

13<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian,

It is with GREAT pleasure that I write to you today to share the exciting details around the Student Leadership Programme at Great Academy Ashton. At GAA the opportunities that we provide for students to engage in leadership roles across the Academy and throughout their Academy life are key to the personal development of our students. With support and encouragement, every young person has the potential to become a leader in some area of their life.

Involvement in leadership activities can improve students' learning as well as helping them to develop the skills and traits needed for success outside of the classroom. We believe that young people who are supported in harnessing their leadership skills are likely to gain a better understanding of themselves, a higher level of confidence, and an increased capacity to manage and organise their own lives. They are also likely to develop processes and skills useful in their learning and develop a more profound sense of maturity. The GAA student leadership model aims to be inclusive to ensure that all students have an opportunity to lead. Our expectation is that every student will take up at least one position of leadership at GAA; we believe that through leadership roles each student will develop the character values and virtues that will allow them to flourish, achieve their potential, and go on to live a happy and successful life.

At GAA we have 3 pathways for student leadership:

**Key Stage 3 Champion**

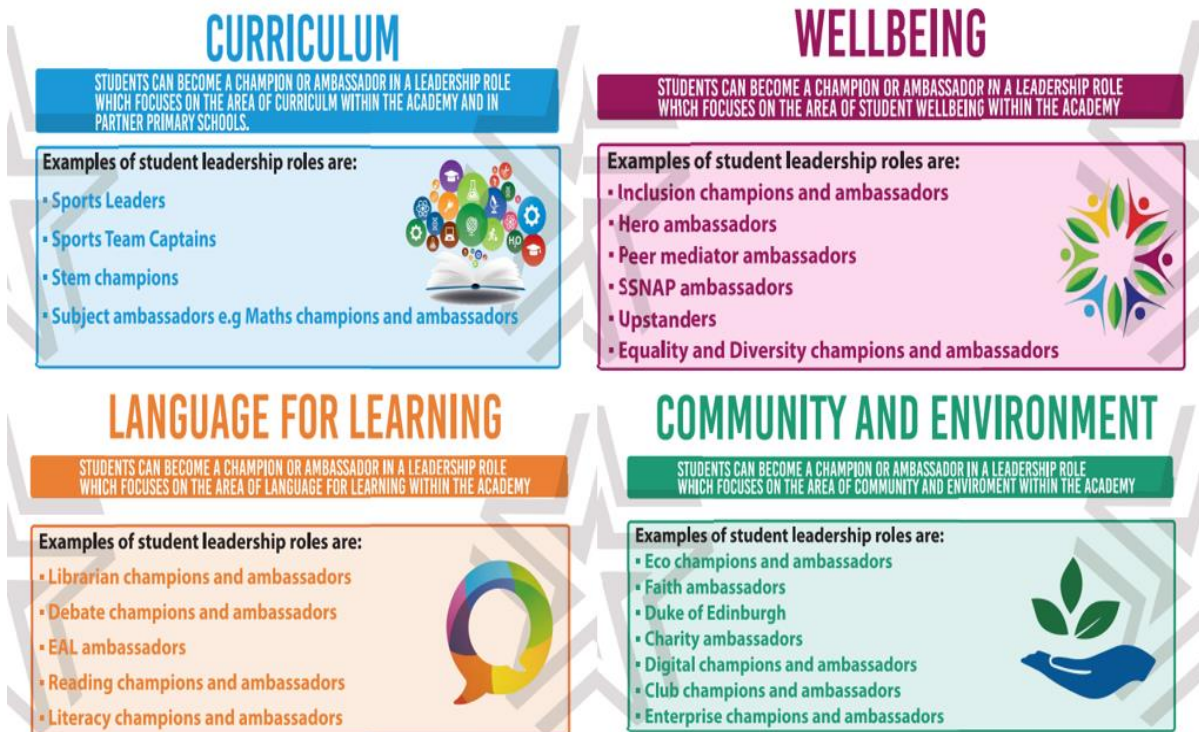
**Key Stage 4 Ambassador/Leader**

**Academy Student Council**

Our student leadership **champion and ambassador** opportunities sit within a wide range of 4 broad themes:

- Wellbeing
- Language for learning
- Community & environment
- Curriculum

Examples of the types of **champion and ambassador** roles available to students in an academic year:

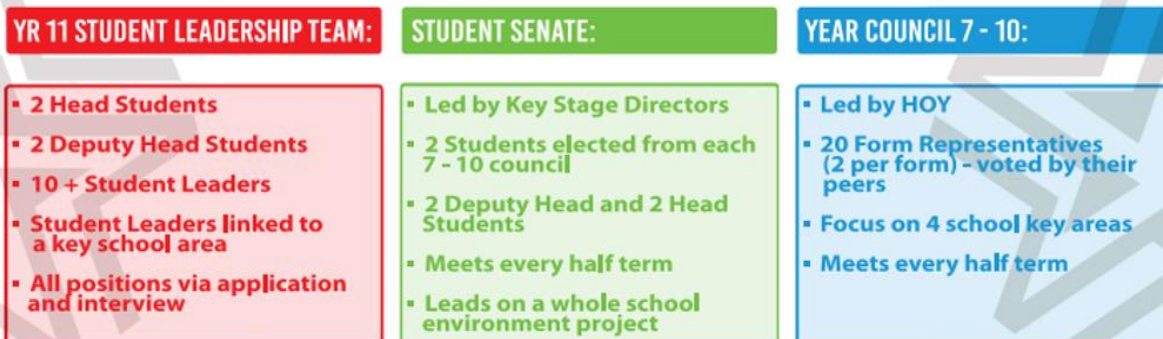


**Academy Student Council approach:** The student councils focus on these key academy areas, alongside the current Year 11 Leadership team who oversee each area:

- Events & fundraising
- Equality & diversity
- Community & environment
- Social media and marketing
- Anti-bullying
- Language for learning.

# STUDENT LEADERSHIP

## GAA STUDENT COUNCIL STRUCTURE



All leadership opportunities will be advertised, and student appointments made via an application and interview process. I had the privilege of interviewing 80 Year 10 students at the end of the summer term for a position in the current Year 11 Leadership team. I have thoroughly enjoyed watching the successful candidates flourish in role and develop as leaders. As an Academy, we do not want experience as a student leader to merely be a title, or a different coloured tie. Our Year 11 student leaders are due to undergo a training workshop led by SSAT where they are taught how to lead other people, how to deal with difficult situations and what qualities a leader should have. For many of the successful Year 11 student leaders, the application and interview for a place in the Year 11 leadership team was supported by years of contribution and dedication as KS3 Champions. I ask that you encourage your child to apply for the many opportunities available to them, so they too can be a part of the ever-growing Leadership programme at GAA.

If you have any questions, then please do not hesitate to contact me on the number above.

Yours faithfully,

Miss K Hughes  
Assistant Principal  
Behaviour and Engagement