

Head Pupil Manifesto

Clara Wilberforce

Why me?

Before I begin my Manifesto, I would like to make it clear why I think I am the best candidate for honourable fundamental role within the school. I truly believe that Knox Academy is ground-breaking and represents values that are essential throughout life which in turn sets the pupils up for the working world and the ups and downs of life. I genuinely believe without Knox Academy and the support that I have received from the amazing staff and fellow students I would not have had the confidence that I now have gained thanks to the opportunities that have come my way and continue to do so.

I may not have had experience in a team like the pupil council for example, but I do not believe this sets me at a disadvantage as I have been leading drummer of the school pipe band for most of time at Knox. This and my general experiences of pipe band has given me my passion for being a part of a team leading teams as seeing the improvement of my players is honestly been one of the most rewarding things I have ever done. Therefore, being able to do this on a bigger scale would be even more rewarding and especially as it would be for the school that has done so much for me.

I believe that I am an accomplished speaker, I can compromise, I will always listen, empathise and get along with people of all ages, and I will always be approachable and listen to suggestions or worries however big or small.

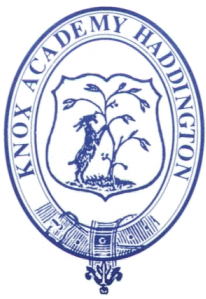
I have a deep understanding of how the **dynamic works** within in a team in terms of **delegating** roles specific to main **skills** yet maintaining and understanding the role of **responsibility** from my experience of team working in pipe bands and Duke of Edinburgh.

My proposals for the school

Community is one of the school values and I would hope to expand on this as head pupil by assigning a charity per house. This would mean that each house then has a responsibility to fundraise, raise awareness and volunteer for this charity throughout the year. This would make a considerable effect on these charities and benefit and create new ties with our community.



**HEALTH
AND
WELLBEING**



I strongly hold the belief that if a young person knows how to maintain stable mental and understand the importance of health and wellbeing then this sets them up to be able to achieve at the best they can and can give the confidence to be more **ambitious**. I would like to introduce a **safe room** in the school where pupils can clear their minds, calm themselves down and seek advice from peers or staff. Mental health ambassadors are going to be introduced to the school in this coming school year so this will also be a place for them to exercise and improve their skills by helping the students that come to the safe space.

By age 17, more than half of girls will quit playing sports altogether. I would like to create more leadership opportunities for S4 to S6 girls to introduce more sports clubs for the younger years to keep girls in sport and to make leadership opportunities more accessible so if a student leaves in 4th year they can still develop these essential skills.

I would like to get the merit system revised for the senior phase as merits are often more deducted than allocated. I would also like to introduce more rewards for having the merits in the senior phase as I feel like this would increase their value for pupils in the senior phase.

In 1st to 3rd year a new initiative has been implemented whereby students can select an 'elective' to study for a period a week and gain a new skill by the end of the 10-week block. I think this is great for the younger years as it gives them a choice of what they want to learn which is not something you can do until 3rd year. I would like to gain feedback from the pupils who have done the electives and see if there is any way we can tailor these more to the interests and essential skills the students should have leaving 3rd year.

I would also like to begin a language club for the pupils that do not have English as their first language. I think this would **prevent isolation** within the school and help new students feel less anxiety around school. The club would be somewhere people can develop their English skills whilst also appreciating, **respecting** and embracing new cultures.

In summary my main general objective would be to **improve the health and wellbeing** of the pupils at Knox along with my other proposals outlined but I will always be **open to suggestions** from pupils of all ages and will work together with the leadership team to make the proposals a reality.

