PUPILS PUT COUNCIL ON AGENDA

HIGH school students are flocking to council meetings in the Parramatta area — but they aren’t planning to take it over.

The students are getting to know how their council ticks as part of a bicentennial project designed to increase their knowledge of the system and the way they should go about influencing it.

Now, 24 students have formed their own mock council to take a major part in the bicentennial year, especially in Education Week.

"Before I attended a council meeting I did not know what it was," said Michelle Rowland, one of three students from Our Lady of Mercy College in Parramatta.

"But now that I know a little more about it I know how to have a say in an issue that concerns me," she said. Fellow student Cathleen Crouch agreed. "It has helped my understanding of why decisions are made and how they affect me," she said.