

**Haygrove Debating Society  
Competition  
2018**



**Judges:**

**Mr J Barter**

**Miss H Knott**

**Mrs K Canham (Headteacher)**

**Mr A Reid (Associate Headteacher)**

Welcome to the inaugural Haygrove Debating Society competition.

This booklet is a brief guide to the events of the evening and illustrates how British Parliamentary debating works. This challenging form of debating is internationally recognised and highly prestigious.

### **The Motion:**

Each debate will have a *motion*. This is the issue that the students will be debating about. They always begin with '**This house...**', which refers to everyone at the debate including the speakers, judges and the audience.

### **Timing:**

Each speaker has **five minutes** to speak. The first minute is ***protected***, this means that no one can interrupt. After the first minute, anyone from the opposition can ask a Point of Information (PoI [see below]). The final minute is also protected and no one can interrupt. Speakers must stick to their timings, otherwise they will be penalised.

### **Points of Information:**

Points of information are an opportunity for the opposing side to challenge the speaker whilst they are talking. They are allowed to interrupt!

The speaker is able to accept or decline interruptions from other speakers. They should look to accept one or two points per speech. It is then up to the speaker to respond to the point.

### **How a debate works:**

There are two sides in a Parliamentary debate. The Proposition (who support the motion) and the Opposition who will oppose the motion. The students do not get to choose which side they are arguing.

The students are given 15 minutes to prepare a speech and they do not know what the motion is beforehand.

In a debate there are four teams of two people and they speak in a given order.

Team 1: First Proposition.

Team 2: First Opposition.

Team 3: Second Proposition.

Team 4: Second Opposition.

(See diagram)

The chairperson controls the debate. They are responsible for introducing the motion, controlling the speakers and control the timekeeping of the debate.

Chairperson

The **first** to speak in the debate. The role of the proposition is to set out a model (what they are going to do or believe).

The **third** to speak in the debate and the second to speak for the proposition. They must support the model and rebut the opposition's argument.

The **fifth** to speak in the debate and the third to speak for the proposition. They are supporting the motion.

The **seventh** to speak in the debate and the fourth to speak for the proposition. Their role is to sum up the debate and arguments presented by the proposition. They should explain why the proposition should win the debate.

The **second** to speak in the debate. Their role is to oppose the motion set to the House and argues against the model set by the proposition.

The **fourth** to speak in the debate and the second to speak for the opposition. They must rebut the arguments presented by the proposition.

The **sixth** to speak in the debate and the third to speak for the opposition. They are opposing the motion.

The **eighth** to speak in the debate and the fourth to speak for the opposition. Their role is to sum up the debate and arguments presented by the opposition. They should explain why the opposition should win the debate.

First Opposition  
(Leader of the Opposition)

Second Opposition  
(Deputy Leader of the Opposition)

Third Opposition  
(Member of the Opposition)

Fourth Opposition  
(Opposition Whip)

First Proposition  
(Prime Minister)

Second Proposition  
(Deputy Prime Minister)

Third Proposition  
(Member of the Government)

Fourth Proposition  
(Government Whip)

## Haygrove Debating Society Competition Rules

There will be two debates on two separate motions. Each team will consist of two members. Each team will fulfil roles on both the proposition and opposition side of the debate and participate in both halves of the table.

- The teams will have fifteen minutes to prepare their speeches. The use of phones or any other resource to research is strictly prohibited. Phones are not to be with student throughout the evening. Any individual caught using breaching this rule will be disqualified from the competition and will not be judged on their performance.

- Each speaker has *five minutes* to speak. If they speak under 4.30 they will be penalised, if they speak over five minutes, they will also be penalised. The timekeeper will oversee this.

- The Chairperson is in charge of each debate. They are to be listened to and respected throughout.

- The judges will make a decision based on the performance of each individual speaker using a score sheet. The students will be marked on:

- Structure
- Quality of Arguments
- Rebuttal
- Knowledge
- Presentation

- The eight winning students will represent Haygrove School in the regional round of the Oxford Schools Debating Competition on Monday 21 January 2019.

- The judges' decision is final.

- Lastly, and most importantly, *enjoy the debate!*

### Programme of the Evening

<b>5:45pm</b>	First Motion Released
<b>6:00pm</b>	Welcome
<b>6:10pm</b>	First Debate
<b>6:55pm</b>	End of Debate
<b>7:05pm</b>	Second Motion Released (refreshments available whilst students prepare)
<b>7:20pm</b>	Second Debate
<b>8:05pm</b>	Judges Deliberate (refreshments available)
<b>8:20pm</b>	Presentations

**The Debating Society would like to extend their sincere thanks to all those that have attended this evening.**