

CBS Kilkenny 61550G

Student Voice and Participation

School Improvement Plan August 2024 - May 2027

Improvement Targets

- Target 1

To increase the number of **Junior Cycle students who avail of and participate in leadership opportunities** from 24% to 35% in 2025, and to 40% in 2026/27.

- Target 2

To increase the number of **Senior Cycle students afforded the opportunity to take leadership opportunities and become part of the decision-making process** in our school from 45% to 55% in 2025, and to 60% in 2026/27

School Improvement Plan for Student Voice and Participation August 2024 - May 2027

<p>Summary of main strengths</p>	<p>The majority of parents and teachers in our school feel the school offers enough opportunities to develop their leadership skills. When reflecting on the leadership opportunities they availed of in the school, building confidence and self-esteem and developing leadership and social skills were the most common responses.</p> <p>The school provides over 20 leadership opportunities for students. The strength of the TY programme was highlighted.</p> <p>Coaching and mentoring younger students has been identified as a strength in our school community by students, parents and teachers. It allows students to lead in an area they are passionate about.</p> <p>Staff and students both noted that students are much more comfortable presenting and speaking up in front of the class than in the past. This is testament to staff empowering students to use their voice.</p>
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<p>Summary of main areas prioritised for improvement</p>	<p>The vast majority of leadership opportunities are afforded to TY students. Less than 30% of 6th year students availed of a leadership opportunity outside of TY.</p> <p>There is a lack of continuity in leadership opportunities from TY to 5th Year students.</p> <p>Our limited access to resources and a staggered timetable has hindered leadership and mentoring opportunities.</p> <p>Less than 40% of parents said their son availed of a leadership opportunity in Junior Cycle.</p> <p>When 6th year students were asked why they did not avail of a leadership opportunity, ‘opportunity not good enough’ and ‘lack of opportunities they are interested in’ accounted for 28% of the response.</p>
<p>Actions to support implementation of School Improvement Plan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Introduction of Prefects across all year groups. Elected in January, they will provide a voice for their class and form a link with the class tutor through meetings once per term. ● The creation of a new Edmund Rice Leaders Committee. Student Leaders will be elected from Junior and Senior Cycle to spread and support the ethos of our school. ● The implementation of a ‘Giving Back’ initiative in Senior Cycle, where all students involved in extra curricular activities will ‘give back’ by coaching/mentoring 1st years in their chosen activity. ● A new CBA initiative; students with ‘exceptional’ CBAs will be selected to present their projects to 1st and 2nd year students.

Dimension: Teaching & Learning

Domain 4: Developing Leadership Capacity

Standard:

Promote and facilitate the development of student participation, student leadership and parent participation

Statements of Highly Effective Practice:

- Those in leadership and management roles support students in taking leadership roles by facilitating relevant training and providing opportunities to lead school initiatives.

Improvement Target 1: To increase the number of **Junior Cycle students who avail of and participate in leadership opportunities** from 24% to 35% in 2025, and to 40% in 2026/27.

<p style="text-align: center;">ACTION</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(What needs to be done?)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">CRITERIA FOR SUCCESS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(What are the desired outcomes?)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PERSONS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">RESPONSIBLE (Who is to do it?)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">TIMEFRAME</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(When is it to be done by?)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ACTION COMPLETED?</p>
<p>1. A Prefect System to be introduced.</p> <p>1 person per class for the full academic year.</p> <p>Students will demonstrate the ability to act as a student voice for their class.</p>	<p>All students will be aware of who the class prefect is who will be the link between students and class tutor/yearhead</p> <p>It is envisaged that this will increase the number of students in leadership positions, with at least 5/6 students in leadership roles per year</p>	<p>Year Heads</p> <p>Class tutors</p> <p>SIP Team</p>	<p>Launched and promoted from Sept 2024 with prefects elected in January 2025</p>	
<p>2. Edmund Rice Leaders</p> <p>A group is elected to support and spread the ethos of our school, focusing on the 5 key elements of an Edmund Rice school. They focus on 1 element per year; e.g. Promoting Partnership in the School Community</p> <p>Responsible for updating a noticeboard at the front of the school, monthly announcements, App updates, etc.</p> <p>They will plan activities for the Edmund Rice Feast Day.</p>	<p>At least 10 students across Junior and Senior cycle will participate in the programme therefore increasing overall leadership opportunities for students.</p>	<p>Jonathan Murphy</p> <p>SIP Team</p>	<p>Members are elected in December 2024 and they are presented with badges at the Christmas Mass.</p>	
<p>3. CBA Presentations</p> <p>At SLAR meetings, teachers nominate students with the best CBAs to present to 1st year classes.</p>	<p>Increase the number of teachers offering leadership opportunities to students across various subjects.</p>	<p>Each subject teacher</p>	<p>Sept 2024 - May 2025</p>	

	Increase in the number of students availing of a new leadership opportunity.			
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Review: Review annually

Dimension: Teaching & Learning

Domain 4: Developing Leadership Capacity

Standard:

Promote and facilitate the development of student participation, student leadership and parent participation

Statements of Highly Effective Practice:

- Those in leadership and management roles recognise students and parents as stakeholders, value their views, and ensure their involvement in the operation of the school.

Improvement Target 2: To increase the number of **Senior Cycle students afforded the opportunity to take leadership opportunities and become part of the decision-making process** in our school from 45% to 55% in 2025, and to 60% in 2026/27.

<p style="text-align: center;">ACTION</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(What needs to be done?)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">CRITERIA FOR SUCCESS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(What are the desired outcomes?)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PERSONS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">RESPONSIBLE (Who is to do it?)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">TIMEFRAME</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(When is it to be done by?)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ACTION COMPLETED?</p>
<p>1. A Prefect System to be introduced.</p> <p>A Prefect System to be introduced.1 person per class for the full academic year.</p> <p>The elected 6th year prefects will sit in on Themed Week committees and contribute to the decision- making in the school.</p> <p>They will represent the student body and speak at school masses, staff meetings and awards night.</p>	<p>All students will be aware of who the class prefect is who will be the link between students and class tutor/yearhead</p> <p>It is envisaged that this will increase the number of students in leadership positions, with at least 5/6 students in leadership roles per year</p>	<p>Year Heads</p> <p>Class tutors</p> <p>SIP Team</p>	<p>Launched and promoted from Sept 2024 with prefects elected in January 2025</p>	
<p>2. Edmund Rice Leaders</p> <p>A group is elected to support and spread the ethos of our school, focusing on the 5 key elements of an Edmund Rice school. They focus on 1 element per year; e.g. Promoting Partnership in the School Community</p> <p>Responsible for updating a noticeboard at the front of the school, monthly announcements, App updates, etc.</p> <p>They will plan activities for the Edmund Rice Feast Day.</p>	<p>At least 10 students across Junior and Senior cycle will participate in the programme therefore increasing overall leadership opportunities for students.</p>	<p>ERST Link teacher</p> <p>SIP Team</p>	<p>Members are elected in December 2024 and they are presented with badges at the Christmas Mass.</p>	

<p>3. 'Giving Back' Initiative</p> <p>All senior cycle students that participate in extracurricular activities are asked to 'give back' by coaching/ mentoring 1st year students in their chosen activities.</p> <p>Initiatives here include Homework Club, Chess Club, Fun Fitness Club and Senior Cycle students coaching 1st year sports teams.</p>	<p>Increase in the number of Senior Cycle students afforded leadership opportunities through mentoring in an area they are passionate in.</p>	<p>All teachers involved in extra-curricular activities</p>	<p>Sept 2024 - May 2025</p>	
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Review: Review annually