

COLÁISTE NA MBRÁITHRE CRÍOSTAÍ

Cill Chainnigh R95TW0Y



SCIENTIA AC LABORE

CBC KILKENNY

Dunningstown Road, Kilkenny R95TW0Y
An Edmund Rice School

Student Voice and Participation

Review 2025-2026

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.

Dimension: Teaching & Learning

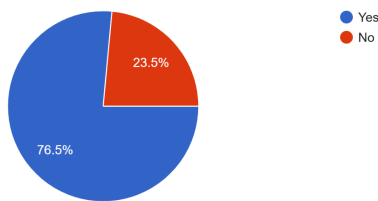
Domain 4: Developing Leadership Capacity

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

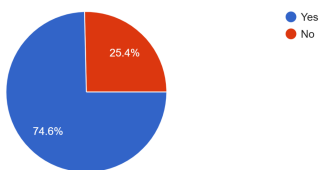
Statements of Highly Effective Practice: Those in leadership and management roles support students in taking leadership roles by facilitating relevant training and providing opportunities to lead school initiatives.

A survey was conducted on a selection of Junior Cycle students. Attached below are the findings.

Were you aware of leadership opportunities available to you this year in CBC Kilkenny?
68 responses

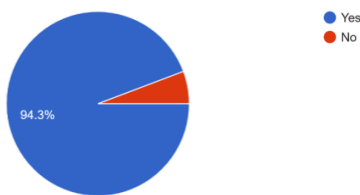


Do you think students in CBC Kilkenny are given enough opportunities to develop their leadership skills?
67 responses



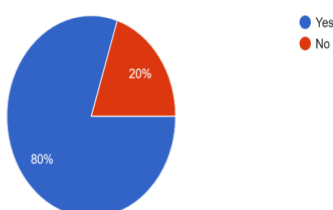
Last year's results

1. Were you aware of leadership opportunities during your time in CBS Kilkenny?
35 responses



Results of student survey from 24/25 academic year.

2. Do you think students in CBS Kilkenny are given enough opportunities to develop their leadership skills?
35 responses



Observations

The majority of students are aware of and feel like they have been given the opportunity to develop their leadership skills in CBC Kilkenny. About a quarter of the Junior Cycle students surveyed were not aware of the leadership opportunities given to them. If an initiative is running in the school, it should be highlighted as an opportunity, which could be advertised on the screen in the Bialann. In comparison to last year's result the number of students who knew about leadership opportunities and feel like they are given enough opportunities is lower, however there were more students surveyed this year. The percentage of students who avail of leadership opportunities is still above the target.

Key Achievements in 2025/2026 Academic Year

- Third Year students were given the opportunity to get involved in coaching basketball teams and directing and teaching the Robotics Club. This is part of our 'Give Back' initiative where students with a passion in an area/sport are encouraged to pass their knowledge onto other students.
- There has been an increase in the collaboration of student groups with other schools both in Ireland and abroad. The Edmund Rice Student Council conference was attended by two junior students who spoke on behalf of the school about initiatives being run in the school by the Student Council.

A number of junior students attended the EREBB conference, having important conversations about being an Edmund Rice school and individual experiences across the world.

- There is a strong presence of junior students across various groups including Edmund Rice Leaders and Student Council.

Challenges and Areas for Growth

- The CBA leaders were identified across a few subjects but not all. This could be incorporated into a department meeting agenda to further enhance this process in the school. This could also be communicated to the subject convenor in preparation for the completion of the CBAs and a reminder sent prior to the SLAR.
- The junior prefects were not introduced this year due to the crossing over of roles between prefects and other leadership groups. This will be looked at next year to see if there is a way to differentiate the roles of prefects from those of other student leadership groups.
- There is scope for junior students to be given some responsibility for the cleanliness of their locker area. These students would encourage their year group to keep the area tidy and free from books and jackets. This could be a group of students who manage it year round or it could be the responsibility of a certain class group every week.
- Leadership initiatives should be seen and promoted more around the school, including on posters and on the screen in the Bialann. As a result of this student awareness, more Junior Cycle students might take up opportunities.

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%-55% in 2025 and to 60% in 2026/2027.

Dimension: Teaching & Learning

Domain 4: Developing Leadership Capacity

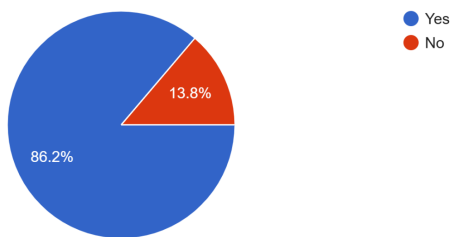
Standard: Promote and facilitate the development of student participation, student leadership and parent participation

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.

A survey was conducted on a selection of Senior Cycle students. Attached below are the findings.

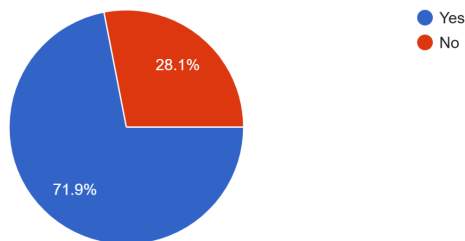
Were you aware of leadership opportunities available to you this year in CBC Kilkenny?

58 responses



Do you think students in CBC Kilkenny are given enough opportunities to develop their leadership skills?

57 responses

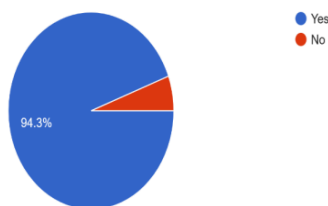


Last year's results

Results of student survey from 24/25 academic year.

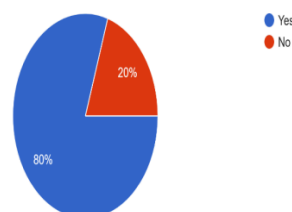
1. Were you aware of leadership opportunities during your time in CBS Kilkenny?

35 responses



2. Do you think students in CBS Kilkenny are given enough opportunities to develop their leadership skills?

35 responses



Observations

The vast majority of Senior Cycle students are aware of the opportunities available to them in CBC Kilkenny, however more than a quarter of the students feel that they are not given enough opportunities to develop their leadership skills. This could be improved by expanding the scope of the opportunities available to students and ensuring that a variety of students are considered for leadership opportunities. In comparison to last year's result the number of students who knew about leadership opportunities and feel like they are given enough opportunities is lower, however there were more students surveyed this year which could indicate that this year's figure is more accurate. The percentage of students who avail of leadership opportunities is still above the target.

Key Achievements

- The Gaisce initiative was extended to Fifth Year students to allow them to complete their Silver Gaisce which is an extension of the Bronze award that is completed in Transition Year.
- Many senior cycle students were given the opportunity to coach younger teams as part of the Giving Back initiative including teams in basketball, hurling and soccer.
- A plan has been developed to restructure the senior leadership in the school including Head Boy and Deputy Head Boy to reflect the needs of our school in the new campus and to mirror the structure of a number of Edmund Rice schools in Ireland.

Challenges and Areas for Growth

- There is scope for further development of the Gaisce initiative to facilitate the students completing the silver award.
- The senior prefects will be introduced in September 2026, with clearly defined roles and responsibilities in the school.
- Although the number of opportunities has increased, the majority of opportunities are afforded to Transition Year students as they have the flexibility to get involved in various programmes. It should be an area of focus that there is consistency across year groups and the opportunities they have to get involved.
- The LIFT Leaders module can be continued into Fifth Year which will give a wider range of opportunities and allow many students to engage in leadership in CBC Kilkenny.