

STUDENT LED CONFERENCES

A Celebration of Learning

Kilcolgan Educate Together

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Sharing Work



Students Leading



Student Led Conferences

Students facilitate meetings between themselves
and their parents for the purpose of...

...celebrating and sharing educational progress

...setting goals

...getting parent help with goals

During the Conference

- Introductions
- Present portfolio
- Activity/game/experiment /tour
- Set goals
- Thanks and feedback

Before the Conference

- Inform stakeholders
- Select work to be included in portfolio
- Reflect on work to be included in portfolio
- Learn how to set goals
- Set goals
- Letter to parents / guiding questions
- Develop an agenda for the day
- Rehearse : teacher, buddies, older students
- Set up conference areas in the classroom (day before)

Portfolios

- A collection of information that reflects a student's work and progress.
- Evidence of learning and performance
- Diverse examples of performance

Keeping a Portfolio

Collect : gather samples

Select : decide which samples to keep

Reflect : talk and write about your decision

Project : set goals

Keep in mind...

...students must be given time to reflect

...portfolios promote learning

Benefits Students

- Accountability
- Ownership
- Increased interaction with parents
- Independence
- Self assessment
- Self confidence
- Leadership/organisational/communication and critical thinking skills

Benefits Parents

- Significant role in child's learning
- Active participation
- Better understanding of child's learning
- Relaxed environment
- First language communication
- Forum to talk to child positively and productively
- Communication between home and school

Benefits Teachers

- Opportunity to teach skills in a real life context
- Increased student participation
- Increased parental involvement
- More effective use of conferencing time
- Opportunity to observe parent/child interaction
- Educate Together ethos

Remember

- Plan ahead/preparation is key
- Save projects/work – don't send them home
- Allow students choice in portfolio selections
- Students need to be informed and confident
- Have several practice runs
- Include some hands on activities
- Educate parents ahead of time: letter/guiding questions
- Agenda or checklist and feedback
- Enjoy!