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Pupil Voice Policy

<insert school name>

<insert date>

To be reviewed by <insert date>

About Pupil Voice

The term 'pupil voice' refers to the various approaches to listening to the views of pupils and involving them in decision making within your school community as well as involving them in their learning and in addressing issues which may affect their experience of school.

Having an agreed approach to pupil voice and children a voice and influence supports our wider school ethos and helps children learn about active citizenship, children's rights and democracy and British Values.

Our Pupil Voice policy will help to ensure that children are active participants in their learning and that they have opportunity for their views to be heard and valued, both in school and within the wider community.

Ensuring that all children have a voice and influence

To ensure we take an equitable and inclusive approach to pupil voice, we will use a range of approaches which include:

- Maintaining a Pupil Voice Policy, that is agreed by school leadership, board of governors and pupils.
- Having a School Council as an elected body or representative body
- Class representative system



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- Supporting all pupils to apply for school council and to ensure that every child knows how they can have a voice and influence.
- Pupil questionnaires and focus groups to inform our decision making, our curriculum and extra-curricular activities.
- Pupil questionnaires to help our Board of Governors and Senior Leadership Team have a better understanding of the needs of all children in school.
- Involving pupils as stakeholders in our staff recruitment and selection; processes for example Pupil-led interview panels.
- Involving pupils in co-producing specific policies, such as our Behaviour Policy, Packed lunch policy or Anti-Bullying Policy.
- Helping pupils learn about the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, including 'Article 12' - their right to be heard.
- Helping children to understand democracy and the roles of representatives, including inviting our local elected members into school.
- Empowering and supporting pupils to take on roles and responsibilities such as Play Buddies, Eco Teams, Healthy Eating Ambassadors and Wellbeing Buddies

Pupil Voice within teaching and learning

We will embed pupil voice within our approaches to teaching and learning. Pupils will be encouraged to reflect on their own learning and set future targets by working with their teachers and support staff.

We will create opportunities for them to have a say over specific tasks and activities; e.g. lesson plans, assembly themes and charity fundraising.

School Council

Our school council promotes democracy, leadership and mutual responsibility. We will elect our school council on an annual basis through whole school elections. To help children make an informed vote during our elections, we will create and share a 'role description'



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for a school councillor so that children have a better understanding of what they are voting for.

Children will have the opportunity to run for election and we will ensure that less confident children and our SEN learners are supported to participate

Our school council will hold their meetings <insert frequency> and meetings will not be held over break or lunch times.

We will ensure that time is available after each School Council meeting for the representatives to feedback to their peers and to collect and organise suggestions/concerns from children.

On an annual basis, our school council will invite governor representatives to attend their meetings – in addition to inviting a locally elected councillor to attend a collaborative meeting.

Whole School Approach to Pupil Voice

All staff should have knowledge and understanding of the importance of involving pupils in all aspects of their school, their education, and their learning as well as their 'right to be heard' (Article 42 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child)

When we seek out the views of pupils, we will ensure that we provide timely and transparent feedback on what has changed as a result of their involvement.

We will use the insight we gather from children and their families to influence our policies, plans and approaches and to identify need.