

# CREATE A CULTURE OF STUDENT LEADERSHIP IN YOUR SCHOOL

## Introduction

Students are our primary ‘clients’ in school, but have we ever asked what they need? How do they want to learn? And what is best for them? Can we involve them in the decision-making process of our school? Give them a voice and equal partnership in the process of their learning? This toolkit will lay out simple steps to you to move towards that direction.

**1**

*Allow your students to select their student body leaders*

**2**

*Create a school-wide election to allow this process to happen*

**3**

*Treat the election with the rules and severity of a general election*

**8**

*Ensure their input is considered with the due importance*

## **CREATE EMPOWERED STUDENT BODY LEADERS**

To keep your student bodies engaged, empowered and active, they must be elected democratically by the students. They must also work with the school's SLT members to ensure the students' will are being heard.

**7**

*Allow student leaders to act as the voice of students and to give feedback from the student population before decisions are made*

**4**

*Honour the outcome of the election no matter who they have selected*

**6**

*Include them in strategic decision making processes and meetings*

**5**

*Create a close working relationship with monthly check-ins between student body leaders and the senior leadership members of the school*

**1**

*Seek feedback from students about the quality and methods of your teaching*

**2**

*Create a simple questionnaire/survey asking them what worked, what didn't, what could have been better*

**3**

*Make this survey anonymous*

**CREATE LEADERSHIP QUALITIES IN ALL STUDENTS**

How do we ensure all students, not just student body leaders, have leadership qualities? Teachers can start small within their classrooms in ensuring students take a more significant part in their learning.

**6**

*Be consistent: Make this a monthly habit*

**5**

*Act on crucial areas of improvement students have mentioned calmly and professionally*

(Important: if students feel their feedback is not being listened to after a few times, they will not bother to give accurate feedback anymore)

**4**

*Assure your students there will be no reprisals for negative feedback*