

LUCY DARLING HEAD PUPIL MANIFESTO 2024

AMBITION.
RESPECT.
COMMUNITY.



ABOUT ME!



Hey! My name is **Lucy Darling**, and I would **LOVE** to be one of your Knox Academy Head Pupils.

Over the past 5 years, Knox has helped me to become who I am today and discover more about myself. Which is why I would love to give back and help others in the same way.

I have gained so much from my time at Knox from the amazing people I have met to the opportunities I have been given, I have been lucky enough to be involved in activities such as Knox's netball team, Pupil Council for continuous years, volunteering in classes, paired reading and being an S6 buddy. I also take part in activities out of school such as musical theatre/acting and Running.

PRIORITIES

MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS

I believe that the mental health of every member of the school should be top priority.

Due to my own struggles the past 4 years, I know it can feel impossible to speak up and seek/accept support and also with mental health being a growing struggle especially among young people. Therefore I want to offer more support and information around the school. By running mental health days once a month which would be used to emphasise where you can seek support when struggling and how to support a friend. I would also like to put posters around the school including resources and tools on how to cope in and out of school. No one deserves to miss out on their education due to something that is out of their control, so my aim is to educate others on how to cope in school too.

SPORTS OPPORTUNITIES:

As someone who has been a fan of sports my whole life, but not had the confidence to reach my full potential, I am very keen on offering taster sessions on the huge variety of sports offered at Knox for those who have not had the confidence to experience them in PE, as I was in the same boat as a junior. As fitness is so important in day to day life and also for mental health. I would like to hear from you guys and your opinions on what sports clubs and events should be offered at Knox. I would also like to bring more sports events to Knox, this will include house games with the opportunity of winning house points. This way we can work on having a happy and sociable community, after all sport is a great way of making friends and meeting new people too!

COMMUNITY IS EVERYTHING

Without a community, a school wouldn't be possible. After all **PEOPLE MAKE KNOX**. With this being said, I propose that we strengthen the bonds between Knox and our community. I will enforce a community committee, this will consist of meeting once or twice a month and discussing how we can be a more visible part of the community. The members of Knox should be seen as approachable, respectful and kind, rather than our current status as some view us otherwise. I will try to create stronger bonds with the primary schools in Haddington, meadow park and the elderly members of our community (Haddington day centre, for example).



VOTE LUCY

- **TO CREATE AN INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENT**
- **TO MAKE SCHOOL A HAPPY PLACE**
- **TO HELP EVERY PUPIL REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL**

INCLUSIVENESS : YOU MATTER!

Every member of Knox deserves to feel safe and comfortable coming to school, everyone deserves to be celebrated and appreciated no matter who they are. After talking to a number of peers it has come to my attention that inclusiveness around the community could be better. So, I propose that we raise more awareness and offer more education and support on different ethnic groups in the school and on LGBT+. This idea is to run assemblies and possible lessons in core classes to educate on the matter. And to also create drop-in lunch time sessions where pupils, and staff are able to express concerns, ask questions and give feedback on what issues we are facing on the matter. As it must be addressed.

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Why vote for me?

I hope to be an **approachable, friendly and familiar face** around Knox. I am **committed and confident** in making Knox Academy a happy place to be.

I am very **determined** and when I have an aim and something I want to achieve, I will make it happen! I love a challenge and am not afraid of using my voice, so any questions you have, I will work on your behalf to answer them.

I will give the role of head pupil my all, and work hard to make Knox a **happy, inclusive and safe place** for everyone and celebrate everyone and their achievements.

In my earlier years at school and up until recently my confidence has made it hard for me to be in school and reach my full potential, but thanks to the school, some very supportive teachers and peers and my **determination** I have been able to get back on track for my final years at Knox and go forward for things like this!

I have created strong relationships with staff and pupils during my time at Knox and hope to give others the opportunity to do so to make school a more enjoyable place to be!

I would love to give back to Knox and the community, in the hope of making a positive change, seeing a difference would mean a lot to me. I believe that everyone involved in the school community thrives best in a motivating and happy environment.