



Belfast Model School for Girls

Achievement for All



Student Voice Policy

Introduction to policy and overall aims

Student voice work is important in the Belfast Model School for Girls as it provides opportunities for all students to take on roles of responsibility and to get involved in real decision making. Student voice also provides opportunities for students to develop leadership skills and become confident and active participants in the life of the school. It is also about students and staff working together to develop positive working relationships and improve the school as a learning community. Student Voice is in line with our mission statement: 'Achievement for All'

Outline of student voice activities

In our school, we are committed to developing the following student voice initiatives:

- Behaviour Improvement Team
- Students as Researchers
- Student councils
- Student Learning Partners
- Peer Mediators
- Student Young Leaders
- Student Sport Representatives
- Student Lead Rock Challenge

We would like to develop a student working party and department representatives.

Outline of way forward, based on agreed principles

In order for students to be able to carry out their roles and responsibilities, we believe that it is important to put in place support and training.

This will include:

Meeting space(s)

SVLT meet in the Learning Resource Centre each week. – Junior/Senior Student Councils meet in LRC approx. once a month.

Budget

An agreed budget for SVLT to develop agreed initiatives indicated on the School Development Plan.

Training needs

Relevant training for group members led by assigned Staff and SVLT.

Support

Key support staff, including a member of the SLT.

School Development Plan

Agreement of a Student Voice action plan which will be part of the school development plan.

Calendar

Agreement of dates/times for student led meetings and events with these activities appearing on the school calendar.

Communication

Students having the opportunity to develop different ways to share their work with staff and students for VLE – website, newsletters, assemblies, Outlook.

Policy written by SVLT agreed by Student Representatives

..... (Date...NOVEMBER 2009)

Agreed by Senior Leadership Team

..... (Date...NOVEMBER 2009)

Agreed by Board of Governors

..... (Date...NOVEMBER 2009)

To be communicated to staff, students and parents through VLE

Responsibility for monitoring:

SVLT and SLT members