

School Council Overview

Upton-by-Chester High School's School Council provides a platform for learners to express their views, share their ideas, and influence decision-making. The council consists of a group of learners who are elected to represent their peers and work together to improve their school.

Upton-by-Chester High School believes that the School Council plays an important role in developing learners' understanding of **citizenship, spiritual, moral, cultural, and social** values, while ensuring that every learner has a clear and meaningful voice within the school.

Who

There are two representatives from each year group (Years 7–13). Each year group represents one of the five Halls within the school.

Year Group	Hall Representation	Number of Representatives
Year 7	Maathai	2
Year 8	Mendes	2
Year 9	Yousafzai	2
Year 10	Yunus	2
Year 11	Wood	2 (plus 2 reserve learners during exam season)
Year 12		2
Year 13		2

When

The School Council meets six times per year — once each half term.

Year group council meetings take place one week before the main School Council meeting, allowing representatives to gather feedback and key information from their peers to bring forward to the main discussion. All meetings take place in the Conference Room

Meeting number	Dates
1	Wednesday 22nd October 2025
Learner led meeting to discuss interior of new build	Wednesday 19 th November
2	Wednesday 10th December 2025
3	Wednesday 4th February 2026
4	Wednesday 25th March 2026
5	Wednesday 13th May 2026
6	Wednesday 8th July 2026

Role

The role of the School Council is to provide a voice for learners, working alongside school leaders to implement positive changes for the benefit of the whole school community.

Our School Council aims to provide:

- A positive forum for learner voice
- A structured opportunity for learner–leadership dialogue
- Learners with an insight into democracy
- A platform for learners to instigate change regarding aspects of school life (e.g. school meals, social areas, outdoor equipment)
- A sense of self-worth and mutual respect among learners

The Council is overseen by **Deputy Headteachers Mrs McCarthy and Mrs Bradbury**, who act as advisors and ensure that the council operates within the school’s policies and guidelines.

Role of the Staff

- Facilitate the formation of agreed ground rules for meetings (e.g. taking turns, listening, minute taking, etc.)
- Offer advice and guidance when requested
- Help prepare for meetings
- Ensure that council requests are taken seriously and that agreed actions are followed up

Ground Rules**Do:**

- Listen to other people
- Make sure everybody’s point of view counts
- Treat everyone equally and with respect
- Create a positive and inclusive atmosphere
- Seek and share the views of other learners, even if they differ from your own

Don’t:

- Be afraid to speak out
- Keep important matters to yourself
- Make jokes about serious issues
- Use inappropriate or insulting language

Communication

Miss Noel will invite the School Council to a Google Classroom and maintain the displays of the school council around the school.

Miss Blackwell will use Google Classroom to post reminders, agendas and minutes of meetings.

The School Council should periodically check the Google Classroom for any updates