

School Council Minutes

Date: 18th September 2026

Present: Mrs Hart; Nora Squirrel, Elsie & Billie Fox and Grace and Ted Owl Classes

Apologies: Rocco Squirrel,

Chair: Mrs Hart

1. Welcome and Introductions

Mrs Hart welcomed all newly elected School Council representatives. Representatives were congratulated on being chosen by their classmates and reminded that they are role models for the school community.

Each representative introduced themselves and shared one thing they would like to improve, celebrate or develop in school this year.

2. What is School Council?

Mrs Hart explained the purpose of School Council and the important role representatives play in school life.

The School Council exists to:

- Represent the views of all pupils.
- Ensure every child has a voice.
- Share ideas and suggestions from classmates.
- Help improve the school.
- Support school values and vision.
- Promote kindness, respect and inclusion.
- Develop leadership skills.

Children discussed what makes an effective School Council representative, including:

- Listening carefully
- Being fair and honest
- Showing respect
- Taking responsibility
- Speaking confidently
- Including everyone

Representatives agreed to gather views from their classes and report back at each meeting.

3. Preparing for Visitors Including Ofsted

Mrs Hart explained that school visitors may speak to School Council representatives during the year, including Ofsted inspectors.

Representatives discussed:

- What makes our school special.
- How children feel safe.
- How adults help us learn.
- Opportunities available beyond the classroom.
- How pupils can influence decisions in school.

Children agreed that School Council should help all pupils feel confident talking about their experiences and achievements.

Action: Representatives to encourage positive pupil voice and celebrate the many opportunities available throughout school.

4. Enrichment and Personal Development Opportunities

The School Council discussed the exciting enrichment opportunities planned this year.

Courageous Advocacy Week

Children discussed how they can stand up for causes that matter and make a positive difference to their local and wider communities.

Doors to Discovery Week

Representatives explored how learning about different careers, interests and opportunities helps us develop aspirations for the future.

Black History Month

The council discussed celebrating significant Black British individuals and learning about their contributions to society.

Additional Enrichment Opportunities

The council identified other important events throughout the year including:

- Harvest Festival
- Anti-Bullying Week
- Children's Mental Health Week
- World Book Day
- Environment and Sustainability Projects
- Community Fundraising Events
- Sports Festivals and Competitions

Representatives agreed to help promote these events within their classes.

5. Pupil Voice and Suggestion Books

Each representative received their class Pupil Voice Suggestion Book. Children discussed how these books help ensure that everyone can contribute ideas.

Representatives will collect:

- Suggestions for improvement
- Questions
- Concerns
- Ideas for clubs
- Playground developments
- Reading opportunities
- Environmental projects

Action: Books should be brought to every meeting.

6. Developing Leadership Across School

Representatives discussed the importance of leadership opportunities for all pupils.

Ideas included:

- Playground leaders
- Reading buddies
- Worship leaders
- Sports leaders
- Eco-warriors
- Wellbeing ambassadors

The council agreed that leadership opportunities should help children develop confidence, responsibility and teamwork.

7. Promoting Wellbeing, Inclusion and Belonging

The School Council discussed how everyone should feel valued and included.

Suggestions included:

- Friendship initiatives
- Kindness challenges
- Wellbeing activities
- Celebrating differences
- Supporting new pupils

Representatives agreed to be role models who help others feel welcome and respected. Representatives also agreed to discuss ideas around these with their classes and bring back to the next meeting.

8. School Improvement Priorities

The council identified key priorities for this academic year:

- Strengthening pupil voice
- Promoting wellbeing and inclusion
- Supporting enrichment opportunities
- Developing environmental responsibility
- Increasing leadership opportunities
- Supporting reading and learning environments
- Celebrating school achievements
- Improving communication between classes and School Council

Progress will be reviewed each term.

9. Initial Ideas from Representatives

Representatives shared early suggestions:

- Additional playground equipment
- Charity fundraising ideas
- Quiet spaces for reflection
- Year group buddy activities
- Hoodies – have a specific day a week in Summer 2
- Sports Day – Courageous Advocacy stalls
- Colour Run?
- Disco – summer;
- Swing

All ideas will be considered within the School Council Action Plan.

10. Next Meeting

Date: Monday 12th October

Agenda:

- Feedback from classes
- Courageous Advocacy Week review
- Black History Month review
- Environmental projects
- Wellbeing and inclusion update
- Action Plan progress review