



Stanbridge Lower School

School Council Policy

Reviewed September 2018 by the Student Council

1. RATIONALE

1.1 We believe that to develop children's maturity and kindle positive thoughts of future citizenship even young children should feel that their opinions count and that they can have a voice in the decision making process that governs our school. It is for these reasons that we have elected a School Council.

2. AIMS

2.1 It is the intention of the staff that the School Council will become an established part of school life. We also intend the School Council to be pro-active in policy making, where appropriate, within the working of the school.

2.2 Our aim is that the children who are voted onto the school council will:-

- Learn in a simple way how relatively formal meetings are conducted.
- Learn to enjoy representing the views of the children.
- Learn to express their views and enjoy the simple process of debating previously identified issues.
- Learn to canvas the opinions of the children they mix with, in preparation for council meetings.
- Learn to take responsibility for a small budget to be used to reflect the wishes of the school population.

2.3 Our aim also is to help the pupils of Stanbridge Lower School to:-

- Realise that their student voices and opinions are respected and actively sought by the adults in the school.
- Learn to use their school councillors to register their views in the established manner.
- Respect the decisions of the school council.

3. IMPLEMENTATION

3.1 Two children, 1 boy and 1 girl, from years 1, 2, 3 and 4 will be elected by their peer group, thus providing a council of 8 members. Year 1 children will initially attend meetings to observe and learn about the Student Council and have input into the meetings as their maturity allows them to.

3.2 Extra members can be co-opted onto the School Council when appropriate eg when working on projects which requires others to be involved.

3.3 Meetings will take place once every half term on Monday lunchtimes from 12.50 -1.15

3.4 A chair, secretary and a treasurer will be elected from the council members at the first meeting.

3.5 An agenda will be prepared in advance of each meeting.

3.6 Visitors will be invited to speak to the council both to enlighten children about the workings of adult councils (such as the Parish Council) and to encourage discussion about current issues.

3.7 There will be an adult volunteer, who works in school, elected to the School Council to help facilitate meetings and move projects forward on behalf of the School Council.

3.8 Minutes of meetings and letters to the School Council will be displayed on the School Council Notice Board.

4. The school's policy will be reviewed:

- Annually
- When there has been a change in pupil numbers.
- When the School Council or school members wish to review the policy

**The School Council
September 2018**

This policy was ratified by the full governing body.

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Date of Meeting:

Signed Chair of Governors.

Signed Head Teacher.