

Using the Spiral of Inquiry to Understand School Connectedness

Headlands School - Wales



We are grateful to the Indigenous keepers of the traditional and unceded lands on which we live, learn, play and work: the Musqueam, Squamish, Tsleil-Waututh Peoples.



Check in

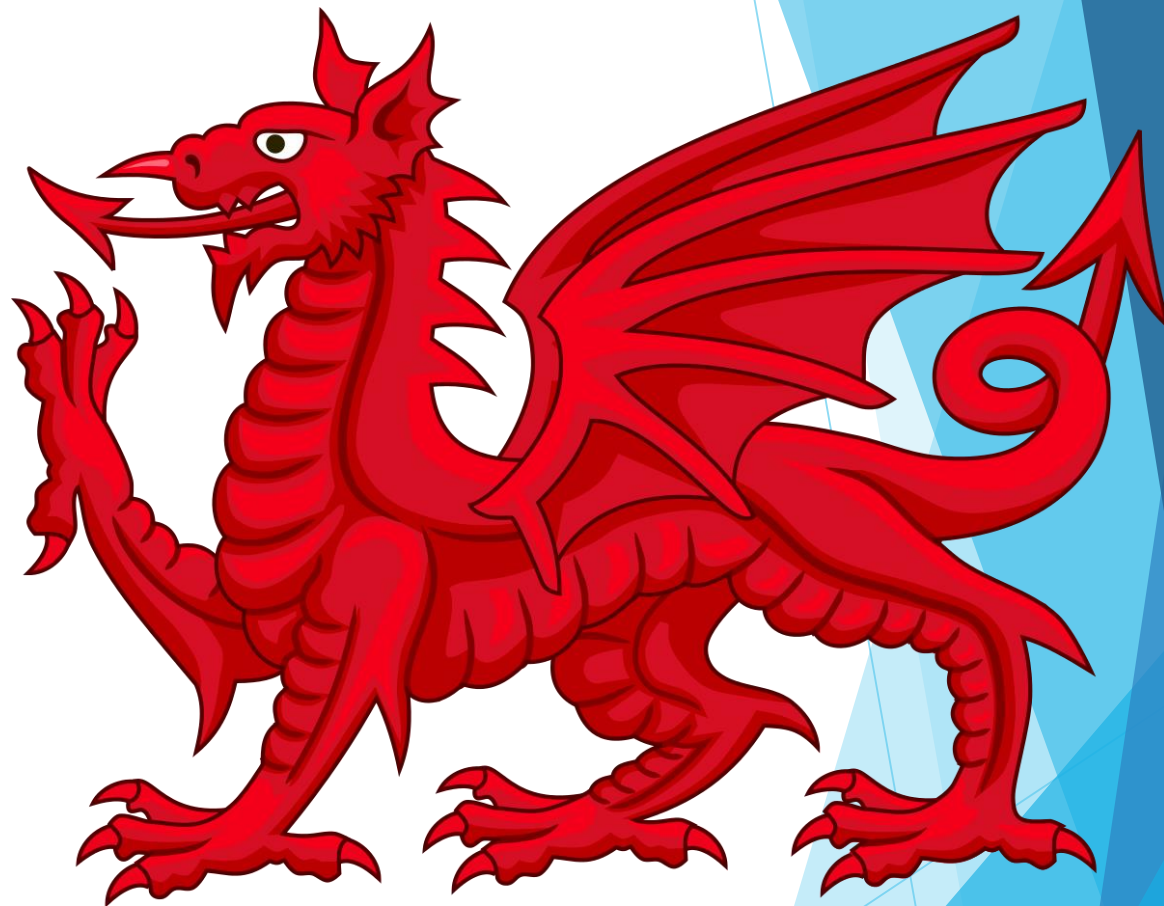
Sut I chi'n gwneud?

How are you today?

Sut wyt ti heddiw?

Da iawn diolch

Very well thank you



The Democratic Practice Team

AIMS:

'To increase democratic practices across the school community'

'To promote participation, community cohesion, and young people's rights at Headlands'

Sophie
PSE Teacher

Shân
Consultant

Abbie
Family Support Practitioner

Tom
Physical Education Teacher

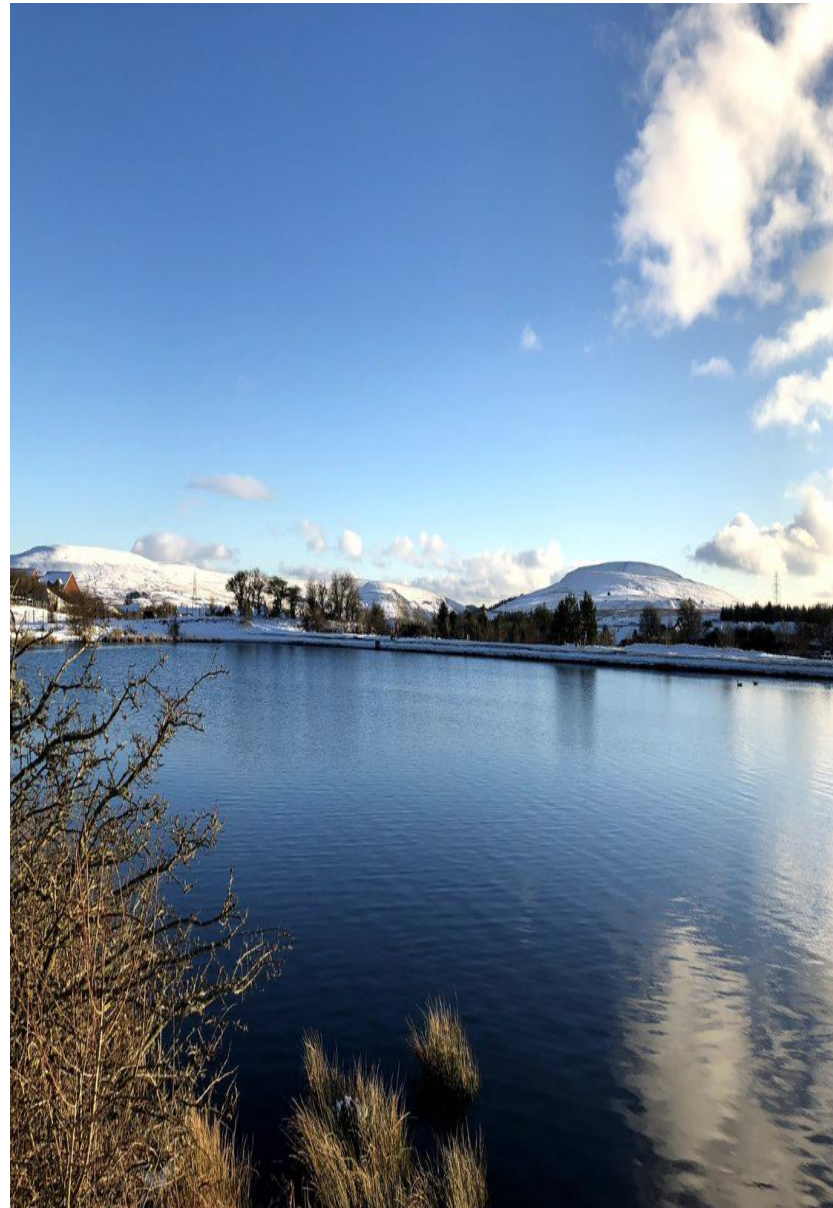
Kevin
Mathematics Teacher

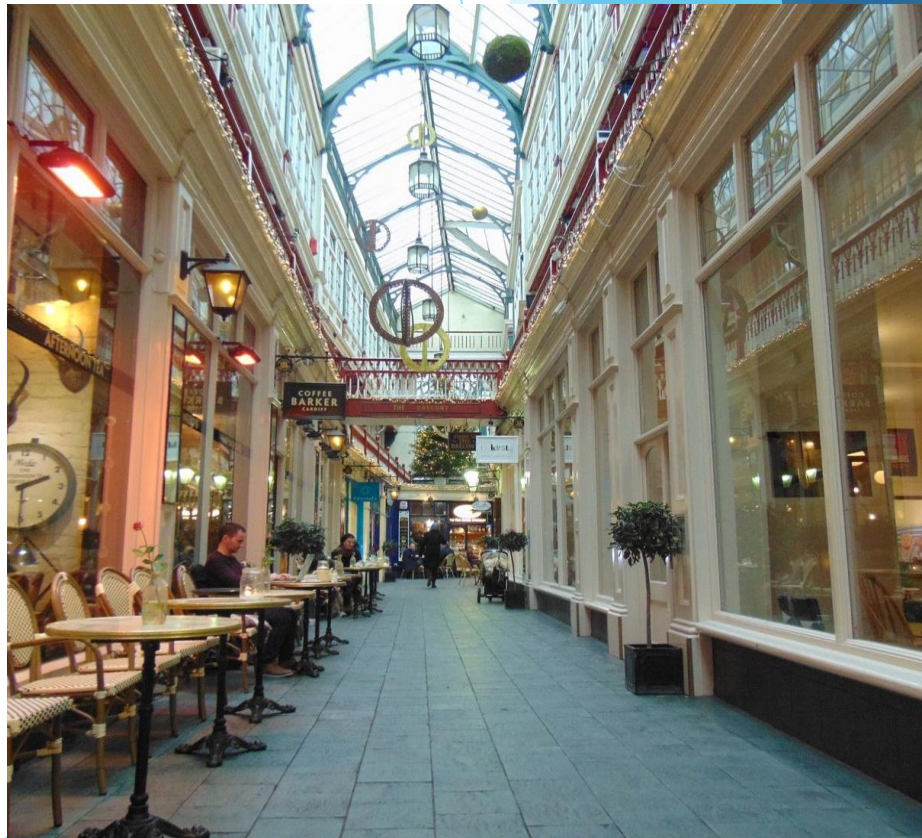
Cynefin

Welsh (noun) a place that feels like home.

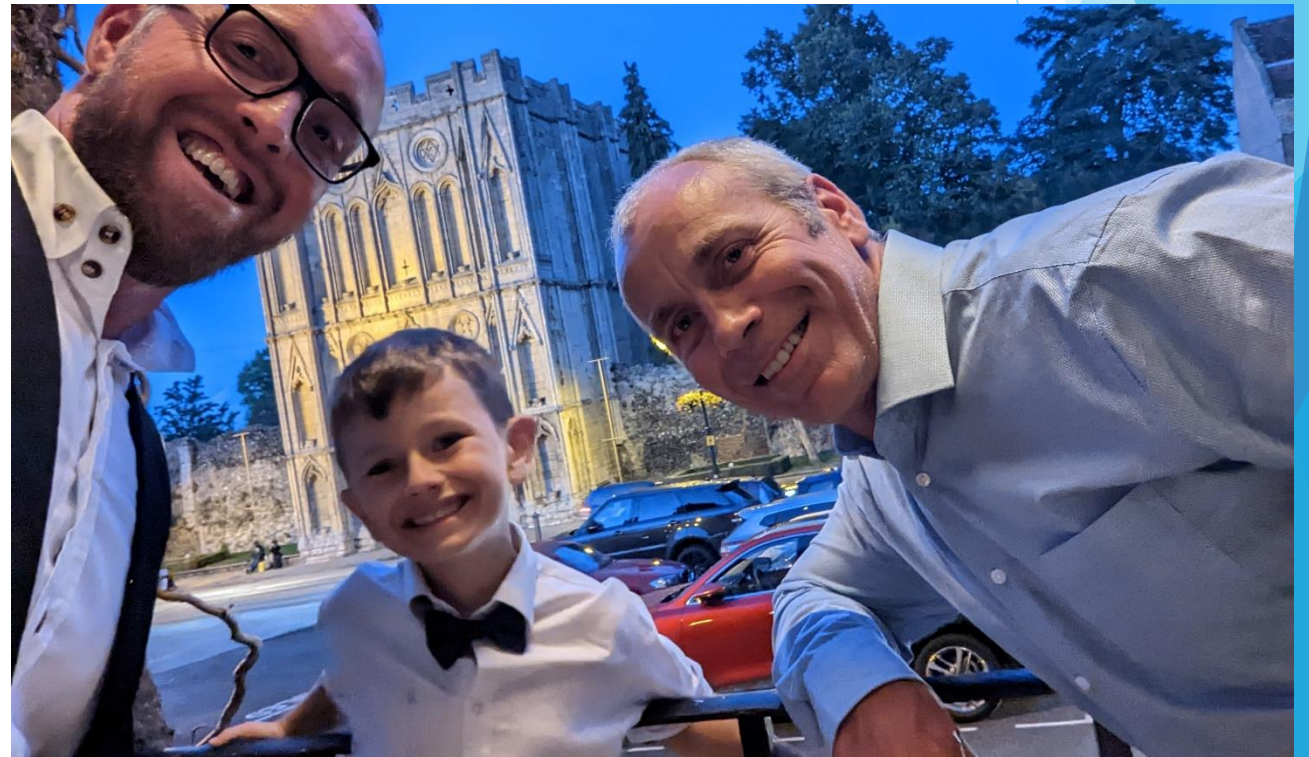


Hiraeth













We are
Headlands

Beth yw troellau ymholiad? / Why Spirals of Inquiry?

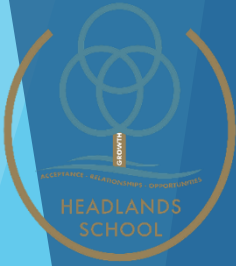


Cyfnod Sganio: Scanning Phase

Cyfnod Sganio: Scanning Phase

Five areas of interest for research were identified as key elements of our young people's experience of relationships, school connectedness, and well-being:

- *Belonging*
- *Opportunities*
- *Relationships*
- *Safety*
- *Community*



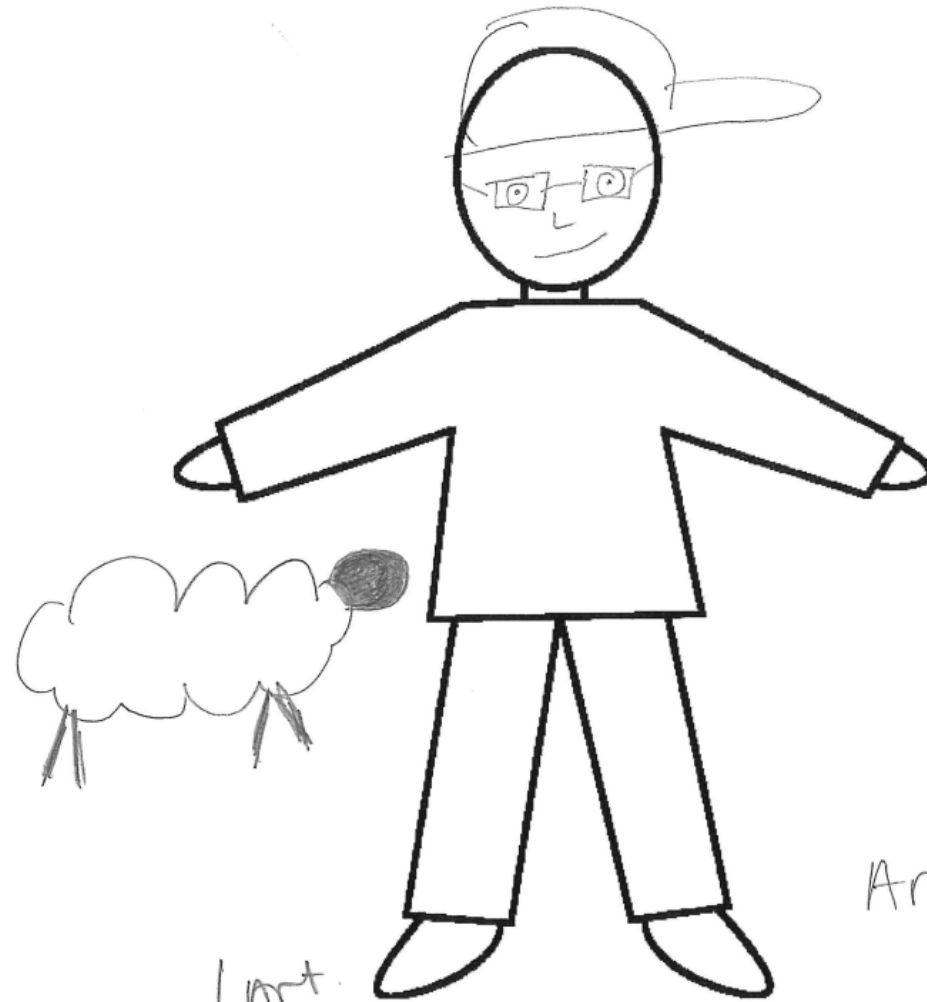
Research Activity: Creative Expression of a safe person

Draw or colour someone important to you at school

(This could be someone you are close to, someone you want to be close to, or someone you are having some difficulties with)

Andy

Helpful
calm
caring
similar interests
Like maths
Helps me.

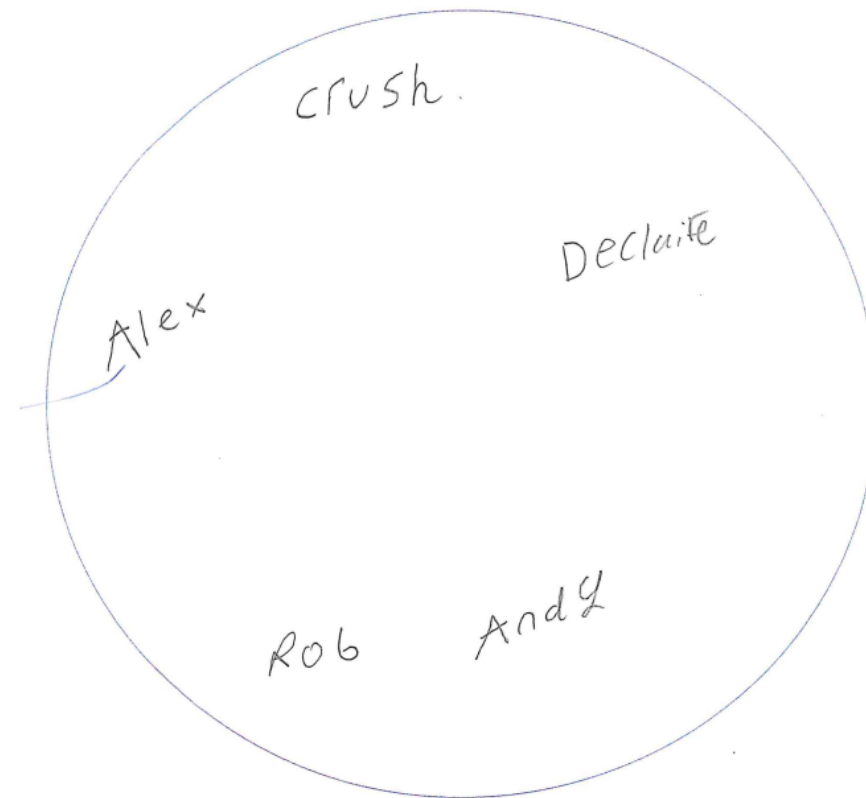
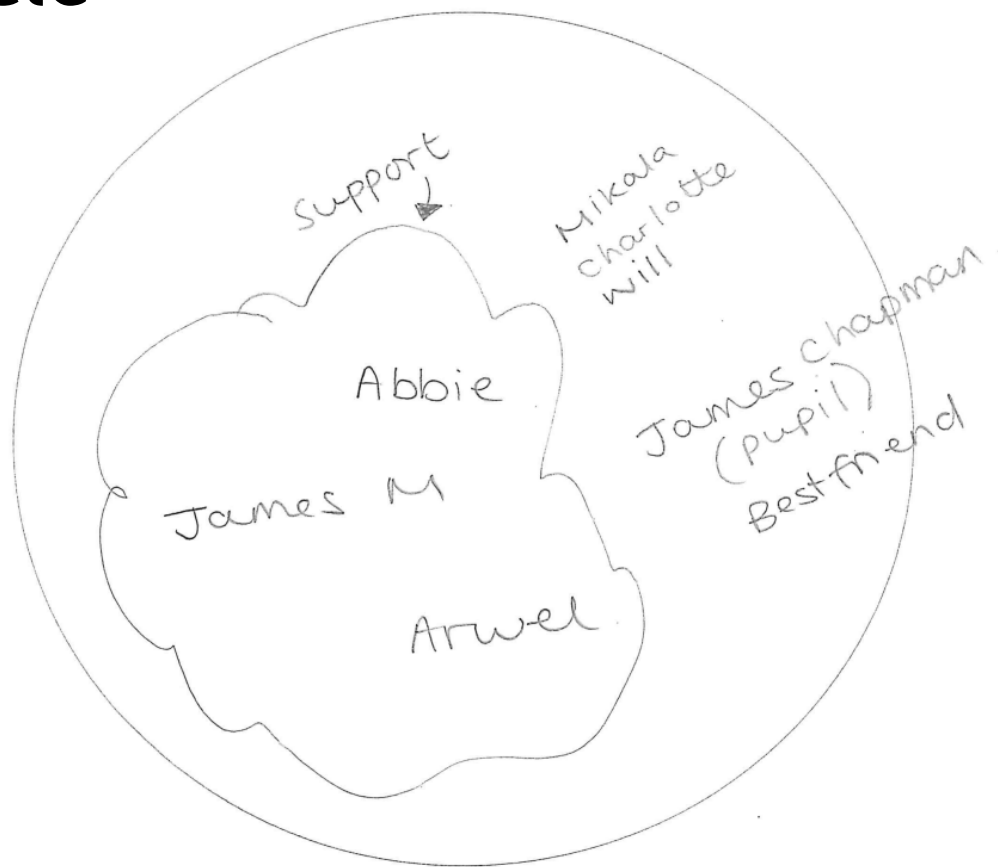


Arwel

Bikes / Art.



Research Activity: My Safe People Circle



The circle is just for people I feel safe around the placement is nothing.

Alex I like but shes too strict, shes not a bad person just someone I dont relate too.

Research Activity: Questions

What is your understanding of safety at Headlands School?

No, students can be scary. I don't like it when people are loud and smoke or vape at the front of the school.

What relationships do you have at Headlands School?

A Friend (Eva) I have one friend
classmate

Dislike person (Robert in my class)

What does belonging mean to you?

'You fit in' ...
I don't really feel like school, and don't feel like I fit in, I wouldn't say I belong.

Tell me about the opportunities you have at Headlands School?

Not many,
More subjects, more education, more choice to learn.
The drums are good but that's it.

Do you have any moments that stand out?

Not really

Tell us about the Headlands School Community?

The staff are nice but the students aren't the best.
I don't like people who swear,

What is your understanding of safety at Headlands School?

No, it's not safe. The staff do a good job but you say or do the wrong thing you get hurt or your head kicked in.

What relationships do you have at Headlands School?

Friends
classmates
I have friends outside of school

What does belonging mean to you?

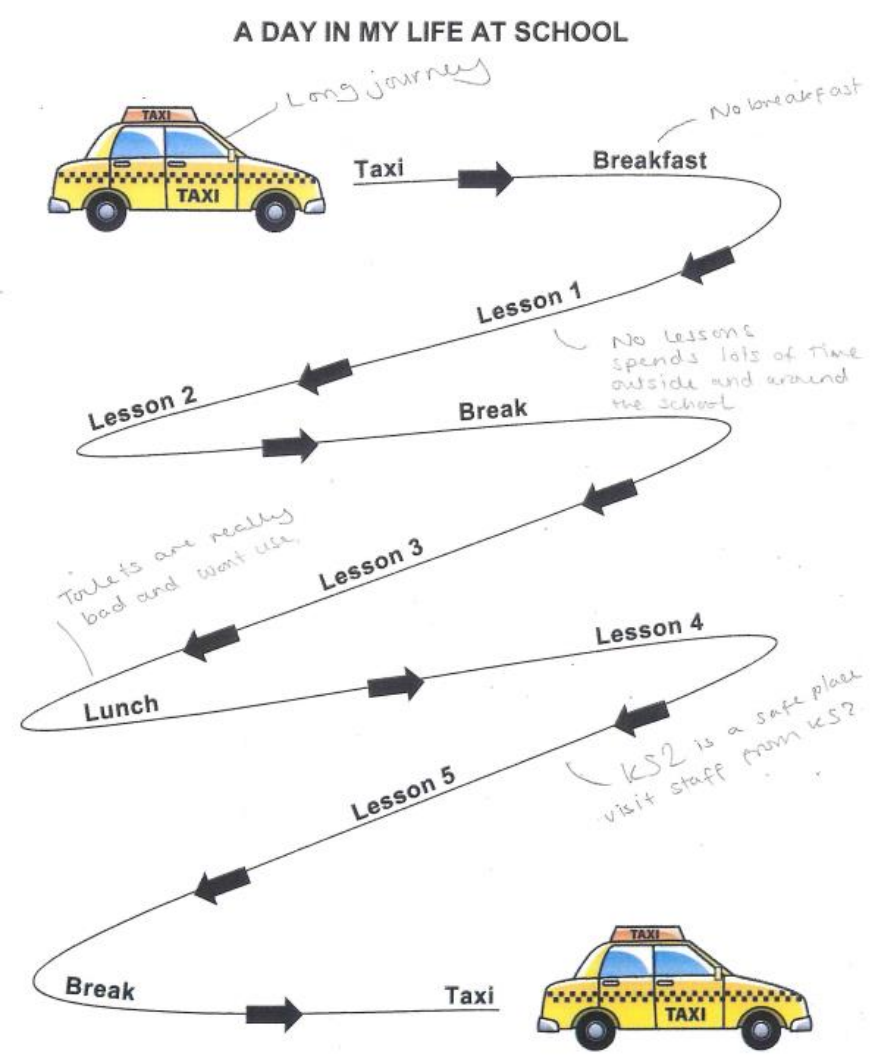
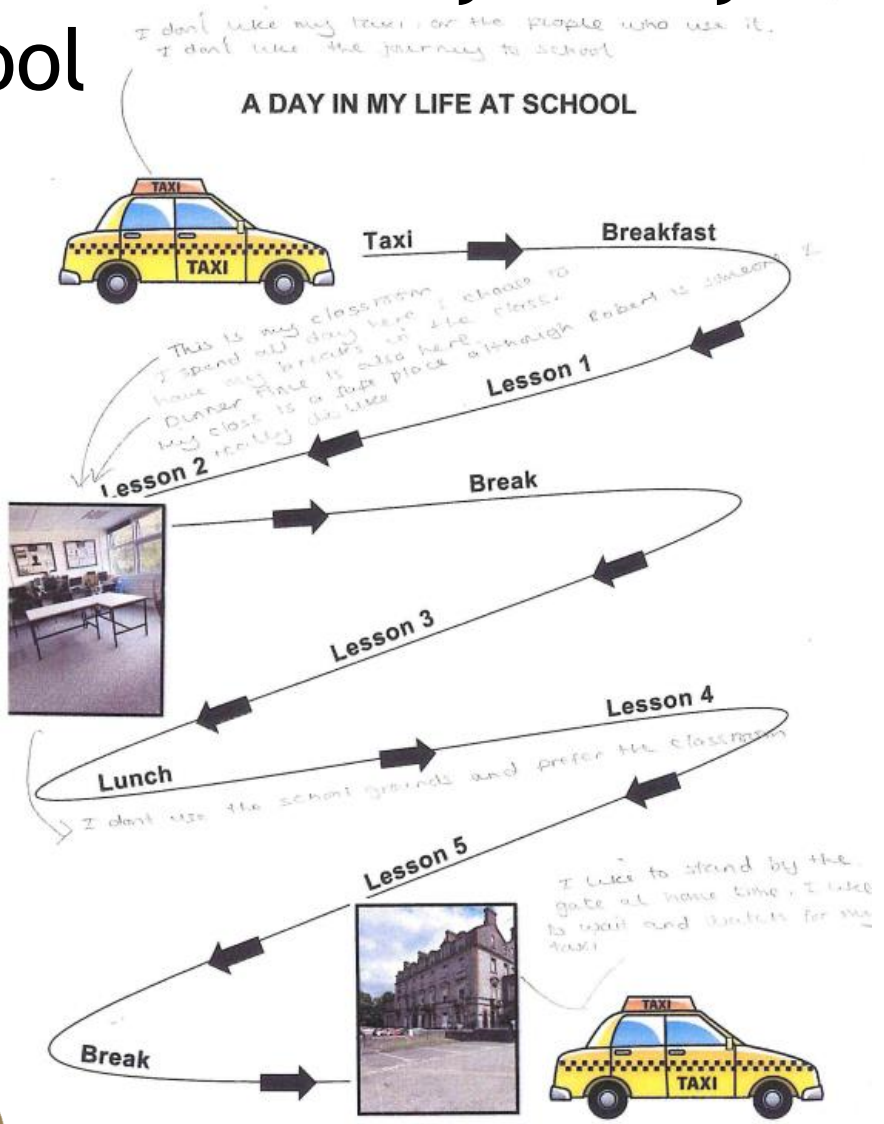
I belong at home ~~at~~ with my family and dog.
School / Headlands is a good place but I don't belong here.
I had freedom at home here I need permission for

Tell me about the opportunities you have at Headlands School?

everything.
I want more of an education / qualifications.
I don't have enough opportunities in that sense.

Do you have any moments that stand out?

Research Activity: A day at Headlands School



Cyfnod Ffocws / Focus Phase

consistency
is key



CONSISTENT

Staff and Student Relationships

Identity

Trust

INCONSISTENT

Routine

Belonging

Safety

INCONSISTENT

Environment

Freedom

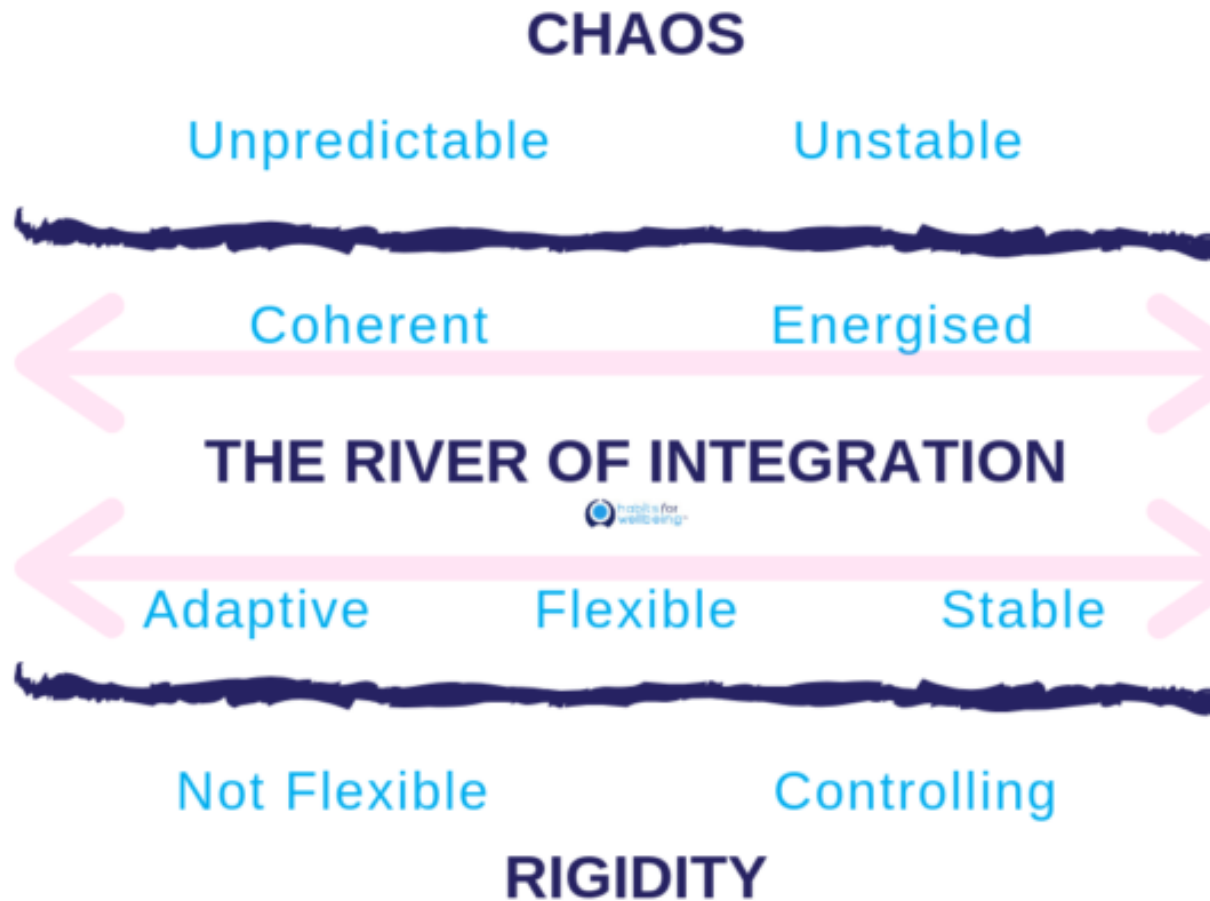
Peer Relationships



Cyfnod Ffocws / Focus Phase



Cyfnod Ffocws / Focus Phase



Focus: What we did

- ▶ Need to clarify focus stage - how to summarise succinctly and share process of narrowing down to hunch of consistency
- ▶ What came out of the scanning and how did we choose what to focus on?
- ▶ What were our actions in the focus stage? What did it look like?



Datblygu Syniad/Developing a Hunch



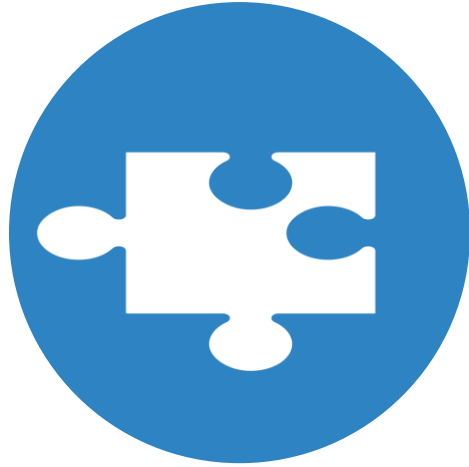
We, as a team, wanted to share our beliefs and assumptions about our own practices and focus on something that was actionable.



We decided that the inconsistencies that could be most impactful while remaining actionable related to the **environment and routines.**



Datblygu Syniad/Developing a Hunch



THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE HUNCH TOOK TIME AS ORIGINAL DRAFTS DID NOT FEEL LIKE A REFLECTION OF ALL THE GREAT WORK OUR SCHOOL AND COLLEAGUES DO.



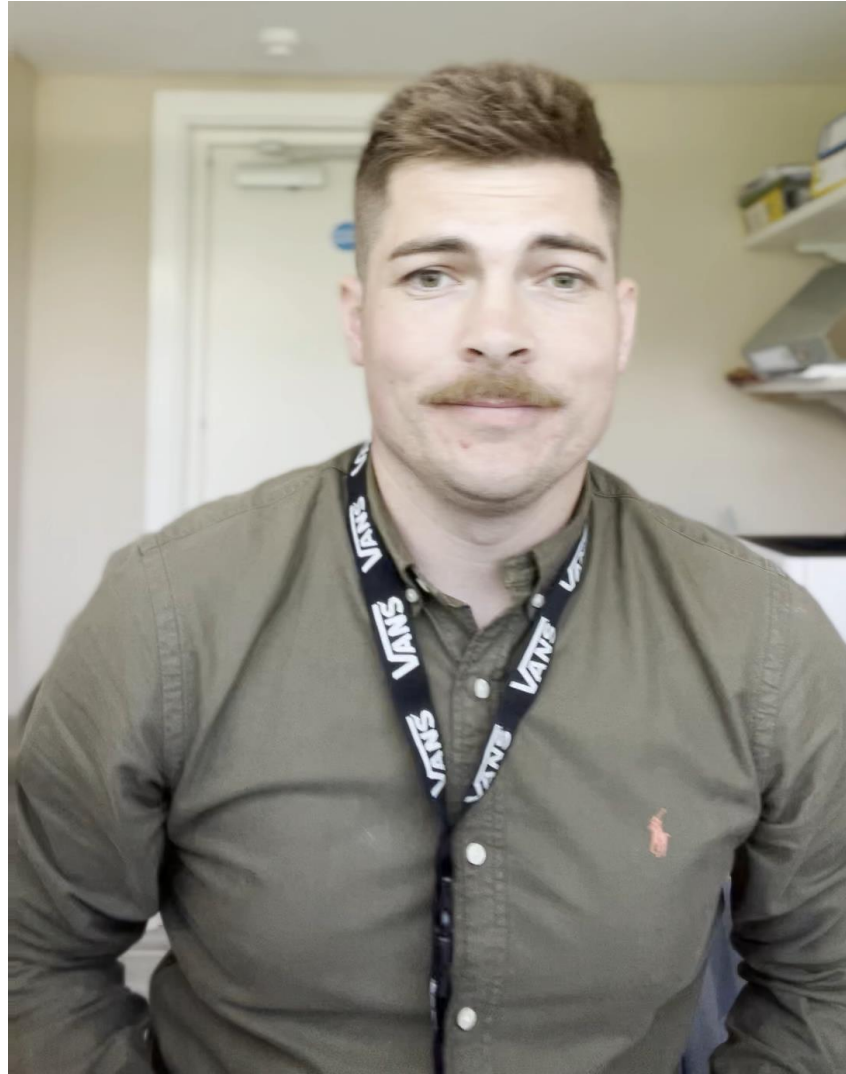
*DRAFT HUNCH 'THE LACK OF CONSISTENCY IN SOME AREAS OF SCHOOL AND PRACTICE IS UNDERMINING OUR LEARNER'S SAFETY'

Datblygu Syniad/Developing a Hunch

‘Inconsistencies in our community can limit our learner’s experiences’



Dysgu Proffesiynol Newydd/New Professional Learning



The Impact of the Spiral of Inquiry Process

A letter of recognition.

Dear...

The Democratic Leadership Team have been working on a 'Relationships and Wellbeing Spiral of Inquiry' with Dr Shan Jones. The purpose of this study is to gain a better understanding of life at Headlands School, from the point of view of our young people. It is vital that their voices are heard, and they are involved in our decision making and future planning, as our young people are at the heart of everything we do, here at Headlands School.

During the interview phase of the 'Relationships and Wellbeing Spiral of Inquiry' young people were provided time to share their thoughts and feelings on their relational experiences at Headlands School, alongside other activities that looked holistically at their full school experience.

We are writing to you directly to recognise your efforts that were noted through our study. A young person has mentioned you as a very important individual to them, stating that the relationship you have with them has hugely impacted their time at Headlands School. We appreciate that each young person will have lots of important people at Headlands School, but we felt it was very special that they chose to talk about you! We would just like to say a huge thank you for all your continued efforts and developing meaningful relationships with the young people at Headlands School. Thank you.

With thanks and appreciation,





Clwb Tost/ Toast Club

Diolch Yn Fawr
lawn!
Cariad o Gymru.



Contacts

Dr Shân Jones – email: sjed70@gmail.com

