Thomas Telford School



Advisory Council Brief

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ABOUT THE ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Advisory Council provides advice, information and support for the Headmaster and Governors. This assistance enables the School to implement the stated School aims and objectives effectively.

What matters most at Thomas Telford School is the quality of education available to the young people it serves. It naturally follows, therefore, that all who are able to improve this, such as teachers, students, parents, industrialists and community personnel, should be afforded the opportunity to contribute in a coordinated and effectively managed way. The Advisory Council is one the mechanisms in place which helps secure continued improvement.

Additionally, the opportunity of involving members of the School and the wider community fits well with the ethos of the School. We will continue to develop these partnerships.

Previously, the Advisory Council has helped in revising policies, eg Relationships and sex Education (RSE), Equal Opportunities, etc. The revision of the Parents' Charter is a key feature in ensuring the continuing effectiveness of the School and the Advisory Council is of considerable help in recommending improvements and monitoring its effectiveness.

The Advisory Council provides a forum for involving the wider community, therefore the Headmaster will, where necessary, coopt members of the local community to the Council to assist in its work.

AIMS OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL

- To advise the Governors, Headmaster and the School Management of ways in which the learning opportunities for the student can be enriched, ie.
 - Academic Vocational Personal Social Physical etc.
- To advise the Headmaster or relevant Senior Manager on the development of contacts with the community.
- To advise the Headmaster or relevant Senior Manager on the community use of the premises.
- To organise events to raise funds for the purpose of extending the learning opportunities for students.
- To advise the School on the effectiveness of the Parents' Charter and recommend improvements where necessary.
- To bring to the attention of the Headmaster or relevant Senior Manager any concerns relevant to the development of the School or its students.
- To advise the Headmaster or relevant Senior Manager on policy formation and revision as is reasonably requested.

eg.

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) Equal Opportunities Behaviour Policy etc.

MEMBERSHIP

The constituent groups involved in the life of the School should be represented.

Headmaster Chairman

Director of Finance Treasurer

Teacher Secretary

Support Staff

Governors

Parents - with representation from Telford and Wolverhampton

Community - coopted by Headmaster as required

To maintain the effective contribution to the life of the School the Headmaster will keep the membership of the Advisory Council under review.

Due regard will be given to achieve representation from the catchment of Wolverhampton and Telford and the various age groups within the School.

Up to five Telford parents and five Wolverhampton parents receiving the highest number of votes will be elected to the Advisory Council. This figure may vary dependent upon nominations received.

This decision has been taken to ensure that representation from our two catchment areas is secured. The School currently has 40% intake from Wolverhampton and 60% from Telford.

Quorum for meetings will be Chairman + 50% of membership.

All election procedures will be coordinated by the Headmaster.

Elections will be held every two years.

Meetings will be once per term usually near the beginning of the term.

THE ADVISORY COUNCIL BRIEF

To develop community contacts:

- links with industry
- community groups and services
- senior citizens
- parents

To advise and assist on student activities:

- curriculum policies
- sports events
- social activities
- school visits

To advise on community use of premises:

- security
- sporting events
- drama
- costings

To organise social functions:

- parents social events
- students social activities

To monitor and continually improve the Parents' Charter:

- listen to parents views
- encourage parents to use the system in place
- raise issues for communication and improvement at the Council meetings

To help in the development and preparation of School policies

- give your views as a parent
- use your expertise to help the School

To advise on calendar events.

CHANNELS OF COMMUNICATION

