with the Epping Forest Youth Council contribute towards your citizenship agenda and, if so, how?</p>	<p>We really enjoy the links we have built with the Youth Council & the opportunity to visit the council as part of their democracy days. This is part of our PASCCE programme.</p>
<p>Do you feel that your school's participation in Youth Council events, such as the Youth Conference held in Oct 2014, has helped to raise awareness of the local democracy agenda amongst your pupils?</p>	<p>Yes. Any opportunities for engagement are valuable and help to support wider participation levels for teenage pupils in understanding their role in the democratic process.</p>
<p>What value do you feel there is to your school in participating in the bi-annual Epping Forest Youth Council elections?</p>	<p>This opportunity allows us to go through the whole electoral discussion & process internally drawing from it a wide variety of learning objectives.</p>
<p>Over the past two years, have pupils from your school participated in the annual volunteering days that the Council offers? If so, what benefits have you seen from your schools' involvement in these?</p>	<p>Our pupils have grown in confidence & are learning how important it is to be pro-active citizens for life.</p>
<p>Would you like to add any further comments?</p>	<p>We have found our engagement with Diane & the team very positive and feel that this initiative needs to be sustained so that young people can actively be part of the decision making agenda in the areas in which they live.</p>

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Ms D Butler
Youth Engagement Officer
Epping Forest District Council
25 Hemnall Street
Epping
Essex
CM16 4LU

13th May 2015

Dear Diane

Epping Forest Youth Council Review

We have highly valued the links which we have had through the Youth Council since its inception.

Our pupils have enjoyed a wider engagement with the democratic process through the civic visits programme and our councillors have grown in confidence and enjoyed their engagement with other local teenage representatives.

Two of our former pupils who acted as councillors several years ago are now involved in Law school studies following a law degree and psychology degree and both feel that their early youth council work helped to inform their wider lives.

Diane Butler and her team have ceaselessly worked to promote the voice of young people locally and have always been responsive to the needs of schools.

Maintaining a Youth Council in the area is vital if we are to encourage young people to take part in the democratic process.

Yours sincerely

Gillian Haddon
Head Teacher

RVAHS RODING VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

Questionnaire for Epping Forest Schools – Your views about Epping Forest Youth Council

<p>What do you think have been the benefits for the young people from your school that have been involved in the Epping Forest Youth Council?</p>	<p>It has given them an excellent opportunity to get involved in the local community. They have gained an insight into local political & community issues, which are shared with the school community.</p>
<p>How effectively do you feel your school's two currently elected Youth Councillors engage with their peers and all strands of your school community? (For example, have they delivered assemblies to promote initiatives such as their anti-bullying work, or youth volunteering wallets?)</p>	<p>They have been excellent in their commitment and attitude towards their roles. They have re-launched our school council as they see the bigger picture & wider aspects of such as things. They have delivered a number of assemblies and are an absolute asset to the youth council & our school.</p>
<p>Your school has supported the Epping Forest Youth Council since 2009. How effective do you feel the work of your school's previous Youth Councillors has been overall?</p>	<p>The work since 2009 has been invaluable. They have opened up the eyes of the school in terms of issues in the local community & it is a very important role that I hope continues for many years to come.</p>
<p>Does the school's working relationship with the Epping Forest Youth Council contribute towards your citizenship agenda and, if so, how?</p>	<p>Yes, in terms of political aspects, campaigns, issues such as anti-bullying.</p>
<p>Do you feel that your school's participation in Youth Council events, such as the Youth Conference held in Oct 2014, has helped to raise awareness of the local democracy agenda amongst your pupils?</p>	<p>Our students who attended to conference, benefited greatly from attending; it's a shame more students couldn't attend. It raised awareness of a range of issues and made them think about things at a greater scale.</p>
<p>What value do you feel there is to your school in participating in the bi-annual Epping Forest Youth Council elections?</p>	<p>Great value; we really do hope that this continues particularly when there is so much negative in the press about youth; it is fantastic that the youth are involved in the</p>
<p>Over the past two years, have pupils from your school participated in the annual volunteering days that the Council offers? If so, what benefits have you seen from your schools' involvement in these?</p>	<p>Yes. Volunteering is so important to developing the skills of a young person, building their confidence & providing avenues for future opportunities.</p>
<p>Would you like to add any further comments?</p>	<p>We have and will always support the Epping Forest Youth Council as it works alongside what we do & builds the young people to look at the community in a whole different way. It is well organised & well managed.</p>

Questionnaire for Epping Forest Schools – Your views about Epping Forest Youth Council

<p>What do you think have been the benefits for the young people from your school that have been involved in the Epping Forest Youth Council?</p>	<p>They have gained enjoyment, confidence and an understanding of how decision are made. They also have a great appreciation of the wider community and how to represent the views of others.</p>
<p>How effectively do you feel your school's two currently elected Youth Councillors engage with their peers and all strands of your school community? (For example, have they delivered assemblies to promote initiatives such as their anti-bullying work, or youth volunteering wallets?)</p>	<p>Our councillors have spoken at assemblies e.g. next week they speak to Year 9 about volunteering. They take opportunities to talk to others informally (including on line) and have met with School Council. These opportunities allow the councillors to represent their peers accurately and concisely.</p>
<p>Your school has supported the Epping Forest Youth Council since 2009. How effective do you feel the work of your school's previous Youth Councillors has been overall?</p>	<p>Difficult to quantify the effectiveness but the councillors' friends, peer group and year group will be aware of them & be aware of the Council and the councillors' work.</p>
<p>Does the school's working relationship with the Epping Forest Youth Council contribute towards your citizenship agenda and, if so, how?</p>	<p>... To a small extent - again it is effective & with councillors' friends, peer group & year group rather than as a whole.</p>
<p>Do you feel that your school's participation in Youth Council events, such as the Youth Conference held in Oct 2014, has helped to raise awareness of the local democracy agenda amongst your pupils?</p>	<p>The small number of students who attended the event were exposed to a range of ideas and opinions. This was good as a "one-off" exercise but we could/should have brought their ideas back into school. Nevertheless, very worthwhile.</p>
<p>What value do you feel there is to your school in participating in the bi-annual Epping Forest Youth Council elections?</p>	<p>This is a good thing - it raises awareness of the wider community and the process of representative democracy.</p>
<p>Over the past two years, have pupils from your school participated in the annual volunteering days that the Council offers? If so, what benefits have you seen from your schools' involvement in these?</p>	<p>Students have been involved but only in relatively small numbers. Those who took part enjoyed their time and are convinced of the importance of volunteering.</p>
<p>Would you like to add any further comments?</p>	<p>The challenge is for the EFYC to impact as widely as possible. We need good ideas, practical projects that council members initiate in their own schools and which link their school to the wider community. I do think that something would be lost if EFYC did not exist.</p>

Questionnaire for Epping Forest Schools – Your views about Epping Forest Youth Council

<p>What do you think have been the benefits for the young people from your school that have been involved in the Epping Forest Youth Council?</p>	<p>It has shown how democracy works and given an insight into political systems</p>
<p>How effectively do you feel your school's two currently elected Youth Councillors engage with their peers and all strands of your school community? (For example, have they delivered assemblies to promote initiatives such as their anti-bullying work, or youth volunteering wallets?)</p>	<p>One has been more active than the other. It is useful as one of them wish to pursue a career in politics.</p>
<p>Your school has supported the Epping Forest Youth Council since 2009. How effective do you feel the work of your school's previous Youth Councillors has been overall?</p>	<p>They need a higher profile as nobody is aware of their work</p>
<p>Does the school's working relationship with the Epping Forest Youth Council contribute towards your citizenship agenda and, if so, how?</p>	<p>We currently do not have a citizenship program.</p>
<p>Do you feel that your school's participation in Youth Council events, such as the Youth Conference held in Oct 2014, has helped to raise awareness of the local democracy agenda amongst your pupils?</p>	<p>Very vague - Students who attended had value but it wasn't disseminated down to others.</p>
<p>What value do you feel there is to your school in participating in the bi-annual Epping Forest Youth Council elections?</p>	<p>Again it shows how democratic system operated. Developed public speaking skills.</p>
<p>Over the past two years, have pupils from your school participated in the annual volunteering days that the Council offers? If so, what benefits have you seen from your schools' involvement in these?</p>	<p>No.</p>
<p>Would you like to add any further comments?</p>	<p>No.</p>

