

School Council Minutes

Date: Thursday 21st May 2026

Present: Mrs France; School Council Representatives from Hedgehog, Squirrel, Fox and Owl Classes

Apologies: None

Chair: Mrs France

1. Welcome and Purpose

Mrs France welcomed all members and thanked them for their continued contribution to improving the school.

The purpose of the meeting was to review recent whole-school experiences, gather pupil voice, and support decision-making.

2. Inclusion Day – Pupil Reflection

Pupils reflected thoughtfully on Inclusion Day and demonstrated a strong understanding of its purpose.

Key themes from pupil discussion:

- Pupils recognised the importance of treating everyone equally and with respect
- They identified that the school promotes inclusion through:
 - relationships between pupils
 - support from adults
 - shared values and collective worship
- Pupils said the day helped them:
 - “think about how others feel”
 - “understand differences better”

Suggested improvements:

- More opportunities for team-building activities
- Planned opportunities to help pupils “play together fairly”

Impact:

Pupils demonstrated awareness of inclusion, empathy and respect, reflecting strong personal development and values-driven education.

3. Cake Sale – Decision Making

The council reviewed the recent cake sale:

- Total raised: £280

Options discussed:

- Split between school (library) and charity
- Donate to a charity that supports children

Decision:

- Donation to Christian Aid was agreed following discussion
- Pupils justified this choice based on:
 - helping children and families globally
 - addressing poverty and inequality

Additional suggestions:

- Supporting the link school in South Africa
- Children’s Cancer Charity

Impact:

Pupils demonstrated:

- understanding of global issues
- ability to debate and justify decisions
- a strong sense of moral purpose and responsibility

4. What is Great About Our School? (Pupil Voice)

Pupils spoke confidently and positively about their experience of school.

Key strengths identified by pupils:

- “People listen to me and help me”
- “There are lots of people to talk to—adults and children”
- “When times are tough, people help each other”
- Strong focus on environmental responsibility (Eco work)
- Enjoyment of enrichment days and themed weeks

- “We all fit together like puzzle pieces”

Impact:

Pupils feel:

- supported and listened to
- part of a strong, inclusive community
- engaged in a rich and varied curriculum

5. Areas for Improvement

Pupils gave thoughtful and constructive suggestions:

- Ensuring consistent kindness across the school
- More structured opportunities to play together
- Activities where:
 - everyone can participate equally
 - pupils of different abilities feel successful

Next Steps:

- School to explore more structured play and team-building opportunities
- Reinforce expectations around kindness through curriculum and assemblies

6. Safety and Behaviour

Pupils unanimously agreed that:

- They feel safe in school
- They believe others feel safe too

Who pupils would speak to:

- Class teachers
- Mrs Surman
- Other trusted adults

Pupil understanding:

- Pupils recognised that the school is:
 - “working hard on kindness”
 - encouraging positive relationships

Impact:

Strong evidence that:

- pupils understand safeguarding systems
- pupils trust adults
- behaviour culture is positive and improving

7. Experiences and Learning

Pupils spoke enthusiastically about enrichment opportunities:

- “All of our trips are enjoyable”
- UKS2 pupils highly motivated and looking forward to the residential

Impact:

Pupils:

- value and remember enrichment experiences
- demonstrate enthusiasm and engagement in learning beyond the classroom

8. Preparing for the Future (Pupil Voice)

Pupils linked school experiences to wider development:

- Enjoy opportunities to:
 - try new activities (e.g. outdoor challenges, sport)
 - develop independence and confidence
- Suggested future developments to support wellbeing and social time:
 - calm spaces (e.g. Rainbow Room)
 - friendship areas (bench/sign)
 - structured break/lunchtime activities

Impact:

Pupils recognise how school prepares them for:

- independence
- relationships
- wider life experiences

9. Pupil Suggestions for Future Development

Pupils generated a range of ideas, including:

- Additional outdoor equipment (zip wire, climbing equipment)
- Lunchtime clubs (cinema club, gaming club)
- Environmental initiatives (litter picking)
- Expanded wellbeing resources (sensory equipment, calm areas)
- Improved use of space and storage

Next Steps:

- Suggestions to be reviewed by Mrs France
- Some initiatives to be explored through pupil leadership groups (e.g. Eco Warriors)

10. Summary

This meeting demonstrated that pupils:

- Feel safe, supported and listened to
- Show strong understanding of inclusion, respect and fairness
- Engage in meaningful decision-making
- Value enrichment opportunities and wider experiences
- Are able to reflect and suggest improvements thoughtfully