

Curwen **SCHOOL** ★ **COUNCIL**

Purpose and role

The role of Curwen's School Council is to build children's confidence and self-esteem as representatives of not only their class, but also the school. By taking a lead in such decision making, children develop their ability to take responsibility and lead others. In addition, this also develops the children's capacity to listen, empathise and work collaboratively with other students as well as the adults within the school and wider community. The council also provides a sense of belonging and larger purpose for the children as they gain an influence upon their surroundings. The democratic system is integral to the School Council, and the process of preparing campaigns, making speeches, and deciding who to vote for is demonstrated throughout the whole school.

The School Council is elected at the start of the Autumn term each year and those council members can be re-elected once their term is up.

Once elected the children are provided with a badge that they should wear at all times as they are the representatives for their class. This means that if the children have any issues they wish to raise - such as areas of the school that they think need sprucing up, or ideas of what they think could be done to improve the school - they approach their class School Councillors who raise the issue at a meeting. A new system that has already been put into place by the 2016/17 council are 'Suggestion' boxes placed at intervals throughout the school for children to raise issues anonymously, or if a School Councillor is unavailable.

The school council meets once a week, every Tuesday between 12:20 - 1pm. During these meetings the children put forward any ideas or concerns that their fellow students have brought to their attention. This feedback is then given to teachers and other members of staff within the school, and staff work together with the Council to undertake any work needed.

Other duties and tasks:

- Meeting once a term with the School Governors
- Regular meetings with Police Constable Pam
- Raising money for charity events and good causes
- Visits to the Houses of Parliament
- Presentations about what they have done in the term
- Assisting with the school council display board

Mr Drayton
September 2016