



Democratic Engagement at Mill View Primary

First Year - Pupil Parliament

- ⊕ Experience of voting;
- ⊕ Consider role of UK government;
- ⊕ Experience of standing for election and campaigning;
- ⊕ Consider concepts of representation and engagement;
- ⊕ Children hold elected officials to account.

Children in each year group stand for election to represent their class. With teacher support they prepare their manifesto and speak to the class. Teachers talk to children about characteristics needed for elected officials and representatives. Children experience a free and fair election. Two children are elected to represent each class, finding out their priorities and working as a Pupil Parliament, under teacher supervision, to identify at least three priority areas for change. Children keep their classes informed of progress and engage in projects to improve life in school, e.g. playtime snack, playtime leaders. Along side this is a Active Citizen award where children undertake good deeds in their community, home and school, receiving Gold, Silver or Bronze awards.

Pupil parliament welcomes visits from local MP and takes part in visit to UK Parliament.

Second Year – Pupil Councils

- ⊕ Experience of working with a committee;
- ⊕ Consider role of local government;
- ⊕ Pupils experience change through their own work and through expressing their voice;
- ⊕ Experience compromise and consensus ;
- ⊕ Experience project work and seeing an idea through to completion.

All children work in committees representing the whole of school life e.g. Sports, Arts, Playtime/Lunchtime and Fundraising. These committees, supported by a teacher with particular interest in that area, work to identify a project and way of improving that area of school life. E.g. Arts Superstar assembly to celebrate achievement of pupils outside school.

Pupils welcome visit from local councillors, meet with relevant governors and put their names forward to take part in a visit to Pupil Parliament, where staff can include those from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Third Year – Collective Action

- ⊕ Experience of democratic, collective action;
- ⊕ Consider local issues and how people improve their local area;
- ⊕ Experience making a change through means other than elections;
- ⊕ Learn about people in local community who make positive change.

All Pupils think about issues in their local community which they would like to improve. This may involve a walk round their locality or school grounds – consider where they feel safe/unsafe and why, consider all users of the community, consider what an area might be like for older people, how accessible it is and what they would like to see done. Celebrate with a whole school **'Day For Change'** where each class carries out their project.

Along side this, a 'Social Action' award for any child doing good deeds in their community and making change for the better. This could be celebrated on SeeSaw or Twitter.

Pupils welcome visitors from local community involved in change through democratic means e.g. local councillors, volunteer groups, parents/grandparents who volunteer