

Learner Voice in Teaching and Learning



Crana College
Co Donegal

Overview of Our Engagement

- Student Voice Committee.
- Student Surveys - various, DEIS, wellbeing, remote learning, ICT
- Student Leadership team, Student Council, 5th year mentors.
- Academic Mentoring - 6th year students, Check and Connect programme.
- Wellbeing Curriculum team - modules, end of year
- Senior Cycle Review - one of 40 schools involved nationwide, only school in Co Donegal.
- New School Campaign - student letters to Minister Foley, videos social media

Student Voice Committee

- Established December 2018
- Announcement at assembly
- Application Form
- All year groups, approx 25 students
- Four meetings per year - Oct, Dec, Feb and May.

Crana College

Student Voice Committee

Year: _____ Class: _____ Name: _____

Please state why you would like to be part of the student voice committee in our school:

- Space: Meetings - Agenda/Minutes, classroom, one to one
- Voice: Topics e.g. protocol for meetings, study skills, assembly, use of IL/active methods, canteen, uniform, homework policy, 40/60 min lessons, school building/space, new school, Covid 19 (survey).
- Audience and Influence: Feedback from meetings brought to Principal/Deputy Principal, senior management meetings. Ideas taken on board/implemented eg assembly, study skills workshop, Covid 19 ideas, upskilling in ICT for teachers/students.

Senior Cycle Review

- Approx 30 junior cycle, TY (20) and 30 senior cycle students involved in survey, staff and parents also surveyed.
- Student feedback:

Senior Cycle Students

1. What did you enjoy most about Junior Cycle? But?
2. What are the best things about Senior Cycle in your School? But?
3. How do you think this experience and learning will help you in the future?
But?

Junior Cycle Students

1. What helps you learn in class just now? You might think about different teaching approaches/types of Assessment. But?
2. How do you think these things that help you learn will be useful in the future? But?
3. What are the best things you have heard about Senior Cycle from other students, your teachers or family members? But?

Wins/success indicators

Student Voice

- Opinions of a wide range of students, all year groups, levels etc
- Students that may not be involved/elected to student council etc
- Another opportunity for students to have a “voice” in the school.
- Students on committee 2018-2019, majority returned in 2019-2020
- Influence - procedures and practices changed in school as a result of feedback.
- New School - meeting was arranged with Minister Foley

Senior Cycle Review

- Great experience for students to be involved in this survey.
- Opportunity for students to give opinion, “voice” in relation to the curriculum at junior and senior cycle.
- Information for management and teachers to inform change in school.
- Contribution may lead to change to the curriculum nationally.

Challenges in Progressing the Project

What is the focus?

Learner Voice

Framing questions

Workplace relations/union

Staff buy in