



Greythorn Primary School

“Working Together”

pride optimism respect integrity

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT, ENGAGEMENT AND WELLBEING

Effective schools build a culture where teachers and students work together, and where student voice, agency and leadership are understood as inter-related factors that contribute to the notion of empowerment and sense of school pride.

Student voice is not simply about giving students the opportunity to communicate ideas and opinions; it’s about students having the power to influence change. Authentic student voice provides opportunities for students to collaborate and make decisions with adults around what and how they learn and how their learning is assessed. This is known to lead to improved educational outcomes.

Student agency refers to the level of autonomy and power that a student experiences in the learning environment. Student voice and agency are intrinsically linked. Agency gives students the power to direct and take responsibility for their learning, creating independent and self-regulating learners.

Student leadership is not confined to a small group of individuals, as leadership potential is inherent within all learners. Student leadership includes listening to and being able to clarify the issues of the students they represent and advocating on their behalf. Student leaders have an increased sense of responsibility to help others and to model leadership principles and values. Trust, autonomy and relationships are enhanced through the development of leadership qualities.

Effective schools validate and embrace student voice, agency and leadership. They understand the importance of creating learning environments that promote independence, interdependence and self-motivation. They build productive and inclusive school cultures for all adults and students.

Effective teachers enable students to be active participants in their learning. They are responsive to student feedback and adapt their teaching practice to suit the needs of all students.

When students experience a sense of belonging and significance through voice, agency and leadership, they are likely to articulate their sense of empowerment and school pride.