

# TOP TIPS FOR STUDENTS ON SCHOOL COUNCIL

## ASK ABOUT TRAINING

There is free school council training available for school council members – both online modules and facilitated sessions. Ask about accessing this and what else your school council might use.

## FIND A MENTOR

School council meetings can be full of jargon and acronyms, and any new member can find this confusing. Approach another school council member or a teacher and ask them to be your mentor. Together you can review agendas and meeting papers and figure out how things work.

## BE ACTIVE IN SUBCOMMITTEES

Your school council probably has subcommittees which advise the school council on key decisions. You might get involved in a subcommittee on finance, student wellbeing or facilities in order to have more input into decision making. Subcommittees are generally open to other members of the school community and are a great option to get more students involved – ask if you can promote membership of the subcommittees to the rest of your student body!

## TALK TO YOUR TEACHERS ABOUT YOUR COMMITMENTS

Your teachers should support you to use some class time to prepare for or attend meetings and may also be able to give you some flexibility around deadlines for assessments and exams. Your teachers may also allow you to use some of your school council work for assessment tasks for different subjects – being a part of a school council is a great example of civics and citizenship in action.