

It is important that our young people have a way to discuss their opinions, views and thoughts. Student Council allows students with a platform to have their voices heard within the school. All students are given the opportunity to voice their opinions and have their views taken into account in decisions which impact upon them. The student council gives representatives a huge sense of responsibility and pride in their school.

Aims of the Student Council

- All Priory School Students will learn how to be active and democratic citizens following and embedding the British values.
- We support and to develop a student council framework which is inclusive, allowing everyone to have their say in proactively promoting positive change within the school
- Student Council Members are supported to collect and share the views of their peers about issues affecting them.
- We will include those students whose views are often expressed through how they behave, and depend on the interpretation of others.
- School Management will consider the views of all students when making decisions which impact upon students.

Student Council Election

September 2022 - Classes identified students who can meaningfully access the student council; these students were nominated for a vote to act as class reps on the student council. The council was elected in October 2022, with 2 captains, deputy captains and 12 class reps.

Autumn Term 2022 - Consultation

How would students like to spend their leisure time, what activities, games or toys?

Student surveys were conducted, using three formats (adapted for different communication needs)

- ✓ Survey
- ✓ Talking mat
- ✓ Proxy survey – staff complete the survey based on their interpretation of their students behaviour.

Student Council presented the outcome to the Senior Leadership Team. They had elected to purchase new dolls for each class. Following some online research, they submitted a draft Amazon order to the finance team. SLT approved the purchase and the student council were able to deliver the resources to classes.

Spring Term 2023 Consultation

Student council met to discuss music played at lunchtime in the dining halls. The survey was conducted as above and outcome presented to Tyler Mitchell. Tyler considered and agreed the proposal for new speakers for dining areas, which are now installed.

The Student Council also met with the Family Liaison Officer, Sarah Gough, and a colleague from the Parent Partnership Award scheme, to discuss the topic of homework. This discussion was included in the evidence for the award.

Summer Term 2023 Consultation

The topic of wellbeing was introduced to Head Boy and Head Girl as: 'wellbeing is about feeling good on the inside and outside'. A survey was agreed and conducted using the established format.

105 students completed the survey. 74 completed a visual paper survey with support. 31 had the survey completed on their behalf by their most familiar support staff.

Results

Student survey 2022 -2023	Yes	No	I don't know/sometimes
I feel happy at school.	84%	6%	10%
I feel safe at school.	84%	6%	10%
I like my lessons.	63%	7%	30%
My teachers help me learn.	86%	2%	12%
Students at Priory are kind to each other.	85%	7%	8%
Teachers help me if other students are not nice.	92%	3%	5%
In school I am learning skills to look after myself.	79%	2%	19%
Teachers help me to feel safe when other students are upset.	84%	6%	10%

Goals for the next academic year

Student Council will:

- shop for agreed items for 'well-being day', council including new table cloths and flowers;
- present wellbeing data to the Senior Leadership Team (SLT);
- receive a response from SLT, with agreed actions;
- identify a topic to be explored throughout 2023/2024;
- work towards the involvement of classes with no student rep, by visiting with surveys and introducing topics using adapted communication strategies as required.