



Approved by: Education Committee	
Date of Review:	
Responsible Officer:	Deputy Head Student Services

1. Introduction

The Student Council plays an integral and important role in the school community. They provide a representative structure through which students can debate issues of concern and undertake initiatives of benefit to the school and the wider community. Our Students have a voice and a contribution to make to their school. Therefore, it is important that they be given the opportunity to express their views on issues of concern to them in the school. It is equally important that they are listened to and encouraged to take an active part in promoting the aims and objectives of the school.

2. Introducing the student council and its role

2.1 What is a Student Council?

A Student Council is a representative structure through which students in a school community become involved in the affairs of the school, working in partnership with school management and staff and parents for the benefit of the school and its students.

2.2 Why have a Student Council?

A Student Council provides an opportunity for students to engage in a structured partnership with teachers, parents and school managers in the operation of their school. The Student Council can create a sense of ownership of the school and its activities among the student population.

The establishment of a Student Council gives students an opportunity to acquire skills in communication, planning and organisation which will be of benefit to them in their future lives. It enables students to take responsibility for projects, and to demonstrate that they can manage and bring such projects to successful conclusion.

The Student Council can also become involved in the development of school policy in a number of areas and can have significant benefits for students and the school. School policies are far more likely to be successful where they are clearly understood and accepted by all partners within the school community.

2.3 The role of the Student Council

The main role of a Student Council is ***"to promote the interests of the school and the involvement of students in the affairs of the school, in co-operation with our parents and teachers"***.

2.4 The objectives of the Student Council are to:

- Enhance communication between students, management, staff and parents as well as SHG and elected Members
- Promote friendship and respect among pupils
- Support the management and staff in the development of the school
- Represent the views of the students on matters of general concern to them
- Participate and organize fundraising activities for the school

- Consult regularly with students in the school.

2. 5 Key functions of the Student Council

- To work closely with school management, teachers and parents,
- Consult regularly with students in the school, and
- Involve as many students as possible in the activities of the Council.

2. 5. 1 Representing the views of the student body to the school management

This should be one of the fundamental aims of every Council. It involves talking and listening to the student body, considering their views and concerns, and discussing these with the school management on behalf of the students.

2. 5. 2 Promoting good communications within the school

Improving communication within the school community is a shared responsibility and a Student Council can contribute to this process. Making presentations at staff meetings to keep staff informed of activities, keeping a Student Council notice-board or organising a regular newsletter are just some ideas.

2. 5. 3 Assisting with induction and/or mentoring for new first year students

Starting secondary school is a challenging new experience for Year Seven students. A mentoring programme where senior students help new students to find their feet can help their integration into the school community.

2. 5. 4 Contributing to the development of school policies

The Student Council can actively contribute to the development of school policy in a wide range of areas such as bullying, uniform requirements, behaviour code and extra-curricular activities.

2. 5. 5 Assisting with or organising fund-raising events for charity

Student Councils can organise events both within the school and involving the wider community, for the purposes of raising money for designated charities.

3. The Student Council and the Parent Teachers' Association

The Parents' Association can make a significant contribution to the development of a Student Council, by encouraging and supporting students in the establishment of a Council and by supporting the Council in its activities. A Student Council may find it useful to meet with members of the Parent Teacher's Association from time to time or to invite a parent representative to attend Council meetings or to assist in particular activities. This will help to ensure good communication between the Student Council and the Parents' Teachers Association.

4. Removal of a Member

Any member of the Council may be asked to step down from this role for consistently failing to attend meetings, or for demonstrated lack of commitment to the purposes of the Student Council, school rules, or for misconduct.

The removal of a Student Council member will be carried out after consultation between Deputy Head Student Services, the relevant Head of Key Stage and the President and Vice President of the Student Council.

5. Membership

Membership of the Prince Andrew School Council will be as follows:

For Key Stage 3 (Yrs 7, 8 & 9)

1 representative from each house – Cavendish, Dutton, Jenkins Mundens

For Key Stage 4 (Yrs 10 and 11)

1 representative from each house – Cavendish, Dutton, Jenkins Mundens

For Key Stage 5 (Yrs 12 & 13)

President and Vice President from Yr12 + 2 other members

6. Election Process

Time scale	Activity	Person(s) responsible
<i>New Sch Yr</i> T1A, Wk 1	<u>INTRODUCTION</u> Whole School assembly to introduce Student Council (SC) for this year; year in review, who is eligible, what we are looking for in a student council member. <i>(The idea is to get students thinking about being a SC member.)</i>	Head, DHSS, outgoing President & V/President
T1A: Wk 2	<u>NOMINATION WEEK</u> Students to be nominated for SC via Nomination Form (requires proposer/seconder and three other supporters).	DHSS + HoKS
T1A: Wk 3	<u>CAMPAIGNING WEEK</u> Key stage assemblies to be held (if necessary) when there is more than one nomination for the same seat. Students can then deliver their campaign speeches to the students in their key stage. Friday: Whole school Assembly.	HoKS
T1A: Wk 3	<u>ELECTION WEEK</u> All students and staff to vote for the preferred SC members. Voting to be done by ballot and ballots counted by DHSS and HOKS.	DHSS + HoKS
T1A: Wk 4	<u>ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESULTS</u> Whole School Assembly to introduce the Student Council and for students to receive their red neckties.	Hd, DHSS + HoKS
T1A: Wk 5	First SC meeting to be arranged.	DHSS + President and V/President

President and Vice President

(These positions apply only to Yr12)

Time scale	Activity	Person(s) responsible
New Sch Yr T1A, Wk 1	<u>INTRODUCTION</u> Whole School assembly to introduce Student Council (SC) for this year; year in review, who is eligible, what we are looking for in a student council member. <i>(The idea is to get students thinking about being a SC member.)</i>	Head, DHSS, outgoing President & V/President
T1A: Wk 2	<u>NOMINATION WEEK</u> Potential students to write a letter of application to the Head, stating the position they are applying for with reasons why.	DHSS/HoKS5
T1A: Wk 3	<u>CAMPAIGNING WEEK</u> Friday: Whole school Assembly – potential students for president/vice president to address whole school.	DHSS
T1A: Wk 3	<u>ELECTION WEEK</u> All students and staff to vote for their preferred choice of president and vice president. Voting to be done by ballot and ballots counted by DHSS and HOKS.	DHSS + HoKS
T1A: Wk 4	<u>ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESULTS</u> Whole School Assembly to introduce the President and V/President and for students to receive their red/blue neckties.	Hd, DHSS + HoKS
T1A: Wk 5	First SC meeting to be arranged.	DHSS + President and V/President

In the event of a tie – there will be a recount. If the result remains the same, then another vote will be held.

7. Timings of Student Council meetings.

The Student Council will meet once per half term or more often when necessary.

8. Responsibility of the Student Council

Responsibility for oversight and management of the Student Council process is the Deputy Head Student Services and Heads of Key Stage.