

Hinckley Parks Primary School



PUPIL VOICE POLICY

Date Ratified: September 2018

Review Cycle: 2 yearly

Review Date: September 2020

Opportunities | Wisdom | Legacy

Our school vision is based on our school motto, 'Opportunities, Wisdom, Legacy.' At Hinckley Parks Primary School, we strive to provide an inspiring and exciting wider curriculum together with a stimulating learning environment which will allow children the opportunity to enjoy a wide range of experiences which will develop the whole child and prepare them for the next stage of their lives. We recognise that education is a life long journey and ensure that we support children and teachers at all times to ensure that we provide the highest standard of teaching and learning possible for all children. Through our school values, we help each child develop knowledge and understanding as well as having a positive attitude towards themselves and others to enable them to enjoy a successful life in school and to allow them to make a positive contribution to society in the future. We celebrate success and achievement for every child and pride ourselves on developing a culture where children and adults look back fondly on their time spent at Hinckley Parks Primary School.

Leader: Phil Carvell

Governor Link: Urni Wallace

Signed by Headteacher:

Signed by Chair of Governors:





Rationale

We believe that children need to be active participants in their own education and to feel that their opinions will be heard in the wider school community.

At Hinckley Parks, we seek ways to listen to the views of our pupils and involve them in decision making so that they are engaged as partners in the life of the school. We believe that this will make a positive contribution to the school environment.

Pupil voice and student participation activities at Hinckley Parks

There are a wide range of approaches that we are developing at Hinckley Parks to support student participation and promote pupil voice:

- School Council Forums
- Sports Leaders – peer to peer support
- School Values contributions
- Head Boy and Head Girl School Ambassadors
- Fundraising (both teacher and pupil initiated)
- Consultation on teacher/school led projects
- Consultation on staff recruitment
- Pupils on the SEND register are involved in the decisions that affect their learning
- Pupil questionnaires

Pupils are informed of the outcome of their involvement.

Curriculum

We also believe in embedding pupil voice into the curriculum, with teaching and learning activities being used to enable pupils to focus on how to make informed decisions about their lives, their health and well-being, for example. Extra-curricular activities such as sports clubs, academic clubs such as STEM and well-being clubs such as choir.

School Council

One of the principle means by which pupil voice activity is progressed in school is by the use of the School Council. We believe that our school council will enhance and influence positive peer leadership and mutual responsibility through the school.

School Council will

- Be a positive forum
- Provide an opportunity for all children to be heard
- Provide a forum for the leadership of the school to listen to children's knowledge and opinions
- Aid communication throughout the school
- Build the children's confidence and self-esteem
- Encourage the children to be active citizens



- Provide the children with a democratic model

School Council will also be used to assist the school with its self-evaluation procedures and enable us to be more accountable to the whole community.

School Council in Practice

Being a School Councillor is open to all pupils at Hinckley Parks. The recruitment process for School Council begins in each classroom where a councillor and a deputy are voted to be that class's representatives. Thus representation from all year groups is ensured. School Council membership will consist of at least one member of staff, who will generally chair the meeting and the School Council Representatives.

School Council will be held on a fortnightly basis. This is an opportunity for the School Council Representatives to discuss the school agenda and to gather feedback. School Council meetings are scheduled on the school calendar and take place periodically throughout the school year.

At each meeting, those present and absent are noted. Matters arising from the previous meeting are discussed, followed by business for the meeting in accordance with the agenda. A list of main agenda items will be set before each meeting.

At some meetings, a guest speaker will be invited. This may be another member of staff or an outside speaker.

Minutes are recorded and circulated to staff and school council representatives to be shared with their peers in class.

School Council organise their own activities and liaise to accommodate these activities on the school calendar. Members of the School Council take part in staff recruitment by forming an interview panel. Members of the School Council may also represent the school at community meetings and at meetings of the Leadership Team and Governing Body where appropriate.

Involving Pupils in their learning

Pupil participation in their own learning means a range of different things in the classroom. It includes pupils choosing their own differentiated tasks (Mild, Spicy, Hot), up-levelling their own work, developing projects to build essential life skills such as Year 6 Enterprise Week and reflection of their own and others' learning.

Assessment for Learning encourages a view of assessment as an essential part of everyday classroom practice involving teachers and learners in reflection, dialogue, decision-making and target setting.

Benefits of pupil involvement

There are a range of benefits in greater participation. For pupils, these include increased self-confidence and feelings of empowerment, and a greater sense of responsibility.

Behaviour has the potential to improve with pupils taking greater responsibility for their own behaviour as well as improved learning.



Pupil Voice Policy

We believe that there is a positive impact of pupil participation on their own work and the school environment.

Children's insight into the ways they learn best and the ideas that they have for their outcomes and style as well as their ideas on the life of the school should be welcomed. Pupils learning will improve when their views are taken into consideration. This can only have a positive impact on raising standards.

Developing a whole school approach

To encourage a consistent, positive attitude to pupil participation at Hinckley Parks, the whole staff, including the non-teaching staff, should understand the benefits of pupil participation, be clear in their role in terms of supporting pupil participation and be kept well informed about issues being discussed and proposals put forward by the school council and other pupil representative groups.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Pupil participation and pupil voice are monitored and evaluated by the Senior Management Team in line with other existing procedures for curriculum development.