

THE IONA SCHOOL

Pupil Voice policy

Written February 2019

Prepared using the DFE publications; Listening to and involving children and young people
Jan 14

Introduction

At the Iona School we fully value the voice of our pupils and the important contributions they make to their school and school life. We encourage our children to be confident to have a voice and to feel that their ideas are listened to and valued greatly.

Our children are happy, confident and well-behaved individuals and we are proud of each and every one of them.

We believe that children need to be heard and understood in order for us to provide the best education we can, we want them to grow into independent people and understand that their voice matters. Their ideas will always be matched against the ethos of the school, whilst we provide safe boundaries and guidelines, the pupils voices are always considered and heard at every opportunity

How we do this

- From base level in the classes, the pupil's voice is heard, classroom staff note the children's interest in things, they will see what they enjoy doing and observe and respond to that child's need. Whilst we are aware that not all children will want to speak out, we try and be as intuitive as possible with the children.
- We also listen to their parents during meetings; they will bring subjects to us from the children. All these are deeply considered in providing the children's education.
- We will also ask the children for their opinions and input; we want them to have enthusiasm for a subject.
- With the older classes, we will allow time in a week for a debating session. The children choose which subjects they want to discuss, they listen to each other with the class teacher leading.
- we always offer the children a space to tell the teacher or another appropriate adult their concerns so we can work with them
- Each classroom has a board where children can put their ideas, these are taken to school council meetings

School Council

The Iona School Council is the voice of the children at our school. The role of our School Council is:

- to represent the views of the children;
- to raise issues with the adults and tell them about any big problems;
- to have a say in decisions about things that affect the children at our school; and
- to play an active part in making our school a better place
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Each half term, each class elects two pupils to represent the views of the children in the class. The council meet every fortnight to discuss important issues to the children or to provide pupils' opinions to help our school leadership team make decisions.

The children keep a minute book, which are viewed and discussed in teacher meetings.

We aim to give every school child a seat on the school council, with no child elected twice.

Sometimes the children will choose items to be discussed, and sometimes the school leadership team or our trustees will ask that a matter is taken to the School Council so that they can find out what the children think.

Issue date

This policy takes effect from February 2018

Review date

This policy will be reviewed and revised by the school manager on an annual basis.

Endorsement

Full endorsement to this policy is given by:

Name:	Mr Martin Taylor
Position:	Iona School Trustee
Signed:	
Date:	14/02/19

Related policies

- Positive behaviour policy
- spiritual Moral and social policy