

Making Change Happen Didcot Girls' School

Under a strapline of Making Change Happen, Didcot Girls School uses citizenship education to empower pupils to know how to effectively participate in public life and experience positive engagement through local democratic means.

One of the ways students have done this is by writing to their local councillor. The students responding positively to this as they received replies from their councillors and learnt how they could individually engage in politics. For one pupil, their letter about noisy speeding traffic late at night down her street led to her councillor subsequently meeting with local taxi firms to address the issue. This was incredibly empowering for the students who previously did not recognise the impact they could make.

Headteacher Rachael Warwick said "Citizenship within the curriculum, with mandatory status, has to remain in order for schools to deliver education in its truest sense". She went on to add that activities like the ones her schools have engaged with have provided her students "with the skills, competencies and personal qualities needed to engage, participate and succeed in an unpredictable and changing society."