

Bishop Hedley RC High School
Ysgol Uwchradd Gatholig Esgob Hedley

The School Council Policy

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Facilitator: Mr I Humpage

Head Boy/Girl (also associate governors)

The School Council is a vehicle by which pupils themselves take responsibility for good order and practice in the school. Every member of the school should feel free to voice opinions and suggestions for the good of pupils in the school. The first line of opinion is voiced in form period when two members of the class are elected to the Year Council and take to this forum the suggestions of the class.

- It gives the pupils in the school a forum to express their opinions and to learn how an organisation such as the school works.
- It promotes an attitude of responsibility.
- It is a vehicle for communication
- It enables the Headteacher, the Staff, the Head Boy/Girl (associate governors) to know the opinions of the "School" body and hopefully to implement them for the benefit of the school.
- It increases individual responsibility of ownership of the school.
- Targets are taken directly from the School Improvement Plan.

In order to make the Council effective.

- Two pupils should be elected by each form from each year group to a Year Group Council
- Two pupils should be elected representatives to the School Council.
- The Council should be chaired by the Head Students. A senior member of staff should be present, but without a vote.
- The findings of the Council should be formally presented to the Headteacher.

The School Council should meet at least once each half term and report back to their year representatives.

The year representatives need to meet at least once each half term.

The Teaching and Learning representatives need to meet at least once each half term.

Points on any area of school life are admissible to the Council. The Headteacher makes the final decision having heard all the arguments in any given issue.

It is to be remembered that the School Council is not a decision making body. It makes representations to the Headteacher who makes the final decisions having heard all the arguments in any given issue or refers the matters to the School Management or Governors.

It is important that the Student Body 'owns' the Council and decides what is to be formally presented to the authority.

Council members will represent 'Student Voice' on the Governing body as well as whole school areas such as ICT, Teaching and Learning, AfL, Media and Wellbeing.

This policy was updated October 2013

This policy will be reviewed October 2015