



Ringsend College Student Council Constitution

The aim of the Student Council

1. To represent the views of the students on matters of general concern to them.
2. To support management and staff in the development of the school.
3. To enhance communication between students, management, staff and parents.
4. To promote an environment conducive to educational and personal development.
5. To promote friendships and respect among students.
6. To contribute to the development of school policy.
7. To nurture a range of important skills among students, such as participating in meetings, negotiating, responsible leadership and collaborative problem solving.

The Work of the Student Council

The Student Council will undertake a programme of activities which will support students, parents and staff. In planning its activities, the Student Council will consult with the Principal/Deputy Principal, staff and Parents' Representative Group.

Student Council Officers

The Student Council will appoint the following within their first 3 meetings:

- Chairperson,
- Deputy Chairperson,
- Secretary,
- Treasurer
- PR Officer

Subcommittees

The Student Council may from time to time form subcommittees for specific tasks. Clear outline of the task must be given to the subcommittee and they must report back to the Student Council on their progress and the outcomes. Subcommittees may be ongoing or have a specific timeline of existence.

Finance and Fundraising

The Treasurer will keep an up-to-date and accurate record of all money raised and received by the Student Council. The Treasurer must report to the Student Council at least once a year with a Financial Report. The Treasurer may on other occasions be requested to give a report at any time.

Meetings and decision-making

The Student Council will aim to meet every 2 weeks for the first 2 months of its existence. Thereafter the meetings will take place once a month or more regularly if the need arises.

Student Council members must be given 1 week notice of a meeting.

50% of the Council must be present for a vote to take place.

Meetings will be attended by the Staff Liaison Officer (SLO) but this person is a non-voting member of the Council.

Meetings must be held outside class time and coordinated with the SLO.

Agenda for each meeting must be posted on the Student Council Noticeboard 1 week prior to the meeting.

Decisions must be posted on the Student Council Noticeboard within 1 week of the meeting.

Under no circumstances should the Student Council discuss individual students or teachers during their meetings.

The Student Council may invite other students/teachers/outside speakers to attend a meeting or meetings.

Removing members of the Student Council and filling vacancies

The Student Council has the right to remove a member if that member fails to attend 3 meetings in a row or has displayed that they are not committed to the aims or work of the Student Council.

This member must be given 1 week notice of the intention to remove them and may address the Student Council to defend themselves should they wish.

In order to remove a member a vote must be held and 66% of the Council should be present.

Duration of the Student Council

Each Student Council will sit for 1 year from its first meeting – except in exceptional circumstances. At the end of the 1 year term elections must take place again but outgoing Student Council members are not restricted from running for a successive term

Changes to the Constitution

A vote must be held to alter the Constitution. Proposed changes must be circulated 1 week prior to the meeting where it is on the agenda.

66% of the Student Council must vote in favour and the change must be reviewed by the Board of Management.

22/11/2017