



Ysgol Uwchradd Casnewydd

Newport High School

Student Voice Policy

Polisi Llais Myfyrwyr

At Newport High School we are committed to enabling learners to contribute to school life and to take responsibility for their education and development. Learners are key stakeholders in school and as such, have opportunity to contribute to decision making which affects their experience both in and out of the classroom.

Through DACW (Daily Act of Collective Worship) all learners are made aware of their rights and responsibilities, allowing them to become active participants in school life. At Newport High, we actively seek the views of every learner.

We believe that Newport High learners have unique perspectives on all aspects of their school life. Being a member of the School Council allows learners to make a contribution to all school matters.

The Student Voice Leadership Group (SVLG) consists of an elected Head Boy and Girl, Deputy Head Boy and Girl and two Senior Captains. The SVLG leads the School Council. As Associate Student Governors, both the Head Boy and Head Girl attend Governing Body meetings and present termly reports.

Each TFL has the opportunity to nominate representatives who attend house council meetings on a regular basis. Our School Council is a group of learners elected by their peers in a formal election. Representatives meet regularly to discuss issues, solve problems and make decisions and recommendations affecting learners and school life. Each council is led by a House Captain. The School Council is made up of 4 representatives from:

- Year 7 council
- Year 8 council
- Branwen House council
- Olwen House council
- Pryderi House council
- Taliesin House council

House and Year councils meet once a half term. Their discussions feed into the agenda for the whole school council meeting. This meeting is chaired by the SVLG and is also attended by the Student Voice Coordinator, Head teacher and link Governor. Minutes of meetings are recorded and council members feedback to the relevant Year and Houses during assembly time.

Consultation groups are set up through the School Council, to discuss and implement new ideas. Most importantly they represent student voice, for example:

- SNAG group
- ECO committee
- DACW working party
- LRC discussion group

In addition to their role of representing the voice of learners, members of the school

council also:

- Represent the school at community events
- Take part in cluster school council meetings
- Participate in new staff appointment panels
- Host events - awards evening, cluster carol concert, community Christmas lunch, community St David's day concert etc.
- Plan, organise and lead all fundraising activities

Learners are encouraged to contribute to the development of teaching and learning. All departments seek the views of learners regarding curriculum issues through the use of student consultation groups. This enables learners to have a positive impact on their learning environment. At all times learners are encouraged to voice their opinions, queries or concerns through their TFL, HOH, Student Voice Coordinator, SVLG or a School Council Representative.

Student voice at Newport High is a series of systems and opportunities enabling learners to:

- Engage in learning and the wider life of our school community
- Nurture skills and attitudes required to develop responsibility, independence, teamwork and communication skills through positive relationships with staff and peers
- Have high expectations of themselves, their peers and all teachers
- Develop their leadership and decision-making skills
- Contribute to the curriculum and extracurricular opportunities

The student voice opportunities instilled in our daily practice, holistically allow our learners to give their opinions and suggestions on their school life in an honest, secure and yet constructive way.