## LAWRENCE SHERIFF SCHOOL RUGBY Student Council



# Our Aims & Purposes

#### Aims of the Student Council

The Student Council exists to represent the voice of the students, promote their ideas and advocate their views and interests. It is a fundamentally democratic and non-political institution, with all students given equal opportunity to participate. Its role includes helping the school to serve its students as effectively as possible and making students aware of wider issues, in addition to playing an important role in establishing links with the community.

### Role of the Student Council within the School Community

- To create a positive school atmosphere of mutual respect between staff and students
- Developing and maintaining the participation of students in the life of our school
- Helping students to develop important life skills such as project management, time management and leadership skills
- Represent the views of the students we represent to our school's Senior Leadership Team
- Raising awareness among students of prevalent issues in society, including health, financial and environmental issues
- Establishing links with the local community through our fundraising projects

## **Charity Fundraising**

At the beginning of each calendar year, the Student Council elect a charity to support and set a fundraising target. Over the course of the year, several fundraising events are organised, including discos, cake sales and a summer fête.

This year, Student Council members have voted to support a local community charity, in addition to a national charity. In 2013, the Student Council supported a local scout group in their fundraising for a new headquarters building, and successfully raised and donated £1500.

## **Prospective Staff Interviews**

Often when teaching positions within the school become vacant, the Student Council will be asked to establish an interview panel to represent the students in the selection of a new teacher. The panel is chosen by the Student Council's Vice Chairman and usually consists of representatives from each section of the school (KS3, KS4, KS5). Over the past few years, Student Council have been involved in the appointment of many new staff members, many of whom now teach lessons to us on a regular basis.

## **Our Meetings**

Once or twice a half term, the Student Council hold an Open Meeting, which all students are welcome to attend and raise their suggestions.

On each of the remaining Mondays, the Student Council's panels meet to discuss ideas relevant to their area of focus. One of the most active of our panels is the Communications panel, who produce a half-termly newsletter, called "LSS Griffin", updating students on our discussions, fundraising and surveys. Other panels include the Charity Panel, who are responsible for all fundraising events throughout the year; the Environmental Affairs Panel, who consider ways of improving our school's natural environment; and the Anti-Bullying Panel, who run a twice-weekly club for lower school students.

The Student Council also has an Executive Board, consisting of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and panel heads who administer the Council's operations. Held every Wednesday, the Executive Board discusses the progress of each panel and provides advice to the panel heads.