

Senedd Policy

Review Date	December 2024	Leader of Policy Review	Mr. M. Clive / Mrs. I. Birch
--------------------	---------------	--------------------------------	------------------------------

Student voice is an essential way to develop mature and confident students who have multiple opportunities to contribute actively to shaping their educational experience. In September 2022 Student Council was renamed as Senedd and additional pupil bodies were incorporated.

Senedd
- our pupil voice.

To raise the profile in the first term, 50 pupils were taken to visit Cardiff Senedd. They met Mark Drakeford FM, various SMs and watched First Minister's Question Time. Subsequently, this year pupils will be visiting Westminster to continue to raise the profile.

Hawarden High School is committed to providing opportunities for students to be consulted within the classroom and become responsible for their own learning and to provide opportunities for students to be consulted about wider school issues and become responsible for their school.

Aims

- To encourage active student engagement in learning and in life at Hawarden High School.
- To nurture the skills required to develop responsibility, independence, teamwork and leadership.
- To embed a culture where students feel consulted and considered in decisions which affect their individual learning and their school as a whole.
- To design appropriate opportunities for students to voice opinions, both within lessons and beyond.
- To promote active citizenship.
- To contribute to whole school improvement.
- To improve communication between staff and students and ensure that there is a free and constant dialogue between the two.
- To provide face to face contact between pupils and The Headteacher and senior staff. Pupils and staff alike are thus able to receive immediate feedback on matters raised.
- To establish/maintain links with Hawarden CC, Flintshire CC, Welsh Youth Parliament, The Senedd and UK Parliament. Visits have been made to Welsh Government Senedd in Cardiff and Parliament in London. We have also sent form representatives to attend a democracy workshop with local Senedd Members and taken part in a 'Meet the leader' question time with Plaid Cymru. We receive Welsh Youth Parliament updates each meeting from Alyn and Deeside member Leola Roberts-Biggs (ex-pupil).
- To ensure that pupils from a range of year groups are represented.
- To ensure participation of groups of learners with Senedd are represented e.g. FSM and ALN pupils.

Principles

Student voice activities have a direct impact on the individuals who have their voices heard. They:

- Enable pupils to make a positive contribution to their learning environment.
 - Increase engagement with school and learning and counter disaffection.
 - Give a better understanding of young people's insights and capabilities.
 - No item is prohibited from discussion, however House and Group representatives are encouraged to ensure the same topics are not raised repeatedly when feedback has already been provided.
 - Form the basis for developing democratic principles and practice; they represent the views of all pupils, not just their own
-

Senedd Policy

- Focus on school improvement.
- Pupils develop their leadership skills by planning their agendas, taking their minutes, presenting their topics in Senedd and deciding on next steps.
- Give opportunities for student voice to permeate and inform all areas of school life through:-
- Enable consultation with student groups about things that matter in school;
- Support evaluation of the learning experience;
- Facilitate systematic collection and evaluation of the views of pupils across the spectrum of their school experience.

Organisation

Senedd meetings are scheduled on the school calendar and take place termly throughout the school year.

Members of Senedd represent the school at community meetings and at meetings of the Leadership Team and Governing Body.

- Senedd organise their own activities and liaise to accommodate these activities on the school calendar.
- Members of Senedd take part in staff recruitment, forming part of the interview process and leading tours of the school. Student feedback is also gathered, following sample lessons.
- Senedd are involved in the whole school development plan processes.
- Senedd provide pupil representatives in the school community, for pupil level decision making.
- Senedd are involved in creating pupil friendly policies.

All Houses provide elected representatives with additional members representing various student bodies such as the Sports Council, Arts Council and LGBTQ+ group

Following the process outlined below :

Pastoral Teams and staff leads for student bodies forward a list of names to MRC in October of each academic year for all Senedd and group members.

Senedd

Each House has approximately four representatives (and two deputies in their absence) from their House Council (two from Key Stage 3 and two from Key Stage 4) who sit on Senedd. Their term of office may last for the duration of their time in that Key Stage, e.g., a pupil elected in Year 7 will remain on the school council until Year 9. This will affect the election for Tutor Group representatives for House Council each year.

The Sixth Form Student Leadership Team are represented as per availability – usually comprising Head Students or their deputies.

Pupil groups e.g. LGBTQ+ group will elect a Senedd representative who will provide an overview of the ongoing activities and aims of that group.

Head students will feedback Senedd outcomes in house assemblies.

The Headteacher and other select members of SLT will be present within Senedd meetings to give feedback/rationale/additional information/actions to be taken on matters raised by the pupil body.

House Council

There should be an election in each Tutor Group for a representative to sit on the House Council. This is normally completed annually, unless a Senedd member for that Key Stage acts as the Tutor Group representative. The House Council will be convened by Deputy Heads of House every half term. The minutes from those meetings will be used in Senedd.

New curriculum working party

Senedd provided members to consult on the new curriculum.

Senedd Policy

School Health Research Network working party

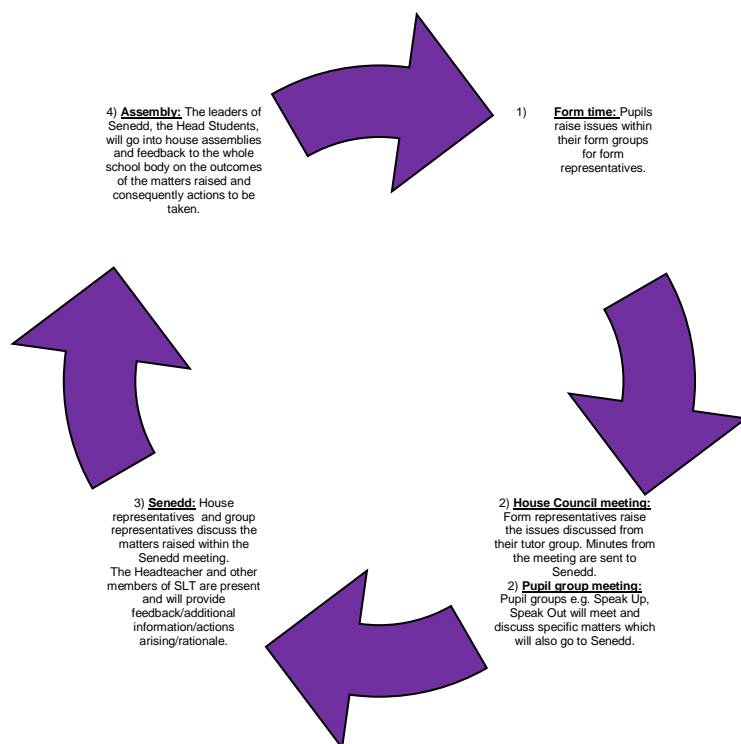
Senedd will provide members to consult on the results of SHRN.

Sports Council

The PE subject lead will oversee a council of pupil representatives led by sixth form pupils to cover school sport related matters. Matters arising can be presented to Senedd via Sixth form members.

Communicating Senedd outcomes

Hawarden High School recognises the need to ensure the outcomes of Senedd meetings are communicated clearly back to the pupil body. The following diagram outlines the process for the flow of communication:



Surveys

Representatives of the student body are regularly surveyed/interviewed by the Senior Leadership Team. Students are asked for their opinions on a variety of aspects of teaching and learning and school life.

Students are also interviewed in conjunction with work scrutiny; they are asked specific questions in relation to target data, how their work is marked and how feedback helps them to learn.

Pupils will participate within the Faculty review process, they will complete Forms questionnaires on their teaching and learning experiences within the faculty, the extra-curricular activities on offer on the progress they feel they are making within the subject area.

Faculty Student Voice

All faculty areas should research the most effective ways to use student voice to represent each department, provide communication between students and the teachers in the department, undertake research for the department and provide close links between staff and students within departments.

Pupils voice will form a part of faculty observations, providing feedback on a range of matters from teaching and learning to the provision of extra-curricular activities.

Senedd Policy

Curriculum, Evaluation and Review

- Students contribute to school evaluation through completion of a questionnaires and surveys; the analysis of their responses informs the school's self-evaluation process.
- Students should be encouraged to take the lead role in lessons in several subjects, creating and presenting resources for their peers e.g. revision or presentation of topics.
- Students evaluate their learning experience during Personal & Social Education in REACH and during revision skills sessions, designed to foster students' awareness of how they learn.
- Pupils have the opportunity to talk about their own learning during informal learning conversations with teachers.
- Peer and self-assessment for learning takes place across curricular areas to strengthen pupils' commitment to their own learning and that of their peers.
- CLs are encouraged to use pupil observers as part of the department self-review programme.
- Opportunities for young people to get involved in leadership are embedded within the curriculum in courses such as sports leaders and outside the curriculum in extended school activities/events.
- Pupils also have the opportunity of representing the school in formal evenings and events in the local community.

Transition

- Students act as hosts to Year 6 pupils during their induction.
- Older school students may act as mentors to younger pupils within their House.
- Year 7 pupils write to their old primary school to reflect on their experiences and provide a role model to younger pupils.
- Year 7 pupils will visit their old primary school in the summer term to meet year 6.
- Senedd will establish links with consortium student councils.

Administration Use	
Statutory/Non-Statutory:	Non-Statutory
School Website:	Yes
Document Author:	Mr. M. Clive & Mrs. I. Birch
GB Committee Overview:	Wellbeing & Community Committee
Date Document Reviewed and Approved by Committee:	16 January 2024
Document Formulated:	
Date Reviewed Document Approved by FGB:	March 2024
To be Reviewed:	Every two years
Next Review Date:	March 2026