

FRIDAY DISCUSSIONS

GROUP 1

- Frightening concept of digital self-harm (cyber bullying yourself)
- Bully bystanders often don't act as they don't know how – they don't have the skills or know how
- Guest speakers on cyber safety
- Cyber monitoring systems in schools
- Have a student 'mole' (identity remains safe) – opens his accounts and show HoB what is actually happening (may be unethical but it works!)
- Ongoing education – for staff not just for students – have to try to keep up to date

GROUP 2

- Appreciate what they are going through – let the teen girls be teens and teach them how to navigate through it
- Modelling behaviour
- Teaching girls how to cope
- Using 'I' words is really important
- Magazines circulated in boarding house
- Positive affirmations and gratitudes around the boarding house
- Foster a culture of gratitude and thankfulness – helps people feel valued
- Pastoral care programs with teaching respect etc

GROUP 3

- Kids these days have made improvements – binge drinking and crime rates dropped
- not everything is as negative in the media
- media releases which aren't picked up as they have a positive story – the media only picks up the negatives – we need to be persistent in making sure students are recognised for the good things they do
- find the balance between acknowledging the issues and finding the positives, affirmations needed
- new issues with our kids eg electronic pornography, synthetic drug use – we don't know the effect this might have in 20 years
- encourage friendships by inviting day girls in for a sleepover – helps expand friendship groups
- cyber education

GROUP 4

- privacy issues – adults have a very different understanding to that of teenagers
- oversharing – older students and snap chat and tinder
- endless watching – youtube videos for hours on end

- taking technology at night
- weekends – ban until midday except for their phones (stops the watching of movies)
- help them find things to do which don't involve technology
- important that staff role model this behaviour too – can't take tech off students and then have staff using it
- imessage on laptops is an issue

GROUP 5

- online gossip
- empowering of boys and girls very important – teaching the students to 'self regulate' rather than removing technology
- talk to parents about the provision of data – restrict amount
- teach digital literacy from year 7 – learn about the digital footprint which never disappears
- mistakes are there forever – a trap (we used to write this in notes and ripped them up or ate them) – nowadays this can be around indefinitely
- 'what is your brand' – how do you want to be seen – conversations with teens about how people see them
- PD program in the boarding house with year group focus –relationships with each other and with adults and with teachers, leadership, digital literacy
- Mentoring in the boarding house – some do really well, some not so, training is critical for the mentors
- TAFE - Mentoring in the Community course (could get info from the internet to help with your training) – maybe your mentors could get some accreditation in this
- Mentoring with different year levels – mixed results
- Debriefs with the mentors is important – work out what is working and what could be done better, have some key objectives
- Hard to find places to 'hide' when they are having a tough time sometimes – part of the dynamics of shared room which can be challenging at times – good to ask students who they would like to be with, and who they would find challenging – often have boarders change room each term or each semester – good to discuss who works with who amongst the staff

ADOPTING A DAY STUDENT AND ADPORTING A TEACHER

- To extend their friendship group as they live so closely together in boarding and this gives them a second layer of friendship
- Day girls can be invited back to the BH after school, to dinner any night of the week, and sleep over on weekend.
- Once per term each year level has a special weekend for this to happen
- Has improved the friendship situation too
- Once per term they have an invite a teacher to the boarding house for the night – helps teachers learn more about how boarding actually works – girls give an invitation to the teacher, they join them before dinner, have dinner with the girls, and then go back to the boarding house to see how it all works

- Another school has boys take their morning tea and lunch a couple of days a week to mingle more with the day students rather than going back to the BH