



### Vision Statement

Our vision is, for all children at Woodside Primary School, to be able to have a voice and contribute towards the continuous improvement of our school community.

### Definition and Ethos of Our School Council

The School Council is a body of students elected by their peers in a formal election setting. These students represent the views of all the pupils and consider ways to improve their school. The school council is made up of representatives from each class from Y1 to Y6 who discuss matters about their learning and school life and raise any concerns with the Senior Management Team and Governors of the school. Woodside Primary School firmly believe that young people have unique perspectives on learning, teaching and schooling in general and we encourage students to think about how to enact their understanding of human rights and responsibilities in practical ways. It gives them direct experience of debating and negotiating issues and enables them to see the 'bigger picture' of how the whole school is run.

### School Council Guidelines

The aim of the school council is to involve students in helping to create and implement school policies and procedures that will benefit everyone in the school community. This will address the following areas:

- To make changes in our school and community.
- To give pupils the opportunity to let adults know their feelings and opinions about things that affects them.
- Pupils should also be able to have a say in decisions and to play an active role in making their school a better place for all.

### The Role of the Council

The school council will undertake the following:

- Work with the SMT and Governors to share their opinions on matters which affect the school community.
- Develop creative ways to involve parents in the school.
- Develop ways of encouraging outside groups and agencies to be involved in the school.
- Serve as the voice for the pupils of Woodside Primary School within the school and within the community.

### The Role of the School Councillors

The role of the School Councillors is to:

- Listen to the views of their class and represent these ideas and views during school council meetings.
- Feedback key issues from these meetings to their class.

### Meetings

School councillors aim to meet at least twice a half term to work on current projects and discuss key issues.

### School Council Meeting Organisation

It is the aim of the school that the meetings should be run and led by the pupils (School Councillors) with the teacher representative (Mrs Nelson) involved mainly for guidance. During the first meeting of the council, each representative will take on a designated role or job – these will include:

**Chair Person** – leads the meetings and helps set the agenda through gaining feedback from the other representatives on issues that have been raised by their year group.

**Vice Chair Person** – will assist the Chair Person and ensures that all of the representatives carry out their roles effectively. They will also run the meeting in the absence of the Chair Person.

**Secretaries** – takes the minutes of each meeting which should then be word processed and distributed to all of the teachers and council representatives.

**Web Site Officers** – Liaise with the teacher in charge of the school website to ensure that the school council page is kept up-to-date.

**Newsletter Officers** – Produce regular articles to go in to the school's weekly newsletters.

**General School Councillors** – Liaise and keep other adult members of staff updated with the issues discussed.