**Student Voice**

**Together we are louder!!!**

**What is the Student Voice Initiative?**

The objective of the Student Voice Initiative is to enable all schools across Warrington to connect through student representation.

Our aims are to develop opportunities for young people to meet and discuss issues which they face within their own educational facilities. We intend to ensure the diverse population of young people within our town can expand and establish best practice within their own school environment, by sharing concepts with a creative approach to problem solving. Through this new initiative, young people will be able to build connections, evolve ideas and grow their relationships with a wider school community.

**Student Leadership System**

If your school/college requires a Student Leadership Team, led by a Head Boy and Girl, we would recommend this process to establish a system.

* Head Teacher and Year 10 Pupil Progress Manager formulise an application process for a Head Boy and Girl.
* A four-day process to review application entries, these are conducted through the Head Teacher and Year 10 Pupil Progress Manager and additional staff who may operate a student council voice within your school.
* Set a deadline date for the announcement of the successful candidates, whom will represent the students within the school.
* There is a window of opportunity to formulate how your own school will develop further roles and regulations which are appropriate to your own school ethos at this point.
* Year 10 Head Boy and Girl will continue to hold their post and responsibly until April of year 11. The process for the new leadership team will run through as previously set within your school. This allows the year 11 pupils to focus/study for their GCSE examinations in the summer term.
* The newly elected students hold their post from April to April, in the summer term the newly elected team will be able to set up and prepare their Student Leadership team for the new academic year, returning to school in the Autumn their responsibility will continue until April the following year.

Candidates with responsibility of Head Boy and Head Girl must be role models for their school. This is a prestigious position and representing the student voice of their educational facility comes with accountability and duty to withhold their school ethos, conducting themselves at all times to the highest standards. The ability to speak eloquently and with presence at open evenings, communicating and directing others, managing events and to initiate new and creative projects which will impact the student’s life within their school is key.

The Head Boy and Head Girl role is to bridge the communication gap between the students and the teaching staff within the school. Ensuring teachers and the management of the school hear the student voice, which will in turn shape and progress the needs of the student body and the school as a family and one community.

**How the Warrington Youth Cabinet will support your school?**

We will ensure to support your school throughout this new process, additionally we will meet regularly with your Head Student representatives, every six weeks at Warrington Town Hall. This will ensure opportunities to communicate concepts, topics or obstacles which can be solved together. Members will feel part of a wider school community where challenges and success can be exchanged through open and honest conversation. Subjects can range from improvements of daily school life, provision and opportunities for meeting the needs of different year groups. Venues for end of year celebrations or prize giving events. Places which have provided excellent prom experiences. Guest speakers visiting schools and the benefits students received. Career advice, universities and open evening events for college placements, completing applications and tips for interviews. Equality for all, Money management advice, or stress management and well-being.

Having opportunities to meet in person, build friendships and support each other, will ensure we build a strong loud voice. After all, strength in numbers can deliver a powerful message to make changes happen and a difference to all.