



Saint Patrick's Nursery & Primary School
Dream. Believe. Achieve.

Student Council Handbook



Welcome

St. Patrick's Primary School would like to welcome and congratulate all our new councillors and their families on joining our Student Council.

This short booklet aims to explain the role of the Student Council in St. Patrick's P.S. and to give you an idea of what being involved in S.C. means.

What is a Student Council?

A Student Council is a group of children who have been elected by their peers to represent their opinions and views on all school matters. St. Patrick's Primary School values the voice of the pupil and considers this voice when making any key decisions in the school.

What is the role of the Student Council?

The Student Council as a whole has responsibility for:

- ☉ -Working with the staff, Board of Governors and Parents' Association in the school
- ☉ -Communicating and consulting with all of the students in the school
- ☉ -Involving as many students as possible in the activities of the Council
- ☉ -Planning and managing the Council's programme of activities for the year
- ☉ -Managing and accounting for any funds raised by the Council

How were they elected?

The Student Council is built up of a boy and a girl from every class from P4-P7. The children put themselves forward

and try to persuade their classmates to vote. The boy and girl with the most votes become the class representatives.

How often do they meet?

The Student Council meet once every fortnight. Meetings take place on a Wednesday from 3pm – 3.50pm in the ICT suite and are co-ordinated by Mrs McCaul.

What happens at meetings?

The first meeting sees the children develop an understanding and electing the executive roles in the Council. These are the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer.

Minutes are recorded and shared with the entire school through class council and staff meetings.

The Councillors hold class council with their peers once a fortnight. This ensures that clear lines of communication are operational with the Student Council and their voters.

Activities

The Student Council usually have a jam packed academic year with a variety of fundraisers and fun days.

Typical events include:

- Crazy hair day/PJ day
- Jumble Sale
- St. Patrick's Got Talent Contest
- Charity Fundraisers
- Competitions and much more....

Various consultations take place with the S.C. throughout the year on school

Other responsibilities

The Student Council are quite often regarded as ambassadors for our school. They represent our school at a number of events and functions e.g. local/national commemorations, educational celebrations, Sacraments, funerals, masses etc.

For these events, it's desirable to represent the school to the best of our ability. Therefore we ask that councillors attend such events in full school uniform with plain black shoes.

The Student Council are high profile role models in the school. The student population look up to them and therefore aim to achieve their standards.

It's important that all councillors display positive behaviours towards their school work, friends and teachers.

In Conclusion

Ultimately, our aim is to provide our councillors with a concrete understanding of leadership. While doing so the children will develop an understanding of team building, resourcefulness, decision making, confidence building and making a difference, not just in our school but in our community.

We offer thanks in advance for their commitment and hard work in making our school a wonderful place for all.

We look forward to another exciting academic year working with our Student Council!