



ST JOSEPH'S RC HIGH SCHOOL

SCHOOL COUNCIL

ARTICLE 12: You have the right to an opinion and for it to be listened to and taken seriously.

United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child



UN Children's Charter
No. 12

VIRTUES
GENEROUS AND
GRATEFUL

DAILY DOSE

Be generous, kind, reasonable, forgiving, loving, big-hearted and most of all Grateful for each blessing in life.

St. Ignace



LET US PRAY...

God, the source of every good gift, You have called us together as servants to do Your will. Grant us the light of Your Spirit To guide us in our responsibilities as a School Council. May we work together in harmony for the common good. May we listen to one another in a spirit of genuine respect. Amen.
St Joseph...Pray for us



$$E=mc^2$$

What is a school council?

A school council is a formal group of pupils within a school who are elected by their peers to represent them and their views.

Why have a school council?

Article 12 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) says that children and young people should have a say in decisions that affect their lives. A school council can provide a meaningful way in which pupils can voice their opinions and have their views taken into account in decisions which impact upon them. A school council that is supported and nurtured helps to improve many aspects of school life.



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Why have a school council?

- It is an important and useful way for schools to provide leadership and development opportunities for pupils.
- A school council provides young people with opportunities to participate in school and society.
- School councils are an excellent way in which to increase participation, teaching young people about democracy, local and global citizenship and accountability.



$$E=mc^2$$

- There are lots of reasons to have a school council. To begin with, Article 12 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) says that children and young people should have a say in decisions that affect their lives.
- A school council can provide a meaningful way in which pupils can voice their opinions and have their views taken into account in decisions that impact upon them. Evidence and experience from schools all over the country shows that a school council that is supported and nurtured helps to improve many aspects of school life. It's an important and useful way for schools to provide leadership and development opportunities for their pupils.
- Student councils are a great way for students to **take on leadership roles, promote the voice of the student body, problem solve and impact their community**. A council serves as the voice for an entire student body and actively works with teachers and advisors to promote a better learning environment.



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What makes a school council successful?

These are some things that make a school council effective:

- ✓ Regular meetings.
- ✓ A council that is not too big.
- ✓ Councils and ministries that meet regularly.
- ✓ Good communication between representatives and their forms.
- ✓ Training for school council members.
- ✓ Smaller groups (subcommittees) working on specific events or issues.
- ✓ Termly evaluations.



$$E=mc^2$$



WHAT ARE THE FOUR MINISTRIES?

Ministry for Curriculum: [Link – Mr Ryan & Mrs Hanford](#)

Ministry for Wellbeing: [Link – Mrs Burke](#)

Ministry for Community: [Link – Mr Nunn](#)

Gweinidogaeth i'r Gymraeg: [Link – Mrs Morgan](#)

Each ministry has one year leader from each year group: 28 members in total

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4 x Year leaders
from every year
group = 28 pupils.

2 x Form leaders from every form
class will represent the views of
their form = 100 pupils.

- Everyone will be involved in the School council:
- Regular opportunity to give feedback in form class.
- Suggestion box in reception = 1500 pupils.



$$E=mc^2$$



**SO WHAT ARE THE PRIORITIES THE STUDENT BODY
WILL VOTE ON?**

Ministry for Curriculum – Gweinidogaeth y Cwricwlwm

- Consulting on the topics covered in the new curriculum
- Developing the role of student voice in the school
- Exploring different approaches to feedback in work
- Analysing approaches to questioning and modelling in the classroom
- Exploring ways, a curriculum is designed



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Ministry for Community – Gweinidogaeth dros y Gymuned

- Ensuring all staff and pupils know how to tackle bullying, racism, sexism and all forms of discrimination
- Celebrating our local, national and international and multi-cultural context
- Retaining our ECO school status with an active environmental plan and campaign
- Developing the extra-curricular programme to help meet the needs of learners at lunchtime and after school
- Collaborating with outside agencies to make a difference in school and outside of it.



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Ministry for the Welsh Language - Gweinidogaeth dros y Gymraeg



- Ensuring that Welsh is a presence and is seen around the school, e.g., signs and displays
- Helping staff and pupils to use their Welsh language skills around the school and not just in Welsh lessons
- Help pupils and staff to see the benefit of learning Welsh and the opportunities available
- Ensuring that pupils have the opportunity to learn about Wales, our culture, heritage and language across the Curriculum
- Helping us to achieve the Bronze Campus Cymraeg Award for the Welsh language at St. Joseph's RC High School

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How can you get involved?



STEP 1



STEP 2



STEP 3

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Step 1

- Everyone will be involved in the SJHS School council!
- Your views on the school will be taken:
- during registration in regular collection of feedback suggestion box in reception.



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Step 2

- Run for election as a form leader.
- Two leaders will be elected per form. Voted by the form class.
- If you are a form leader, it is expected you will run to be a year leader.

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Step 3

- Run for election as a year leader.
- Year leaders must be form leaders to run for election.
- Four pupils will be chosen per year group.
- Year leaders will be voted for by the entire year group.
- Year leaders will be attached to a ministry and form the council.

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❑ Each year leader will be linked to one of the four ministries to discuss the issues in that area.

❑ Every ministry will meet with their link once a half term and as a whole school council once a term.

Step 3

SJHS School Council

7 councillors for each ministry

1. Ministry for Curriculum: Link – Mr Ryan & Mrs Hanford
2. Ministry for Wellbeing: Link – Mrs Burke
3. Ministry for Community: Link – Mr Nunn
4. Ministry for Gweinidogaeth i'r Gymraeg: Link – Mr T Nunn

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Step 3

SJHS Council	
Year 7	4 pupils
Year 8	4 pupils
Year 9	4 pupils
Year 10	4 pupils
Year 11	4 pupils
Year 12 & 13	8 pupils
TOTAL	28 pupils

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Step 3

- ✓ All year leaders will make up the Council (28 in total).
- ✓ The Council will collect all the information from the different ministries and then influence school policies.
- ✓ The Council will meet once a term to discuss current issues and feedback.
- ✓ There will be a School Council training day for the members of the Council.

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NEXT STEPS

- ✓ Think about how much you would like to get involved. If you would like to run as a form rep please tell your tutor.
- ✓ Form leader elections will be running between 18th-22nd September.
- ✓ Year leader applications due to Mr Seghiri on 29th September.
- ✓ Year leader presentations and elections will be running from 2nd October.

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