



Wetherby Kensington
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School Council Policy

Policy reviewed by: Lauren Vallely

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Reviewer's Signature: *Lauren Vallely*

Head Teacher's Signature: *Helen Lienes*

Circulation: This policy is addressed to all members of staff and volunteers, is available to parents on request. It applies wherever staff or volunteers are working with pupils.

Please note: 'School' refers to Wetherby Kensington; 'parents' refers to parents, guardians and carers.



Wetherby Kensington

School Council Policy

Our Vision

A school is a community. Our School Council helps to make Wetherby Kensington a more harmonious and positive community to live in. It is a place where pupils are able to contribute towards the continuous improvement of the school community.

Aims

- To make a positive contribution to the school environment and ethos
- To develop and promote pupils' self confidence, social skills and their responsibilities towards each other, teachers and adult members of staff
- To develop the pupils' knowledge, skills and understanding of how to contribute to society as a whole and what it means to be an active citizen
- To develop pupils' speaking and listening skills
- To allow the pupils to have a voice and to share their ideas and opinions with others
- To develop the pupils' recognition of themselves as worthwhile individuals with a right to be heard
- To allow the pupils to become more responsible and actively involved in the decision making process of the school
- To develop important life skills that promote positive mental health and social welfare, emotional literacy, critical and moral reasoning, self-esteem, self-awareness, communication skills, relationship skills and assertiveness
- To increase self-esteem and self-confidence

Organisation and Management of our School Council

School Council meetings

School council meetings are to be held once every half term. These meetings are organised by the Deputy Head (Pastoral) together with the school council representatives.

The Agenda

The agenda for each school council meeting will be drawn up by the member of staff responsible for the school council together with the school council representatives, if possible. At each school council meeting the school council representatives will discuss ideas raised by boys in their class. Targets will be set at the end of the meeting. At times it may be necessary for there to be one item to be discussed. A copy of the agenda will be provided for each school council representative for them to follow during the meeting.

The minutes will be taken by the Deputy Head (Pastoral) and typed up. These minutes will be photocopied and a copy sent out to all school council representatives, teachers and the Headmistress. The minutes will be displayed on the school council

notice board, the school website and in the school council folder on the staff shared area.

Targets

At the end of each meeting targets will be agreed by all members of the school council. These will also be displayed on the school council notice board and some teachers display them outside/inside their classrooms.

Suggestions

In every classroom there will be a suggestion box where the boys can write things they would like to say/comment on. School council representatives will go through the suggestions before attending the meeting. It is at the class teachers' discretion as to when these suggestions are discussed. The most popular issues will be brought to the school council meeting where these items will be discussed. After each school council meeting the school council representative will report back to their class on the issues discussed and the action taken.

Becoming a School Council Representative

Class teachers will discuss with their classes the role of the school council. A job description of a school council representative will be published. In Year 1, 2 and 3, the boys will decide if they would like to apply to be a school council representative for that term. The Year 1, 2 and 3 boys will have to prepare and deliver a short speech to their teacher and rest of their class stating their reasons for being chosen as a school council representative.

All boys will have the opportunity to 'have their say' after the speeches saying who they would like to be their school council representative and the class teacher will ask the boys to vote anonymously. This enables the boys to 'have their say,' as to who they would like to be their class representative on the school council. However the final decision will be made by the class teacher.

The school council representative will be changed every term. At the beginning of each term presentations will be done again. This will allow other boys to have the opportunity to be on the school council. In Reception the class teachers will select a boy from their class to be on the school council in the summer term. Photographs of the school council will be taken and displayed on the school council notice board. Badges will be given out and must be worn by school council representatives at all times in school.

This policy will be reviewed annually