

## St John's Cathedral Catholic Primary School

# School Council

## Our School Vision and Mission:

We believe that a bright future starts with an excellent education.

Our vision is to ignite a love of learning that enables every child to achieve their very best. We aim to provide the excellent teaching and genuine nurture that will enable all of our children to be happy, resilient, creative citizens who have the skills, knowledge and passion to change the world.

Our mission at St John's Cathedral Catholic Primary School is to educate the whole child through the Gospel values of Christ and provide academic excellence within a Catholic community, where all are loving to learn and learning to love.

## Our School Values:

- LOVE
- RESPECT
- HONESTY
- GENEROSITY
- CREATIVITY
- RESPONSIBILITY
- JUSTICE

## School Council Aims:

### **Catholic Social Justice**

We aim to make sure that the children at St John's understand and act upon our responsibility to make our school, our community and the world a fairer place for all.

### **Citizenship**

To develop key British values so that everyone feels equally valued and has an understanding of what it means to be a positive and responsible part of a tolerant and respectful community.

### **School Improvement**

To discuss ways in which the school can improve by being a listening ear and a confident voice between the children, the staff and the governors.

### **Pupil voice**

To make sure that all children have a voice and their opinions are shared in a meaningful way.

## Qualities of a School Council Member:

- Loving – someone who cares about our school and cares about our community
- Respectful - a good listener
- Honest – someone who tells the truth and does what is right
- Generous – someone who is willing to give up their time to make the school even better
- Creative – someone who has lots of ideas
- Responsible – someone who is a good role model
- Just – someone who is fair and represents everyone, not just their best friends

## School Council Members Responsibilities:

- To listen carefully and represent your class/group well
- To share ideas and respect the ideas of other people
- To attend meetings and feedback to your class/group
- To be sensible role models

## School Council Activities:

- Attend meetings with governors, senior leaders or visitors
- Survey children to find out their ideas or opinions
- Show visitors around the school
- Represent the school at events
- Plan and lead events at school
- Write letters or questionnaires and feedback to the meetings

## Elections:

### **Election Process**

Every child in the school from Year 1 to Year 6 is able to stand for School Council. Each year, children will have the opportunity to put themselves forward for election by explaining to their class how they would represent them and what qualities they have.

Elections will take place during autumn. Every child in Years 1-6 will have 2 votes – 1 for a boy in their class and 1 for a girl in their class who they think will represent them best.

The votes will be counted by the class teacher and 2 representatives from the class (preferably 2 children who didn't stand for election).

The results will be announced in assembly when the members of the new School Council will make a promise to represent their class well and do their best.

### **Members**

Each class will elect 1 boy and 1 girl to school Council.

In addition to this, the senior leadership team may sensitively invite representatives from other groups within the school to attend relevant meetings so that children in care, children

with special educational needs or disabilities, children with English as an additional language and pupil premium children are represented.

## **School Council Meetings:**

School Council meetings will be held at least once every half term. They will be led by the Head Teacher or another member of the senior leadership team.

At the first meeting, elections will take place for someone to lead the meetings – a chair and someone to take notes – a minute taker.

An agenda – a list of what we will discuss and what we will be asked to feedback on – will be given out before each meeting so that School Council members can prepare.

School Council members will also be invited to take part in meetings with governors.