PRACTICING DEMOCRACY – STUDENT COUNCIL
Roles

The president

The president (who may be assisted by an assistant or vice-president) opens and closes the meeting, reminds the rules, helps to facilitate and organise the discussions. He/she follows and ensures that the agenda is respected.

He/she gives the floor to the students who request it and regulates the debate by ensuring that each person who speaks is able to complete his/her remarks without being interrupted. He/she asks open questions: How do you… ? Why do you…? What do you think? What would you do in his place?) in order to encourage debate.

In the event of a complaint or conflict between pupils, he/she gives the floor to the actors concerned and seeks to favour listening, clarification of the facts, allows the expression of emotions and brings out constructive solutions (commitment, forgiveness, reparation…), before envisaging sanctions and reparations.

The secretary

The secretary notes the decisions taken during the council. The record of the council remains available to the students. It is a tool for regulating the life of the class and for monitoring the implementation of decisions taken.

The time keeper

The time keeper takes care of respecting the time for the council. He/she can establish the amount of time for each subject and decide whether there are some that need to be postponed for the next class council.

Other roles

Other roles can be added to help the class run smoothly (see roles template): a distributor to distribute the material, a noise monitor to ensure a reasonable noise level, a line leader, a librarian to manage the library, an energy manager to check that the lights are off if not needed, a cleanliness responsible, etc.