

# School Council Policy



Created: September 2015

Agreed by Governing Body:

Review Date: September 2017

Written by: Headteacher

## Values Statement

At Deal Parochial Primary School the curriculum is firmly rooted in its Christian foundation: enabling every child to grow spiritually and emotionally; fostering imagination and a deep sense of personal identity and self-worth; providing guidance through the loving example of Jesus Christ.

## Mission Statement

Our hope is that each child at Deal Parochial Primary School will develop an appetite for learning that will endure throughout their lives. To achieve this, the curriculum will need to motivate and excite children so that they engage fully in learning, cultivate positive attitudes and relationships, make good progress and fulfil their true potential; living up to our motto - "The best that I can be".

## Introduction

This document is a statement of the aims, principles and strategies for the School Council at Deal Parochial CE Primary School. The implementation of this policy is the responsibility of all, members of staff at Deal Parochial CE Primary School.

## AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- To provide opportunity for pupils to become partners in their own education and to make a positive contribution to the school environment and ethos.
- To develop and promote children's self-confidence, social skills and their responsible behaviour towards each other and towards their teachers and members of staff.
- To develop the pupil's knowledge, skills and understanding of how to contribute to society as a whole and what it means to be an active citizen.
- To develop pupils recognition of themselves as worthwhile individuals with a right to be heard.

- To allow children to have a ‘voice’ and to share their opinions and ideas with others.
- To allow children to become more responsible and actively involved in the decision –making process of the school.
- To develop important life skills that promotes positive mental health and social welfare, emotional literacy, critical and moral reasoning, self-esteem, self-awareness, communication skills, relationship skills and assertiveness.

## **ORGANISATION AND MANAGEMENT OF OUR SCHOOL COUNCIL SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETINGS**

School Council meetings are held every half term and the dates for these meetings are published at the beginning of term 1 of each academic year. The meeting are held by the School Council Link Teacher together with the School Council representatives.

### **RUNNING THE SCHOOL COUNCIL**

The agenda for each School Council Meeting will be drawn up by the Link Teacher together with the Chair and Vice Chairperson. At each Council meeting there will be one main issue on the agenda, as well as opportunities for all School Council Reps to discuss other ideas raised by the pupils in their class.

### **CHOOSING THE REPRESENTATIVES**

1. During the first two weeks of the Autumn Term, Year 2 and KS2 teachers will discuss with their classes the role of the School Council.
2. All children should be supported to decide whether they would like to stand for class representative and be made aware of what this role entails.
3. Creating a mind map of what makes an “effective” council rep is a supportive way to get children to think about the qualities needed for such a role.
4. Pupils may be asked to prepare and deliver a short speech to the rest of their class (e.g. stating why they should be chosen).
5. A secret ballot will be held, where each pupil will be given the opportunity to vote.
6. Slips will be counted by the teacher and the pupil with the highest number of votes is elected as the school council representative.
7. In the event of two or more children drawing, a revote should take place.

### **THE FIRST SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING**

The first School Council meeting will take place as soon as possible before half term and will be chaired by the School Council Leader.

### **Governing Body Monitoring**

Members of the School Governing Body will carry out visits to meet the school council and review the impact it has in school improvement. This will be carried out annually.

## **Equalities Statement**

At Deal Parochial CEP School we are committed to ensuring equality of education and opportunity for all pupils, staff, parents and carers receiving services from the school, irrespective of race, gender, disability, faith or religion, sexual orientation or socio-economic background. We aim to develop a culture of inclusion and diversity in which all those connected to the school feel proud of their identity and able to participate fully in school life.

At Deal Parochial CEP School, we believe that diversity is a strength, which should be respected and celebrated by all those who learn, teach and visit here.

**The Governors will review this policy every two years.**

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Head Teacher      Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Chair                      Date \_\_\_\_\_