

Head Pupil Manifesto – Darrell Mackenzie

Knox Academy is full of potential — not just in academics, but in spirit, wellbeing, and the way we experience learning. As your candidate for Head Pupil, I'm standing to amplify the student voice, promote mental health awareness, and ensure that every young person feels supported and inspired. Here are three key policies I will champion:

1. Make Sports Day a Bigger and Better School Event

Sports Day should be a time where the whole school comes together — not just to compete, but to celebrate our community. I want to turn Sports Day into a larger, more inclusive event with:

House-themed decorations

More event variety (fun relays, team challenges, etc.)

Involvement from all year groups — whether you're competing, supporting, or organising

Prizes for the house that wins!

Making a committee of pupils in every year group to make people feel more involved within sports day

Let's make it a day we all look forward to and a true highlight of the Knox Academy calendar.

2. Promote Mental Health Support Through Posters and QR Codes

Mental health matters — there are over 900 people in Knox Academy and no one should ever feel alone or unsure about where to get help.

I will introduce clear, friendly posters around the school with QR codes linking directly to the Knox Academy mental health support webpage. These will include:

Quick access to guidance and advice

Info about who to talk to in school

Links to local and national resources

A visible reminder that support is always available

Sometimes, taking that first step can be hard — but a simple scan can make it easier.

3. Expand Access to Outdoor Learning

Learning doesn't just happen in classrooms — it happens in fresh air, in nature, and in action. I want to work with teachers and leadership to make outdoor learning more accessible by:

Encouraging more subjects to offer lessons outside

Using nearby green spaces and school courtyard more creatively

Promoting the proven benefits: better focus, lower stress, more engagement

Outdoor learning helps improve our mental wellbeing, boosts teamwork, and makes lessons more memorable. Let's bring learning to life, outside the walls.

My Vision

As Head Pupil, I will always listen, always represent, and always act with the goal of making Knox Academy a place where every student feels heard, valued, and excited about their future.

Let's create a school that's active, supported, and thriving — together.

Vote Darrell Mackenzie for Head Pupil. Let's raise our voices and raise our school.