



**Richard de Clare
Community Academy**

**School Council
Policy**

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| Reviewed | Summer 2020 |
| Next review date | Summer 2023 |

At Richard de Clare Academy, we aim to provide all pupils the opportunity to develop skills around democracy, confidence and leadership and to support pupils to become active, democratic citizens.

We also aim to provide a stimulating environment and adequate resources so that pupils can develop their skills to their full potential.

Objectives

- To give all pupils the opportunity to be involved in improving school life for everyone.
- For pupils to work as partners with staff, developing a caring school community.
- To involve pupils in solving problems and resolving conflicts.
- To develop pupil's negotiation and compromise skills.
- To develop oracy confidence & self-esteem.
- To provide opportunities for pupils to become good leaders.
- To support pupils to develop political literacy and increase their democratic engagement.
- To support pupils to be prepared for life and work after school.

School Council

- Each class council will hold elections to select one representative who will attend School Council meetings
- The School Council Members will be elected twice a year.
- The School Council will meet every 2-3 weeks and will discuss specific issues that have been raised through the class meetings.
- The School Council will make decisions about further action based on a majority opinion.
- The School Council Meetings will last no longer than 20minutes.
- Pupils can set up Action Teams based on ideas or issues that they might have.
- The School Council representative will report decisions made to the children in the rest of the school either individually in their classrooms or via assembly.

The School Council will not:

- Discuss problems relating to individual children.
- Discuss problems relating to individual teachers.

Class Council:

Their aim:

- ✓ A way for people to get the view of the whole school.
 - ✓ A way for people to raise ideas and issues that they want to be addressed or want help with.
 - ✓ A way for the whole school to communicate with each other quickly and frequently.
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- Each full time class has a class council which meets once each week. These will be short, structured and pupil-led across the school.
 - All children are encouraged to raise issues for discussion at meetings of the class council. A chairperson and secretary are appointed at each meeting of the class council.
 - All questions are directed via the chairperson, and the secretary will make notes about what is being discussed.

- Time will be made in class council meetings for school council representatives to feedback to the class about what happened at the school council meeting. The timing of each class council meeting therefore needs to be considered in the light of the timing of the school council meetings.

Outcomes

- Pupil feedback to Headteacher/SLT members on outcomes and discussions.

Equality of Opportunity

Our School Council model involves all pupils in regular and meaningful decision making. It's an inclusive and universal system, which all children have access to.

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development and British Values

Through the School Council pupil's development in these four areas can be enhanced. Our School Council model enables all pupils to become involved in democracy, helping them to participate and understand democracy first hand. Pupils are given the structure to discuss the issues that are important to them, and be involved in decision-making. Pupils decide the issues that they'd like to explore in Class Meetings and Action Teams are set up based on pupils' interests.

Review and Monitoring

The School Council policy will be reviewed annually by the co-ordinator. The co-ordinator will monitor this area of the curriculum in line with the school's monitoring policy. This will include class observation, where possible, evaluation of planning sheets, review of resources and updating of all materials and documents as required. Through this analysis it will be possible to identify Inset needs and it will enable the co-ordinator to ensure there is continuity and progression throughout the school.

Linked Policies: PSHE/ British Values

Completed May 2020