



Topics	Discussion Notes
<u>Prayer:</u>	A member of the Newman Cabinet/Student Leadership Team will lead us in prayer.
<u>Attendance – 20 minutes (keep tight to timing – check the time when we begin – be prepared to move students on)</u>	<u>The Student Council met on 15.01.25 with Mr. Price, The Prime Minister of Cardinal Newman – Patrick Ruddy and The Head Girl – Erin Killworth to discuss issues surrounding attendance, the implementation of the attendance charter and the 1% club attendance drive incentive.</u>
	Y7 – Y7 students mentioned the difficulties of getting used to 'standards for making yourself look presentable'. Students made the point that they can sometimes struggle with how they look and this can adversely affect their attendance. To help combat this we spoke about the potential of 'Necessity boxes' to be kept with heads of year, Helena or tutors which students who struggle to get to school on time due to getting ready, or if they struggle financially with grooming and care products we could have boxes in school where students could find hairbrushes etc.
	Y7 – Y7 students mentioned the toll this has on their mental health and this idea of 'keeping up with everyone' can be mentally and physically exhausting. TO help combat this we spoke about the potential of having students and staff discuss these issues in assemblies. Is their potential for outside agencies or speakers to come in and work with students who need support with this?
	Y8 – Said that bullying or fear of being bullied was one of the main reasons why people avoided school which results in poor attendance. We spoke about how the 1% club could be utilised to support this as students see that those students who do the right things will be rewarded for their effort to come to school.
	Y8 – Explained that they were aware of everything that CNCS do to support those students who are being bullied, however they feel that more needs to be done and that attendance would be positively impacted by strategies to eliminate/ bring more awareness to bullying. Students spoke about the importance of the speakup email address and that students sometimes will avoid using this because they don't want to feel like they are being victimised. We spoke about the importance of raising awareness so that friends could speak up for students who don't feel like they can speak up for themselves. This could be delivered in assembly by the anti-bullying ambassadors.
	Y9 – Y9 spoke about the damaging effects that late night gaming and social media can have on the attendance of students at Newman. We discussed the potential to include stats and statistics to warn parents in the newsletters or through parentmail about how student 'tablet-time' ad 'online time' should be monitored and allowed in small doses. Student council members shared some of the ways that their parents do this (EG only allowing students to have their devices throughout the day. Taking them away an hour before bed and keeping them until students are ready in the morning).
	Y10 – Students spoke about the culture of assemblies, they said they were boring and that the message is lost in the uniformity and recycled style of PPT's that are used. Students in Y10 explained that they felt more engaged with assemblies when they are student led for example, the Newman Cabinet or when external agencies come in. Y10 students discussed that assemblies can often have very important messages regarding things like attendance but students often switch off if they are constantly repeated. Could we have fresh faces/members of student body deliver these PPTs
<u>Overall:</u>	<u>1% Club – Students knew about the 1% club and were excited about the potential of being out of lessons to enjoy the party. Students were very excited about the gold wristbands and were happy about the weekly raffles for the VIP tickets. Some students did voice concerns that not everyone would enjoy a party and we discussed looking into the possibility of having an introvert friendly room (movie time).</u>
	<u>Attendance Charter: not all students had heard about the charter. Newman Cabinet upset as they worked hard to deliver this. Need to get message out to staff that this should be spread to all staff and should be printed and put on the tutor boards in each tutor room. Staff should refer to the charted when discussing the importance of attendance to help with drive.</u>



Big Day In/out – 15 minutes – be prepared to move students on.

Year 7/8 – Never experienced a big day before, have heard about it through their siblings, family members or friends that are older at Newman. The students said they were very excited about the potential of this happening. Y7 were very interested in somewhere in town called 'Flip Out'. Go-Karting lots of other activities indoors. Y7 also said that a Big Day In would be fun, they have heard all about the waltzers and ice cream trucks and inflatables.

Year 9/10 – Student discussed the pricing of the events from last year. All students agreed the activities on offer were excellent, the staff that were chosen to support were amazing and made the day as fun as it could be. Students agreed that the pricing was more than fair (£25 to go to Drayton Manor, £15 Powerleague, £20 bowling/laser Quest)

Students were very happy with the big day in or out and believe the school always achieves something that student enjoy. Students have suggested a list of potentials. Students asked for this to go out in a forms to help get more ideas for what we could do for the Big Day Out. The ideas the students decided on:

- Ice Skating
- Drayton Manor/Alton Towers
- Powerleague
- Go Karting
- Flip Out
- Paintballing
- LaserQuest
- Bowling
- Cinema

AOB – 10 minutes

Students raised concerns about the policy regarding uniform. Students understanding of the policy is that if they get to Helena before 8:35 they do not receive a sanction. However, some students complained that they had been to Helena and it was shut earlier. (We explained Helena needs to shut earlier sometimes to support around school and they were understanding of this). Students also explained that sometimes they received a DT for borrowing uniform as a one off.

Students raised concerns about the price of food in the canteen. Newman Cabinet explained that this is outside of the schools control and that prices are not set by the school but by the external agency. We reminded students that there are places within school they should go if they are struggling for things like food – i.e TLC/Tutors/HbYs.

Y10 expressed that they would like pop ups to come out during the day if P6's are cancelled as their have been numerous times where P6 has been cancelled and they have not been informed and so cant tell parents.

Overall – educating school body of mental health issues, more trips throughout years, prefects to stand by doors using one way systems, refresh of floor painting to guide students what way to walk, boys toilets have cubicle doors taken off, toilet locks lacking a lock and are easy to unlock by a pen, year 7 hooks not working too, toilet roll dispensers not working, people looking into cubicles, changing of feminine hygiene bins.