

The School Council Policy.June2004-06-24

A school council is a classroom elected body of pupils whose purpose is to represent their classes and be a forum for active and constructive pupil input into the daily life of the school.

Aims

- To promote Knowledge and understanding about becoming an informed citizen.
- To develop skills of enquiry and communication.
- To develop skills of participation and responsible action.
- To help promote citizenship within the curriculum and relate this to the drive for social inclusion.(involving everyone).
- To develop skills of thinking about things carefully, finding out about things and discussing them.

Rationale.

- Citizenship is a major part of our school development.
- Giving pupils a greater say in decision making creates a better school ethos.
- Pupils must feel valued, listened to and empowered.
- Emerging citizens Understanding how decisions are reached helps pupils to work to the rules (conform more easily).
- There must be a genuine and consistent commitment to pupil participation.
- Emerging citizens require skills thinking about things carefully and discussing them.

The Council Structure.

1. Meetings to run formally with agendas.
2. The Council is formally consulted about major policy decisions.
3. The agenda is to be determined by both staff and pupils.
4. The Council is under the direct oversight of the head teacher
5. There is a budget for the council.

Structure

- One pupil from each class.
- One member of the Senior Management Team.
- One other member of the teaching staff.
- Two dinnertime supervisors.

The Head teacher may be invited, if required. Meetings are to be held monthly or as necessary during lunchtime and school time also, if possible.

Elections

- All class elections to be held on the same day to reflect real life.
- All nominees to produce speeches.
- All pupils to have a vote.
- A candidate may vote for himself/herself.
- Term of service = one year, but can be re-elected the following year if wishing to stand.