Schools Council Feedback

Overall Findings

- 1. The headline results from the surveys are highly positive. Overwhelming majorities in each group responded that they wanted to have council more often, that it has made school a better place, and that they want it in the future.
- 2. Significant majorities responded that they found the topics discussed in council to be interesting and meaningful to them, showing that the sessions are relevant and well-targeted.
- 3. Students found that council has helped their relationships with other people, helping them to understand others in their class better and to listen more openly.
- 4. Students are less certain about the personal benefits of council. Younger students particularly disagreed over whether council has helped them to become more confident talking in front of others.
- 5. There was also significant disagreement on whether council had helped students to understand themselves better. It was noticeable that the younger years all disagreed that council has helped them to understand themselves better, if not in the majority, then in the most significant minority. The year 10 feedback, however, showed that the majority felt that council has helped them to understand themselves better.
- 6. The clear majority of students responded that they would not consider using council with their friends and family. The year 10 group, however, were more positive about using it with their friends, though generally rejected using it with their families.

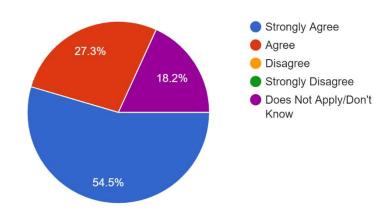
Group F

Key Points

- The vast majority strongly liked having council in their class and wanted to have it next term. Fewer strongly wanted to have council every week, however, as strongly wanted to have it generally.
- The majority felt that council had helped them to feel more comfortable speaking in front of others, though a minority strongly disagreed.
- The majority felt that they had a better understanding of others. Slightly over a quarter did not know if they now listen more openly to others.
- Under half (45.5%) felt that council had helped them to understand themselves better. 36.4% disagreed that they had a better understanding of themselves, and the remainder did not know.
- The most negative response was in answer to using council on friends and family, the only question where the majority disagreed and only 27.3% suggested they would.
- The vast majority (90.9%) felt that council had made the school a better place and none disagreed. 81.8% felt that the topics discussed were meaningful and interesting.

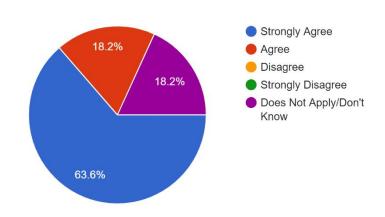
I like having council in my class.

11 responses



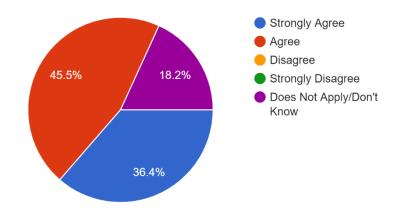
I would like to have council next term.

11 responses

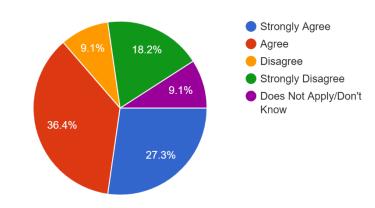


I would like to have council every week.

11 responses

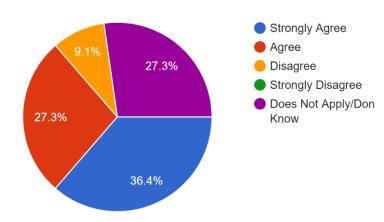


Because of council, I feel more comfortable speaking in front of others.



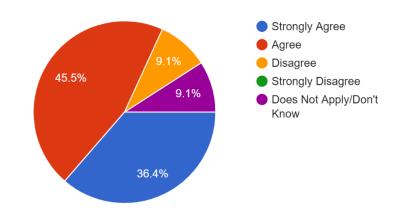
Because of council, I now listen more openly to others.

11 responses



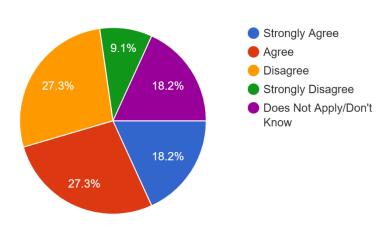
Because of council, I now have a better understanding of the people in my class.

11 responses



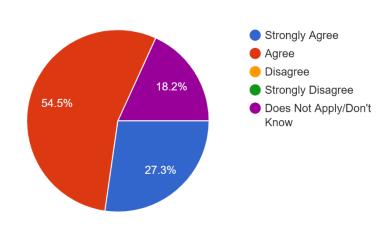
Because of council, I have a better understanding of myself.

11 responses



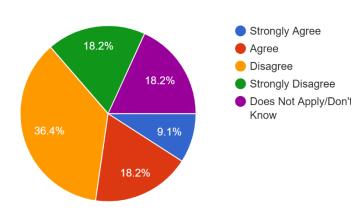
In council the topics we spoke about were meaningful and interesting to me.

11 responses



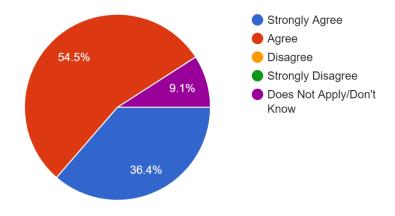
I would consider using council with my friends and/or family.

11 responses



I think council has made our school a better place.

11 responses



Extra Comments

good

I love council because you can say anything you want and they won't not be nice.

It makes me feel safe when I am in the yurt

I like it best

Fun Lars

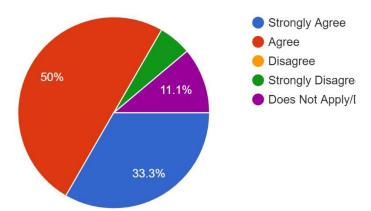
Year 7

Key Points

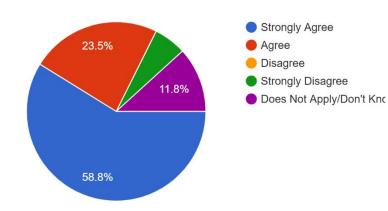
- The vast majority liked having council in class and want it next term, with only 1 disagreeing. 58.8% strongly want council in future. Although the clear majority want council, however, and find it generally positive, feedback as to how it has helped is more mixed.
- A smaller majority would like to have it every week, but still more than 70%.
- 8 (44.4%) did not feel that council had made them feel more comfortable speaking in front of others. Exactly one third (6) felt that it had while 4 were not sure.
- There are mixed responses to the questions of listening more openly and understanding classmates better.
 Exactly 50% (9) felt that they listened more openly, while 7 (38.9%) do not. A bigger majority felt that they understand their classmates better, 33.3% strongly agreeing, out of 61.1% positive answers.
- Exactly 50% disagreed that council had helped them to understand themselves better, with the greatest number of students disagreeing (33.3%). 16.7% (3) each strongly disagreed and agreed while only 11.1% strongly agreed. The second greatest share of the respondents were unsure.
- The most negative responses regarded using council with friends and family. The great majority (66.6%) would not consider doing so, while only 1 respondent agreed that they would consider it.
- The great majority felt that the topics discussed were meaningful and interesting, with only 16.7% answering that they were not. 83.3% of respondents felt that council had made the school a better place.

I like having council in my class.

18 responses

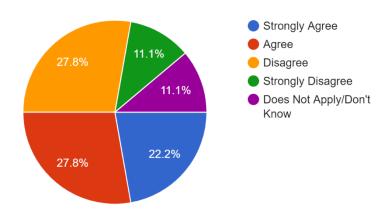


I would like to have council next term.
17 responses

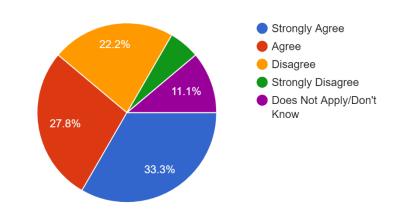


Because of council, I now listen more openly to others.

18 responses

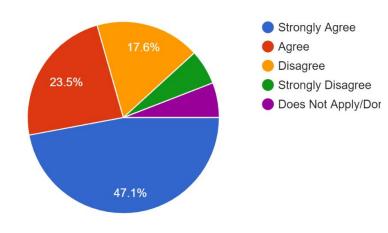


Because of council, I now have a better understanding of the people in my class. 18 responses



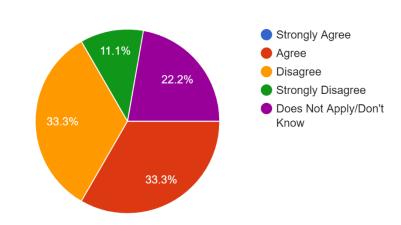
I would like to have council every week.

17 responses



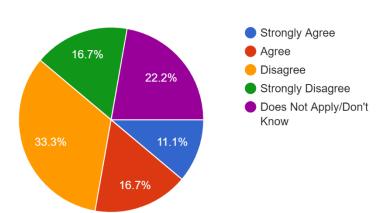
Because of council, I feel more comfortable speaking in front of others.

18 responses

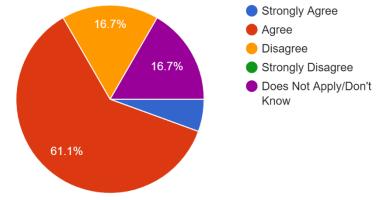


Because of council, I have a better understanding of In council the topics we spoke about were myself.

18 responses

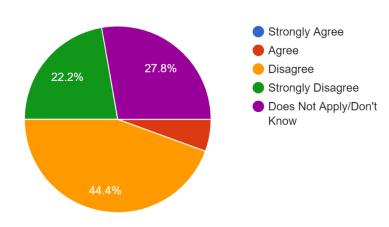


meaningful and interesting to me.

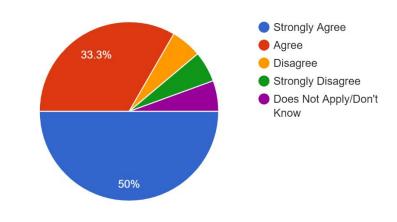


I would consider using council with my friends and/or family.

18 responses



I think council has made our school a better place.
18 responses



Extra Comments

I like council

Its great

I think it is better than my last school. Everyone listens to me and understands my problems.

It makes everybody kinder

I love it

I love it, more biscuits

I wish I was more comfortable talking about my emotions in council.

Council is Great!

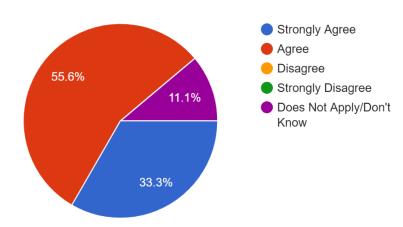
Year 8

Key Points

- The vast majority like having council in their class (88.9%) with none disagreeing. 14 (77.7%) want council next term, with more strongly agreeing, but 1 person disagrees.
- A large majority also want to have council every week (72.2%) and only 2 people do not.
- Exactly 50% (9) feel more comfortable speaking in front of others as a result of council, but 33.3% disagreed and 1 person strongly disagreed.
- 12 respondents (66.6%) feel that they now listen more openly to others, while 16 (88.9%) feel that they understand their classmates better, strong positive majorities.
- Only 6 (33.3%) however, feel that they understand themselves better. 8 (44.5%) disagreed that they had a better understanding of themselves and 22.2% were unsure.
- 50% would not consider using council with friends and family, again a negative majority in this category. The majority of this group disagreed, with 3 (16.7%) strongly disagreeing. Overall, 7 (28.9%) felt that they would consider using it.
- The majority (50%) strongly agreed that the topics spoken about were meaningful and interesting. 72.2% also felt that council has made the school a better place, with the majority within this group strongly agreeing. Slightly more disagreed, however, than in other year groups, at 16.7%.

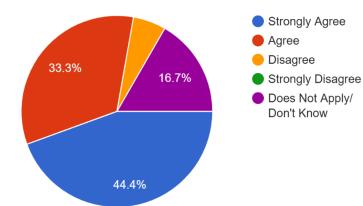
I like having council in my class.

18 responses



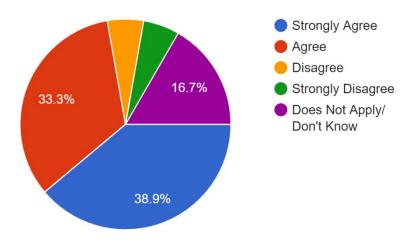
I would like to have council next term.

18 responses

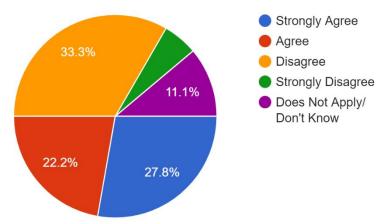


I would like to have council every week.

18 responses



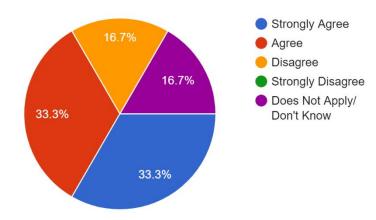
Because of council, I feel more comfortable speaking in front of others.

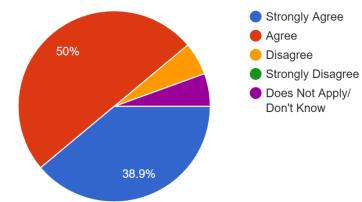


Because of council, I now listen more openly to Because of council, I now have a better others.

18 responses

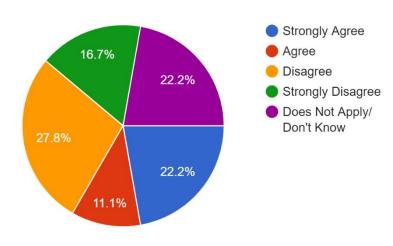
understanding of the people in my class. 18 responses





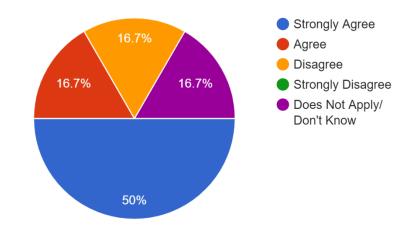
Because of council, I have a better understanding of myself.

18 responses



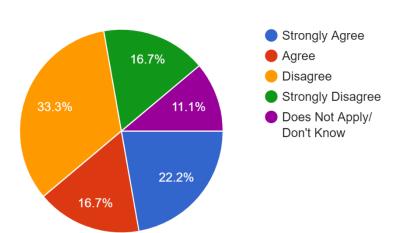
In council the topics we spoke about were meaningful and interesting to me.

18 responses

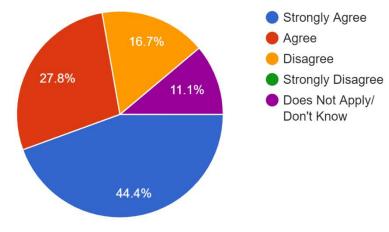


I would consider using council with my friends and/or family.

18 responses



I think council has made our school a better place. 18 responses



Extra Comments

I like council

It's nice

Love it

I like council because it makes me feel calm and gives me a break from the day.

I'd like circles every day I feel calm and better and it helps

No offence but I would prefer to focus on GCSE next year.

Can we have it in every class?

Year 9

Key Points

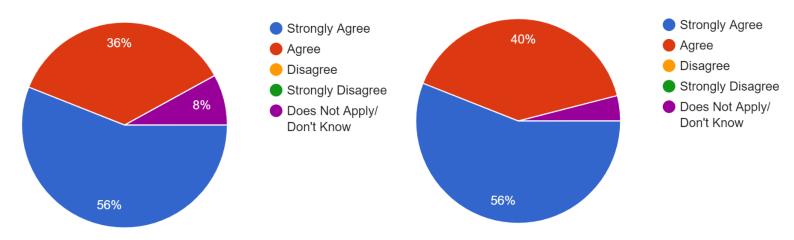
- The overwhelming majority (92%) liked having council in their class, while 96% wanted to have it next term. The majority in both (56% each) replied strongly agreed.
- 21 (84%) also want to have council every week, with only 4 (16%) disagreeing.
- 10 (40%) disagreed that they feel more comfortable speaking in front of others, though 9 (36%) felt that they did now feel more comfortable. 1 person each strongly agreed/disagreed.
- 18 (72%) respondents felt that they now listen more openly to others, while 20 (80%) agreed that they understood their classmates better as a result. The majority in each case agreed rather than strongly agreeing.
- 12 (48%) did not feel that they understood themselves better as a result of council, with 32% disagreeing and 16% strongly disagreeing. 32% felt that they did understand themselves better, however.
- The great majority would not use council with their friends or family. 17 (68%) disagreed in total, with 40% disagreeing. 28% strongly disagreed, the largest percentage in any of the responses. 24% agreed that they would consider using it.
- 17 (68%) agreed that the topics discussed were meaningful and interesting. Only 8% disagreed but 24% were unsure.
- 10 (40%) strongly agreed that council has made the school a better place, with 4 (20%) agreeing on top. Only 12% disagree in total but 7 (28%) responded that they didn't know. This shows greater uncertainty than in other year groups.

I like having council in my class.

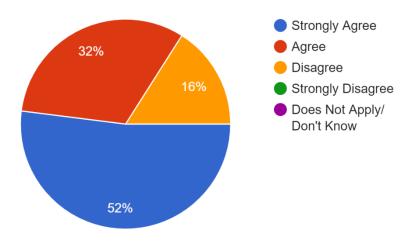
25 responses

I would like to have council next term.

25 responses

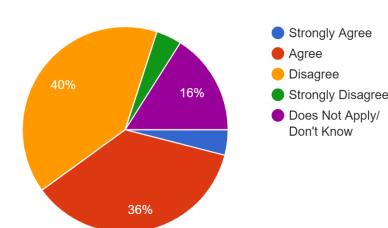


I would like to have council every week. 25 responses



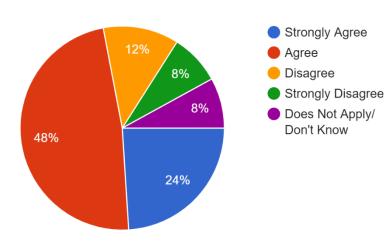
Because of council. I feel more comfortable speaking in front of others.

25 responses



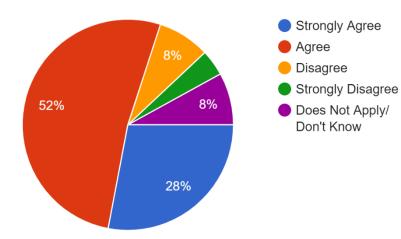
Because of council, I now listen more openly to Because of council, I now have a better others.

25 responses



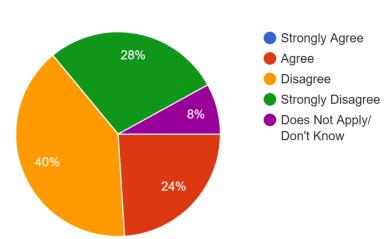
understanding of the people in my class.

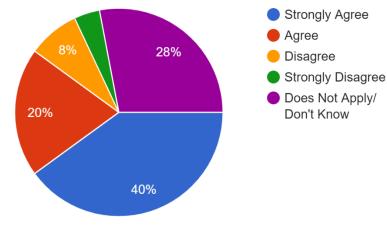
25 responses



I would consider using council with my friends I think council has made our school a better place. and/or family.

25 responses



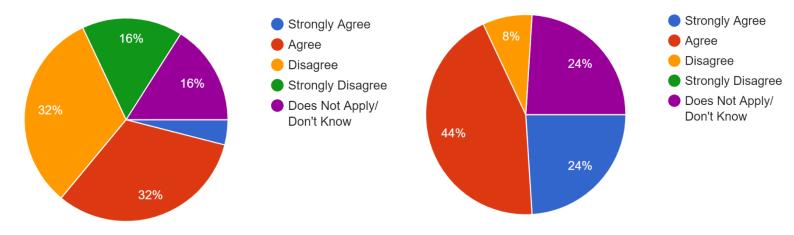


Because of council, I have a better understanding In council the topics we spoke about were of myself.

25 responses

meaningful and interesting to me.

25 responses



Extra Comments

I think we should have council everyday instead of tutor groups.

I think council is great. But not when people don't do it properly. I like the quiet.

I think council is great

Best class at school!

Lovin the Yurt

It was fun!

I love council

Very nice people

I like having council but sometimes it would be nice to have 10 minutes of not using the talking piece in a whole class discussion.

I really appreciate the kind and peaceful space that council creates.

I love u Heidi

Council is fun and relaxin

Year 10

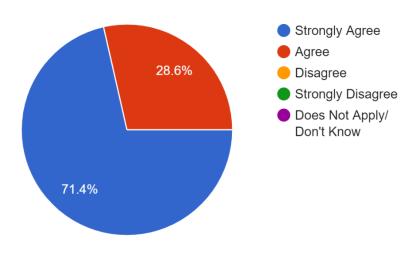
There are 13 girls and 12 boys in the survey. Three of the responses did not specify whether they were a boy or a girl.

Key Points

- 100% of respondents like having council in their class, with 71.4% strongly agreeing. 25 students felt that council had made the school a better place, with 17 strongly agreeing.
- 96.4% understand how council works with only 1 disagreeing. 21 students (75%) understand the four intentions of council. 5 felt they did not and 2 were unsure. Those that disagreed were split two apiece between boys and girls. 19 students agreed that they would feel confident enough to run a council session on their own. Only one girl disagreed that they could hold one on their own, though 2 were unsure, compared to 4 boys disagreeing and one strongly disagreeing that they could hold one on their own.
- 15 respondents felt that they were more comfortable speaking in front of others because of council. 7 disagreed however and 4 were unsure. 7 boys disagreed or were unsure, while only 3 girls disagreed.
- 26 (92.9%) agreed that they now listen more openly to others, with 50% strongly agreeing. 17 strongly agreed also that they have a better understanding of the people in their class with a further 7 agreeing. 3 were unsure, while only 1 respondent disagreed with either statement. It was a girl who disagreed.
- 27 (96.5%) felt that council is a valuable part of the curriculum with the majority strongly agreeing. There is less certainty over whether the respondents feel an adult will listen to them because of council. The majority agree but only 8 (28.6%) strongly agree, while 6 (21.4%) are unsure and 3 (10.7%) disagree. Of those who disagreed or were unsure, 6 were boys and 1 a girl.
- 21 (75%) agreed that council has made a difference to their relationships with others in their class. All 4 that disagreed were boys, while 2 girls and one boy were unsure.
- 15 (53.6%) agree that they have a better understanding of themselves because of council, the majority within this agreeing rather than strongly agreeing. 21.4% disagreed and were unsure, while 1 person strongly disagreed. 2 girls were unsure, 1 disagreed and 1 strongly disagreed. 4 boys disagreed and 2 were unsure.
- 23 (82.2%) agreed that the topics discussed were meaningful and interesting to them, split fairly evenly between agree and strongly agree.
- 25 (89.3%) agreed that they had learned to talk with and appreciate people who are different to them. The majority agreed, though 35.7% strongly agreed.
- Responses were split over whether council has helped people express their thoughts and ideas. 15 (53.6%) agreed that it had with 8 (28.6%) agreeing and 7 (25%) strongly agreeing. 25% were unsure, however, while 5 (17.9%) disagreed. 3 girls were unsure and 1 disagreed, compared to 3 boys who were unsure, while 3 disagreed and 1 strongly disagreed.
- The most negative responses were in regard to using council with family and friends. 13 (46.2%) disagreed that they would consider using it with friends while 12 (42.9%) agreed that they would. 25% strongly agreed that they would while 17.9% agreed. 3 (10.7%) were unsure. Responses to using it with family were more negative. 16 (57.1%) would not consider using it with their family, with 7 strongly disagreeing. Interestingly, 6 strongly agreed that they would while only 1 agreed. 3 girls strongly agreed that they would use it with their families while 2 boys did.
- 17 (60.7%) agreed that it is important for teachers to participate in council as well with the majority within strongly agreeing. 7 were unsure but only 4 disagreed. 1 girl replied that they disagreed and 1 was unsure. The other negative responses were all from boys. 4 girls strongly agreed while 3 boys did.
- The overwhelming majority agreed that they would like to have council more often. 24 (85.7%) want council more often with 53.6% strongly agreeing. No-one disagreed with wanting council more. 25 (89.3%) want council next term with 60.7% strongly agreeing. Again, no-one disagreed.

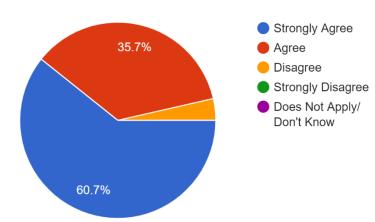
I like having council in my class.

28 responses



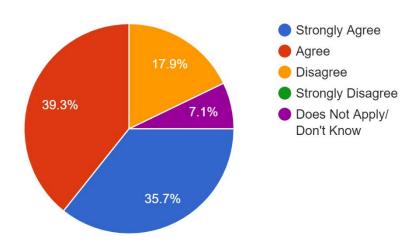
I understand how council works (a circle, a centre, the talking piece, openings and closings).

28 responses



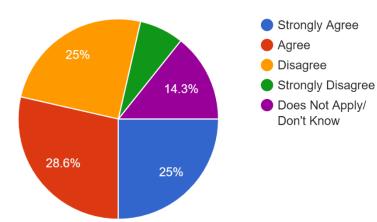
I understand the four intentions of council.

28 responses



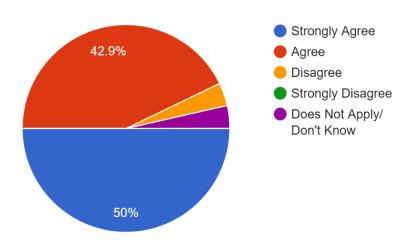
Because of council, I feel more comfortable speaking in front of others.

28 responses

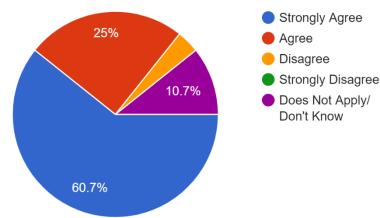


Because of council, I now listen more openly to others.

28 responses

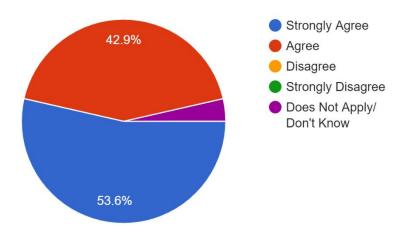


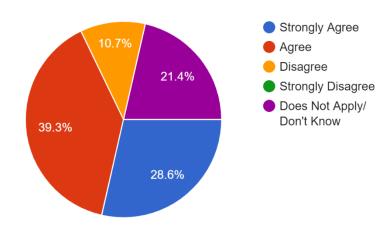
Because of council, I now have a better understanding of the people in my class. ²⁸ responses



I see council as a valuable part of the curriculum. 28 responses

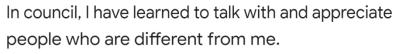
Because of council, I know there is a teacher or some other adult who liste...n I have something to say. 28 responses





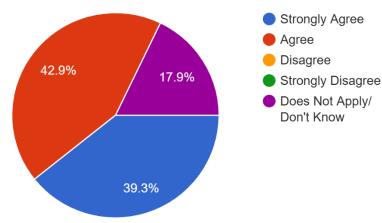
In council, the topics we discussed were meaningful and important to me.

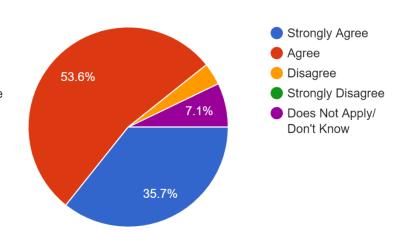
28 responses



28 responses

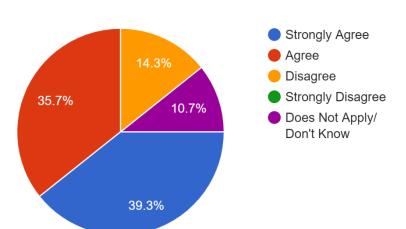
28 responses

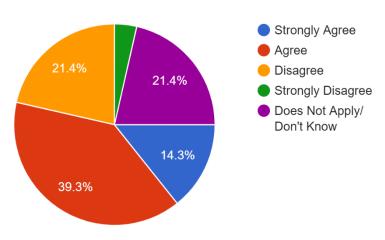




Council has made a difference to my relationships Because of council, I have a better understanding with others in my class.

of myself.

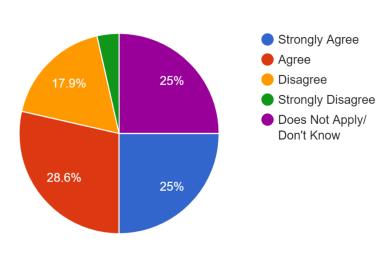


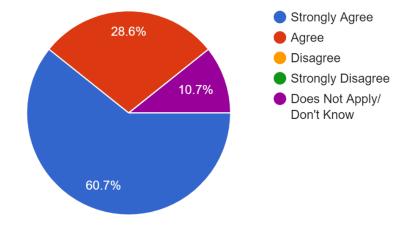


Council has helped me grow more confident about I think council has made our school a better place. expressing my thoughts and ideas.

28 responses

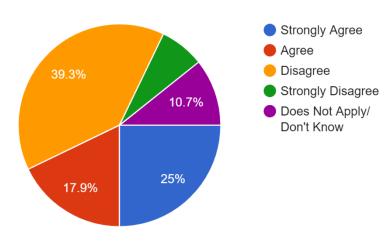
28 responses





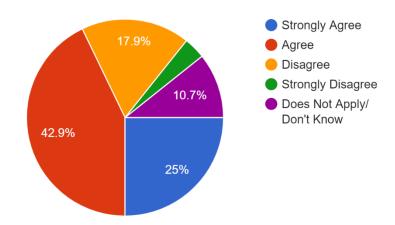
I have used or might consider using council with my I know enough about council now to lead one on friends.

28 responses



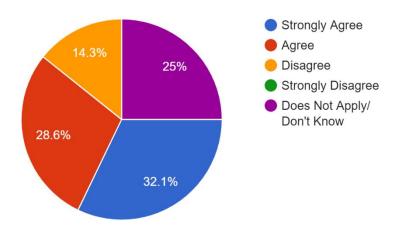
my own.

28 responses



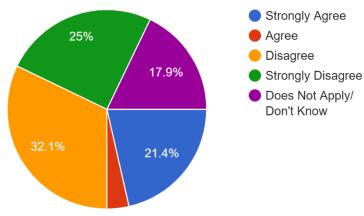
I think it is important that my teachers participate in council with each other.

28 responses



I have used or might consider using council with my family.

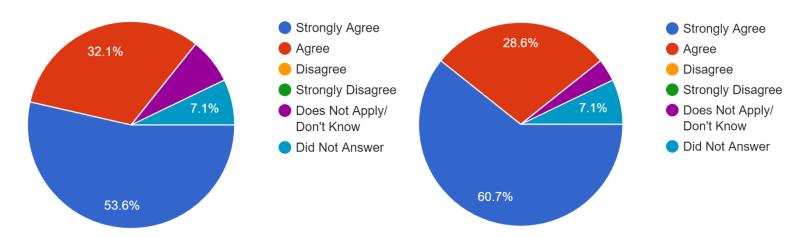
28 responses



I would like to have council more often.

28 responses

I would like to have council next term. 28 responses



Extra Comments

Much better outside of school

I liked having a smaller group of just girls and having it outside of school.

More Please!

I love it

Its the best

Respect

Council is my favourite lesson. Nothing but love for it.

Star lesson

I like how it seems awkward and then when we all talk I relax and its okay.

I think council is by far the most interesting lesson.

What not to love!

I liked the gender separation just as much as mixed and think we should do both equally.

Love it

Better in separate groups - boys and girls.

Its better as a double and every week - I love the yurt!