

1 | SUMMER 2022

OX14 LP NEWS

A round up of partnership activity for schools in the OX14 Learning Partnership .



OVERVIEW:

- Academic Coaching Sessions
- Peer Support Lead students boost support in schools
- Shared Lectures
- Future plans
- Get in touch

The OX14 LP is a group of six state and independent schools working in partnership to raise educational aspirations across OX14 by providing opportunities for students and staff to be challenged, inspired and learn from and support each other.

Academic Coaching Sessions

Last term over 30 students from across the town took part in the OX14 Learning Partnership Academic Coaching programme. Coaching is a valuable and important tool in today's society that helps unlock an individual's potential and maximise performance through the coach/ coachee dialogue. Sixth form students attended training sessions where they were introduced to the GROW coaching model that provides a scaffold on which effective coaching conversations can be based. It provides structure to enable a conversation to progress towards clear actions and outcomes.

With the aims of getting staff and students from across the town to collaborate, build relationships and stronger self awareness, the programme has led to older students coaching each other as well as younger students on a personal goal. 15 younger students in Year 8 and above joined the coaches for 4 sessions where they worked on topics such as procrastination, keeping calm in exams and working to tight deadlines. Offering this support to each other and younger students from another school setting helped the coaches develop skills of teamwork, communication, listening and empathy.

Peer Support Lead Students boost support in schools

Sixth Form Students in each of the six schools have taken the role of Peer Support Lead very seriously. Students have attended training sessions throughout the year to support them in effective listening, empathy and counselling skills. They have used these skills to support younger students as part of a wider pastoral system in their schools. One teacher said it had complemented existing support processes wonderfully and has taken some pressure off school counselling services.

Students who would like to talk to a PSL can book a 1 to 1 session or find a time to chat at lunch or break times. The new cohort of PSLs met for a training session earlier this month.



Town Youth Space opens

Local charity, The Abingdon Bridge and the OX14 LP have set up a new youth space this year. Both groups have youth wellbeing at the heart of their ethos and were keen to collaborate on this town wide project. With funding from the OX14 LP these weekly sessions provide a space for young people to relax, play and meet new friends. Board games, table tennis, craft activities and a popular tuck shop make these sessions a

time for relaxation and fun. Students from all OX14 Learning partnership schools are invited to come to the sessions. The Abingdon Bridge is a wellbeing charity that provides expert support and guidance for young people in the local area. They were keen to set up this inclusive group as an opportunity to provide an early intervention opportunity for all young people in the town. Expert volunteers who specialise in working with young people help run the sessions and are there to talk to and provide support that may be needed. These sessions complement the work being done by our Mental Health and wellbeing coordinator, Natalie Hunt who has been getting into schools providing sessions for students, staff training and parent webinars. To get in touch please email: youthspace@theabingdonbridge.org.uk

natalie.hunt@abingdon.org.uk

Student voice

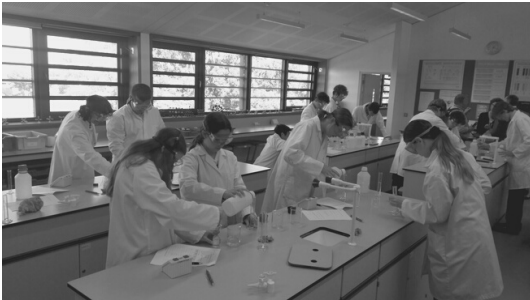
A new student voice committee has been set up with members from all six schools. Early meetings focussed on current issues such as diversity, equality and wellbeing and have been a forum for open discussion and collaboration. 'The partnership gives us the opportunity to look at things from a different perspective,

particularly when dealing with equality and diversity and social issues we as young people face'. - Student voice member. As the partnership develops we hope the committee will run events and forums for students across all schools. We look forward to meeting existing and new members again next year as the OX14 LP Student Forum.



Shared events and lectures

Staff and students have made the most of a diverse calendar of partnership events. These include an array of guest speaker lectures and collaborative discussion based workshops. The Youth forum and climate conference brought young people together to discuss lowering emissions and working towards a greener future. With local experts to advise, the students worked together to draw up a youth manifesto on items such as food waste and green transport. These were presented to an audience and local MP at the Climate Conference. Other activities such as a Chemistry competition and rugby training sessions have been well attended by students.



Students and parents have also been invited to a number of careers and University talks to support with options for the future. These have included 'Careers in Psychology', 'Applying for medicine' as well as 'Attending a US university'. A pilot Oxbridge programme has been run for students who are interested in applying in the future. Continued support with UCAS applications is central to the future of the partnership.

How to get in touch and find out more:



www.ox14lp.org.uk



or email: ox14lp@abingdon.org.uk



Follow us on twitter @OX14_LP

STUDENT IDEAS

DECARBONISING ABINGDON YOUTH FORUM

Transport



We need more affordable and accessible bus and cycle routes

Education

Climate change should be taught using a cross curricular approach from a young age



Energy

Our schools must ensure they are using heating and lighting efficiently with regular reminders.



We could set up a Green league between schools to add a competitive element to reducing our carbon footprint.

Engagement

Our schools need engaged Eco committees who work together to form a community of passionate members



Water

Water reduction campaign in schools - small changes can make a big difference.

Use providers who support reducing micro plastic pollution.



Biodiversity



We want our schools to make the most of their green spaces with a focus on sustainable materials

Waste

We can carry out a food waste audit to categorise and help reduce food waste



Promote recycling across our schools with competitions and school accreditation

Healthy Living

We need improved messaging around meat free meals, which could include fun activities such as plant based tasting sessions



We can work with suppliers and caterers on sustainable and cost conscious menus

We are excited to work together again next year. We hope to continue providing mental health and wellbeing support as well as further opportunities for teacher collaboration and CPD. We look forward to offering opportunities to a wider range of year groups including opportunities for sport and the arts.

We would like to thank everyone who has taken part in a partnership event or helped to run a programme. Bringing our schools together to collaborate and learn from each other is at the heart of what we do and couldn't happen without staff, students and parents getting involved.