

Wetherby High School School Council Constitution



Mission Statement

The School Council works to improve the school in the ways that the year councils and pupils would like.

Purpose

1. To represent fairly the views of all members of the school.
2. To improve school life as members, year councils, staff and pupils would like.
3. To work alongside the Senior Leadership Team, the Board of Governors and other school bodies.

Members

1. The council is made up from two elected representatives from each year council, the Sixth Form Council and the Leeds Youth Council.
2. To help a range of people be elected, all pupils will be encouraged to stand for election.
3. One member of Youth on Health may attend relevant meetings, with invitation.
4. Two shadow representatives will be elected from the Sixth Form and one from each year council. These will attend meetings in absence of the elected representative.

Elections

1. Elections are held every October in the Year 7, and the candidate must make an election speech to their year group assembly.
2. Youth Council and Youth on Health members can be elected from the council, but must resign from their previous post.

Officers

1. There are three elected officers from years 9-11 and/or the Sixth Form Council. These posts are Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer.
2. Officers are elected every October with the annual AGM (in which the constitution is reviewed), and must sit on the council.
3. To be elected, an election speech must be given to the council.
4. 1-2 additional members shall be elected to preside over the notice board.
5. These roles are outlined under "Responsibilities".

Finance

1. The council will have its own independent budget, which is agreed with the school every financial year.
2. The council can recommend school expenditure as well as independent budget proposals.
3. A democratic vote with at least 1 member from each present body must attend for a financial vote to take place.
4. The Treasurer has responsibility for the budget and must be present at financial votes or debates.

Boundaries

1. No member should use foul or insulting language.
2. No member should discuss issues that relate to the personal lives of staff or pupils.

Meetings

1. Meetings are held monthly, with additional meetings if needed.
2. Members should have the written permission of teachers when missing lessons.
3. At least one member from each present body must be present when a vote is taken. If a body is not present at school, then exception is taken eg. Sixth Form leavers.

4. Motions are passed with democratic vote.
5. If a member is experiencing school disciplinary action at the time of a meeting, then a record of this is kept in the minutes.

Standing down

1. A member may only be removed through a vote of no confidence or written resignation.
2. Written resignation is to be read at a meeting by the Secretary.
3. For a vote of no confidence, a speech in favour of ejection is to be read at a meeting with a defence speech by the member.
4. A quorum of 1 present body representative is needed for a vote of no confidence.

Responsibilities

a) Elected members

1. To represent fairly the views of their elected body.
2. To carry out agreed actions from meetings.
3. To act upon suggestions from their represented body and pupils.

b) Officers

i) Chairperson

1. To run meetings fairly and in a set order.
2. To chair the meeting and allow all members to speak.
3. To have a casting vote in a tie.

ii) Secretary

1. To record minutes properly.
2. To record actions.

iii) Treasurer

1. To perform the Chairperson's role in their absence.
2. To preside over the budget.
3. To meet with the school Bursar.
4. To record all financial actions.

c) Staff

1. To ensure actions have been carried out.
2. To preside over meetings.
3. To ensure attendance at meetings.
4. To advise on the staff view at meetings.

*Last Agreed by the Council: Thursday 29th June 2006.
Members Responsible: A Walsh, R Miller, J Gregory.*