

My name is Elen Diggins and I've been at Whitchurch High School since Year 7; I've always looked up to the Lead Students and aspired to one day take on this role myself.

Throughout my time at Whitchurch, I have been an active member of the school community, taking part in a range of activities and volunteering opportunities. These experiences have helped me build key skills in leadership, communication, teamwork, and organisation – all essential for representing and supporting the students of Whitchurch effectively.

Sport has played a huge part in my life at Whitchurch. I am currently a head coach in a local junior team, which has given me the chance to mentor younger players and support inter-house competitions. My leadership in sport has taught me how to motivate and bring people together, which I hope to carry forward into this role.

Beyond sport, I have a strong interest in science and aspire to study Medicine. This led me to take initiative and start a Medical Society within the school, where I've worked with others to support each other through the application process. I believe this kind of collaboration and initiative reflects the qualities required as a Lead Student.

If elected, I would aim to ensure that every student is supported – not just academically but also in terms of wellbeing. As with many other students I have been impacted by events outside of school and I have benefitted from the school's wellbeing support. I am passionate about ensuring all students have access to the resources they need. I understand that not everyone enjoys school and asking for help with wellbeing can be daunting. This is why I want to help create a more positive, inclusive environment for everyone, through setting up wellbeing groups where students can speak to older students who may have struggled in the same way previously.

As a lead student you represent the entirety of the student body, not just sixth form so one idea I'm especially keen on is bringing together the student improvement groups across all years, so they can collaborate with Lead Students to create real change across the whole school. This would allow us to gather insight from all year groups while helping younger students develop confidence.

Volunteering is another important part of my life. I've contributed lots to being a volunteer outside of school and would like to make more opportunities available in school for everyone to be a part of. I strongly believe in the power of giving back to our community and would love to encourage more students to get involved. One of my goals as Lead Student would be to organise larger charity events, such as a charity social that bring the school together and raise money for causes that mean a lot to us.

With experience in public speaking and a genuine commitment to supporting others, I am ready to be a voice for students and work hard to bring about positive change and make a meaningful difference.

Thank you for considering my application. I hope to contribute to our continued success and support all students as best I can.