

Title:	Community Council Introduction
Prepared by:	Governance Team
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What is a Community Council?

Community Councils are a formal part of the Elliot Foundation Academy Trust's governance structure. They meet four times a year for two to three hours to;

Evaluate whether the school's vision and ethos reflect the lived experiences of pupils, parents, staff and the wider community.	They deliver on these 3 areas of responsibility whilst ensuring that pupil and staff mental health and wellbeing run as a core thread through all school activities and school priorities.
Consider how well the school's curriculum supports and develops all of its pupils so that they are able to contribute positively to life in modern Britain and are ready for the next stage of their education.	
Champion the strengths and achievements of the school and the Trust to parents, staff and the wider community.	

The Community Council:

- ✓ Is an advisory group of volunteers who are representative of the school community; including the Principal, staff, parents and community members.
- ✓ Offers challenging, but respectful, positive and proactive support to the Principal and Senior Leadership Team.
- ✓ Focus on things that are unique to their academy, such as the context of the local community and how the academy's curriculum can best meet the needs of its pupils.

Community Council members should:

- ✓ Have an interest in the education and wider opportunities offered by the school to all pupils and hold the highest aspirations for them.
- ✓ Know and celebrate the strengths of the community that the school serves.
- ✓ Have some free time to give to supporting the academy to be **[aspiration which reflects and aligns to school vision]**
- ✓ Always act in the best interests of the school as a whole.

The Community Council IS NOT:

- ✗ A traditional Governing Body. It has no decision making authority in regard to the academy budget, staffing, premises or compliance. Responsibility for these functions rests with the Elliot Foundation Academy Trust board.
- ✗ Responsible for educational outcomes. Accountability for educational outcomes and their continuous improvement sits with the Principal, Operations Group and Trust Board.
- ✗ Responsible for the operational running of the academy: operational decisions rest with the senior leadership team.
- ✗ A forum for members to air their personal grievances or raise concerns or complaints from the group they are representative of. The academy has policies and procedures in place to support parents, staff and the community to raise concerns through the appropriate channels.