

Student Council Constitution

Aims:

- To actively involve students in the life of the school.
- To support the school ethos.
- To promote good relationships between Students and Staff, Board of Management and Parent's Council.
- To represent the views of students.
- To foster social awareness activities and learning activities.
- To assist subject teachers and class tutors.

Council Membership:

- The Student Council will include a representative from each class (class captain) who will be democratically elected by the class in the presence of the class tutor.
- A vice captain will also be elected. He / she may participate in the Council in the event of the captain being unavailable.
- In order to promote gender balance the captain and vice captain should be male and female or vice versa.

Executive Council:

- The Executive Council will consist of twelve students, nine of whom will be democratically elected by the Student Council.
- Years one, two and three will have one member each, while years four, five and six will have two members each.
- Three additional students will be appointed by Year Heads.

Meetings:

- The Student Council will meet at least twice each term. All meetings will be directed by the Chairperson in consultation with the Liaison Teacher.
- The Executive Council will meet each month or when the need arises. Any decision made or action taken must have the support of nine of the twelve members.
- A report will be written by the Secretary and a copy given to the Liaison Teacher and a response awaited before a decision is implemented or acted upon.

Executive Officers:

- The Student Council reserves the right to elect the Chairperson by simple majority.

- The Secretary, P.R.O and Treasurer will be elected by simple majority of the Executive Council.
- The Chairperson will conduct the meetings in accordance with proper procedure, report to the Student Council and speak on behalf of and represent the Student Council where and when required.
- The Secretary will write up the minutes of each meeting and provide a copy to the Liaison Teacher.
- The P.R.O will publicise meetings and liaise with the media (Youghal News and School Newsletter).

Liaison with Staff:

- A Student Council Liaison Teacher will be appointed by the Principal to assist in the establishment and proper functioning of the Student Council.
- He/She will endeavour to ensure a clear line of communication between the Council and Staff, to advise the Council in a resourceful manner, to organise training programmes and to ensure that proper procedures are adhered to.
- The Principal, in consultation with the relevant Year Head and Liaison Teacher, reserves the right to remove any member of the Student Council during the school year if the member's lack of good discipline should warrant it.
- The Principal and Staff also reserve the right to veto any individual whose discipline has been poor during the previous school year.
- The Principal and Board of Management also reserve the right to suspend the Student Council in the event of the Council pursuing a course of action deemed detrimental to Pobalscoil na Tríonóide.

Induction and Training:

- The Liaison Teacher will address the newly elected Student Council and outline the role and responsibilities of the Council and reserve the right to sit in on Council meetings.
- The Liaison Teacher will address the Executive Council to outline its role and responsibilities and establish proper procedures. He/She may sit in on meetings of the Executive Council.
- The Liaison Teacher will explain the role of the Class Captain.

Any student who has been suspended because of a serious lack of discipline cannot be elected Class Captain the next year.