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31 March 2025



Dear parents and carers

## Student Leaders Impact at Bulwell Academy

I am writing to share the remarkable achievements and the profound impact our student leaders are having at The Bulwell Academy. We are proud to announce that we now have 226 dedicated leaders, including prefects, student councillors, and subject ambassadors, who are making a significant difference in our school community.

Our prefects and student councillors, elected by their peers, have been instrumental in contributing to school life by planning and executing various events. Their efforts have not only enriched the school experience but also fostered a sense of belonging, unity and collaboration among students.

Being part of the student council provides invaluable leadership experience. Members of the council have been developing essential skills such as communication, teamwork, and organisation. These skills are crucial for their personal growth and future endeavours.

Our leaders meet at least once every half term to discuss and implement improvements in their respective subject areas. Their commitment to enhancing the academic environment is commendable and has led to several positive changes within the school.

Our student leaders have been actively involved in shaping the school's policies and initiatives, ensuring that their perspectives are heard and valued. Their projects have had a significant impact, and we would like to highlight a few examples:

- Planning and leading Events: Our leaders have successfully organised various events, including culture days, pumpkin decorating, cake decorating, and mental health awareness events, which have brought the school community together and promoted a sense of belonging. Students were involved in selecting our new principal and vice principal. Leaders have been guides during open evenings and parents' evenings.
- Academic Improvements: Subject ambassadors have worked closely with teachers to identify areas for improvement and have implemented strategies to enhance learning, homework, and lesson resources for their peers.
- Community Engagement: Student leaders have initiated outreach programs that connect the school with the local community, fostering relationships and promoting social responsibility, namely with the Hall Park Care home, which is visited by students every 2 weeks to help combat loneliness in the community.
- Charity fundraising: Leaders have raised over £120 decorating and then selling cakes for Comic relief. Leaders selected a local food bank to collect donations for over the Christmas period.



- **General School improvements:** The student council raised awareness of Black Lives Matter across the school with posters and social media posts. The year 7 student council requested that we move some assemblies for Year 7 so they were not always sat on the floor. Student leaders have requested more outside seating and will be deciding where to place new benches to allow more students to find somewhere to sit at lunch.
- Bullying awareness, equality awareness, and Mental Health Awareness: The prefect team created a presentation to raise awareness of bullying among younger students. This was delivered by prefects and directors of achievement in assemblies. Year 9 student council participated in "Hello Yellow," a whole week of mental health awareness activities culminating in Hello Yellow Day. The prefect team requested and organised a Christmas jumper day and a culture day to celebrate individuality.

## Subject Ambassador Leader update:

- **Student Receptionists:** We have introduced new student receptionists for Years 7-9, ensuring every pupil gets a chance to take on this responsibility.
- Reading Leaders have been actively involved in promoting literacy: producing reading
  list recommendations each term. They wrapped books for the Christmas fayre and gave
  them away as prizes. They decided to have a 'masked reader' for World Book Day and
  will be leading reading workshops on that day.
- **Sports Ambassadors:** have made significant contributions: They worked with the PE department to create a new kit policy. They have led dodgeball and curling events for over 90 students from seven different primary schools. Ambassadors have organised a football event for over 70 students from six different primary schools.
- Maths Ambassadors are developing EF01A as a hub area and creating the plans for this. Leaders will be running a Rubik's cube workshop. They also created resources to celebrate Pi Day.
- **Humanities Ambassadors** are focused on academic support, including looking at ways to improve homework in humanities and creating activities for primary school students to aid in their transition.
- **Science Ambassadors** from Year 8-10 have been going in to help younger students with practical sessions. Students will be creating resources for students to use in lessons.
- MFL Ambassadors have been creating resources for MFL lessons.

We are incredibly proud of our student leaders and their contributions to Bulwell Academy. Their dedication and hard work are truly inspiring, and we look forward to seeing their continued success.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely

K McCarthy

Mrs McCarthy Assistant Principal