



National Student Engagement Programme

Clár Rannpháirtíochta Náisiúnta
na Mac Léinn

Student Engagement, Wellbeing & Belonging

Student Parallel Session

29th November 2023

Let us know

Currently, how do staff
communicate with you
about wellbeing/belonging?

(teaching staff, support staff, management, other)



Steps to Partnership

A Framework for Authentic Student Engagement in Decision-Making

4 DRIVERS OF STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

A CULTURE OF STUDENTS AS PARTNERS

THE INSTITUTION AS A SITE OF DEMOCRATIC CITIZENSHIP

THE INSTITUTION AS AN INCLUSIVE LEARNING COMMUNITY

A CULTURE OF INSTITUTIONAL REFLECTION AND ENHANCEMENT

4 DOMAINS OF STUDENT ENGAGEMENT



5 PRINCIPLES OF STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

- Dialogue
- Building Trust
- Equity and Inclusivity
- Empowerment
- Students as co-creators

5 ENABLERS OF STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

- Capacity Building
- Institutional Approaches
- Supportive Policies and Practices
- Communities of Practice
- Sustainability

DEVELOPING A SHARED UNDERSTANDING AND APPROACH TO STUDENT ENGAGEMENT IN DECISION-MAKING

STUDENT VOICE

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

STUDENT PARTNERSHIP



Dialogue

- ▶ Dialogic approaches suggest something more open
- ▶ Transparency
- ▶ Connection and belonging (to what? And why?)
- ▶ Multi-directional communication
- ▶ Space for sharing and exploration – knowledge and capacity building



Let us know...

Looking at the principle of **dialogue**...

How would you like staff to
engage you in wellbeing and
belonging activities?

Building Trust



- ▶ Dialogue builds the relationship, trust underpins it.
- ▶ Necessary for sustainability.
- ▶ Room for competing goals to support cooperation and consensus.
- ▶ Clear rationale – fairness
- ▶ Empathy



Let us know...

Looking at the principle of **building trust**...

How can staff earn your trust in
wellbeing and belonging activity?

Equity and Inclusivity

- ▶ Diversity of people is different from diversity of approaches
- ▶ Universal and specific
- ▶ Lived experiences, visibility, and acceptance (tokenism)
- ▶ Accessible engagement

Empowerment

- Individual and collective
- Students and staff
- Crucially, addresses the role of power dynamics
- The ability to influence and inform
- Develop self-efficacy, leadership, and to disagree well



Let us know...

Looking at the principle of **Equity, inclusivity**...

How can staff ensure wellbeing
and belonging activity is
inclusive?

Let us know...

Looking at the principle of **empowerment**...

What would help you feel
empowered to get involved in
wellbeing and belonging activity?

Students as Co-Creators

- ▶ A necessary ingredient of partnership – collaboration
- ▶ Students have a role in product, as well as process
- ▶ Navigate existing norms and assumptions
- ▶ The challenge of competing pressures



Let us know...

Looking at the principle of **students as co-creators**...

How would you like to be
involved in projects with
wellbeing and belonging?

Contact Us



**National Student
Engagement Programme**

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