

STUDENT

LEADERSHIP

Programme

2019-20



All student leader activities will support and feed into the overall vision for student leadership within the school.

Environmental

To improve the school's environmental impact and raise awareness of environmental issues that are of concern to our peers.

Well-being

To promote an understanding of well-being through mental health, anti-bullying and inclusion.

Engagement

To actively engage the school community in the vision of the student leaders.

Prefects

To assist with maintaining a calm and organised lower school and to take on responsibilities with external visitors to the school

Leadership qualities

1. **Working hard on yourself:** Learning to be hard on yourself and to work on yourself is an essential skill that any student leader must have.
2. **Effective Speaker and Communicator:** When you listen to those you lead, you learn more and you increase rapport with the individuals you are leading.
3. **Using SMART Goal Planning:** Setting time-bound goals is also important, since it gives you a timeline to follow and a deadline to meet so you will work harder to achieve those goals.
4. **Overcoming Mistakes and Failures:** Learning to overcome adversity, including your own failures, allows you to focus on the task at hand, moving forward instead of keeping your focus on the problems and mistakes of the past.
5. **Process Facilitation:** find the facts, deal with opinions and assumptions, and find the underlying causes of a problem so it can be resolved smoothly, quickly and effectively.

Student Leaders should like: working with and talking to younger students; be able to build good working relationships with staff; want to make a lasting impact at school and be involved in decision making; be able to work well in a team; have good time management skills e.g. balancing commitments; be polite, mature, **responsible** and **reliable** at all times.

Within these key areas of student leadership, a host of skills are essential to consider. These include but are not exclusive to; diplomacy, conflict resolution, empathy, honesty, reliability, creativity, problem solving, clarity of expression and feedback, evaluating, perseverance and adaptability.

Everyone has a strength in at least one of these areas and the student leadership programme aims to dispel the myth that “I can’t be a leader because I’m an introvert” or “I wasn’t born to be a leader”.

As with any skill set, leadership is something that is developed, practised and learnt. For example, introverted traits could provide an advantage as a leader as you are more likely to reflect on and consider all the information before forming a conclusion. Farrell (2017) writes that this quality contributes to effective leadership as it allows for leaders to question what they see and hear in order to gain a better understanding of the bigger picture. You are more likely to listen rather than talk, which, according to Emauelsson and Lindqvist (2014) makes the team feel valued and more empowered. You are more self-aware, know your own character and reflect on experiences in order to improve. Terri et al. (2016) believe that understanding your personhood and being your authentic self are leadership traits that are highly regarded and are essential when seeking 360-degree feedback for colleagues.

Aims of our Student Leadership programme

- To empower students to work in partnership with staff towards shared goals.
- To enable creativity to flourish as the school community benefits from the wealth of experiences, ideas, skills and sense of fun that students bring.
- To provide opportunities for students to develop leadership skills through a variety of inspiring, challenging and valued projects which impact positively on learning, teaching, our environment and well-being for both students and staff at Eggescliffe.
- To prepare students for future academic and pastoral challenges and for achieving personal and professional excellence.

Our Student Leadership programme provides;

- Formal and informal learning opportunities to develop individuals as leaders.
- Processes and structures for student representation and the incorporation of students' views into decision making in the life of the school.
- Events and tailored workshops, lectures and seminars led by individuals in a leadership position
- The opportunity to use your skills to sail a Tall Ship through the Channel Islands as a team.

Student Leader expectations

Student Leaders are the school's role models. You need to be a student who works hard to reach our schools expectation of good behaviour, 95% attendance, constant punctuality; you also need to be always in full and correct school uniform. As a Student Leader you will be required to wear your Student Leadership tie and complete at least one duty per week during the school day plus at least one evening duty.

Environmental Student Leaders

Remit: To inform and enthuse on a shifting range of environmental issues – both local and international – and to work with staff members to gain eco-school status.

Vision: To reduce the school's negative environmental impact through projects within the school site, liaisons with external organisations and engaging peers with global events.

Goals for the year:

- To have obtained eco-school status
- To improve the school site for vulnerable native species
- To start a cross-curricular project relating to earth day
- To increase the levels of recycling within the school and work with the community to focus on other difficult to recycle items
- To engage the community in an environmental project
- To have assisted with an international research project on the quality of our oceans

Impact:

- Pen recycling initiated
- Eco-club run by Y10 students working with lower school students to raise awareness around school
- Assemblies to talk through the litter issue around school
- Keep Britain Tidy Litter Pick signed up to for Sunday 29th March 10;30am-11.30am
- Sponsored an orangutan with fundraised money
- Do a big event for Earth Day to Y7
- Engage with global climate activism (their thoughts - not mine!)
- Spread recycling to all 6th form and assess success
- Do staff survey

Next steps:

- Meet with duty staff re: Litter rota
- Spread the word on the Keep Britain Tidy Litter Pick
- See if we can get Mr Moulder to take crisp packets to Junction Farm.
- Inform community via social media of pen recycling and the crisps recycling schemes
- Fundraise for hedgehog food
- Meet with HoD to discuss Earth Day and World Environment Day – collate this information
- Assemblies planned with staff (from survey) on environmental tips and action to relate to Earth Day; theme climate action
- Assembly on biodiversity for WED.

Well-Being Student Leaders

Remit: To inform and assist with student well-being. This is done across 3 areas: anti-bullying, mental health and student mentors.

Vision: To reduce bullying levels within school, improve awareness of how to maintain mental health and ensure all members of the student community are included.

Goals for the year:

- To raise awareness on anti-bullying and mental health
- To get guest speakers in from a range of fields – mental health workers, psychologists and bullying charities
- Worry boxes in all house blocks for students to use leading to drop in sessions on a Thursday
- Work with vulnerable or struggling students throughout the year and during transition for the next cohort coming through.

Impact:

- Trained on safeguarding and consequently met with students identified as struggling in Autumn Term
- Guidance from charity organisations and training received from them
- Worry boxes in lower house blocks
- Project being set up with Mr Moulder for inclusion
- Liaison with staff re assemblies done in Autumn Term

Next steps:

- Assemblies planned for World Mental Health Week – themed 'sleep'
- Man the worry boxes and address issues raised
- Guest speakers for anti-bullying/sleep/careers
- Liaise with M. Haworth in relation to the induction with feeder schools.

Engagement Student Leaders

Remit: To engage and enthuse the community with the projects of the student leaders and engage with T&L within the school.

Vision: To get as many KS3 students as possible within the school community involved in the projects run by the environmental and well-being teams and to raise awareness of their work in the local community outside the school gates.

Goals for the year:

- To organise at least one project within the local community that is linked to either the environment or well-being
- To inform the school and wider community of the projects that they can be involved in
- To engage with Teaching and Learning in the school and develop skills relating to this.

Impact:

- Selected and recruited KS3 student leaders
- Introductory assemblies designed and delivered to all KS3 students – meetings run with them
- Community project decided upon and signed up to
- Risk assessments for community project carried out
- Fundraising events planned.

Next Steps:

- Use social media to spread information about community project
- Advertise pen and crisp packet recycling schemes
- Get students to decorate and distribute pen recycling boxes
- Design 'advent' calendar for June after mental health weeks and WED – see if there is some sort of prize we can offer?
- Inform about Tall Ships Challenge and recruitment
- Carry out fundraising.



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