



## Sutton in Craven C.E (V.C) Primary School

*Flourish together, in the love of God, to live life in all its fullness.*

Main Street, Sutton in Craven, Keighley, BD20 7JS

Tel: 01535 632181, Email: [admin@sutton-in-cravencofe.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:admin@sutton-in-cravencofe.n-yorks.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mrs O Gibbons



28<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

### Pupil Voice at Sutton CE

At Sutton CE, we wholeheartedly believe that it is so important to find the time to listen to our children. It is important to create supportive and welcoming spaces where children feel they can voice their opinions. We want to build a true sense of community where children are championed to take their skills and involve themselves in pertinent discussions around the direction of school. We firmly believe in leaders at all levels.

Over the last few weeks we have worked with the children on the importance of pupil voice, how their opinions and skills can make a difference to school and their experiences as well as deciding on what pupil voice groups to have. The children have decided that they want 'pupil voice squads' and below is the list that they have discussed are important to them and to our school at this moment.

Faith Squad
Well Being Squad
Safeguarding Squad
Learning Environment Squad
Eco Squad
Health and Fitness Squad
Inclusion and Friendship Squad
Reading Squad

Today the children have placed their preferences to join a squad, please watch out for their stickers. Each squad will be facilitated by a members of staff across school. Children from each class will be part of the squads, a fantastic opportunity for our older children to be role models to our younger children; developing a sense of responsibility and care. It will also be an opportunity for our older children to learn from the younger children too.





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The pupil voice squads will meet roughly once a half term; will have an action plan to work towards which they will write together. They will also complete a minutes of meeting form. There will be three realistic actions, one per term that children will complete independently with the support of the squad's facilitator. An example of one of these actions might be, organise a non-uniform day in order to fund compost bins for each class. The children on the Eco Squad will need to write the email and posters to advertise to the other children and to parents, lead and assembly on the importance of composting and why they are wanting to have bins in classes, then they will collect the money in, research which compost bins to buy and complete an order form for Mrs Crangle to place. The idea is the children led the change from start to finish with support where needed.

Developing more effective active participation of children can lead to;

- Improved engagement well-being, behaviour and learning
- Developing a true sense of responsibility
- Nurture collaboration and team work
- Developing positive relationships peer to peer and adult to child
- Increased opportunities for children to develop personal and social skills and to have those skills recognised and celebrated.
- Develop transferrable life skills ensuring our children become active citizens in the future

From each squad a representative will be voted for to be the spokesperson for the squad. All spokes people will then form the 'School Council' They will gather together following the Squad meetings to share what each squad is up to and also to facilitate actions coming to fruition.

We will be sharing what each pupil voice squad gets up to in the school newsletter, so please look out for this.

We know our children have great ideas and want them to feel that the Pupil voice Squads are not just an add on but are embedded in the school's curriculum and run into all aspects of school and that their effort can bring about change allowing our children to be courageous advocates.

Please chat to your child/children about their squad and what they are getting up to. Thank you for your continued support.

With very best wishes,

*Orla Gibbons*

Mrs Orla Gibbons

Headteacher

