

School of Education - Student Voice



Students from the School of Education, both undergraduate and postgraduate, came together to share their views on Student Voice in June 2022. They discussed what Student Voice means to them, what good Student Voice looks like and what are the benefits of enabling different platforms for Student Voice. The following captures the key points from very interesting conversations that took place in a small ['World Cafe'](#) event.

How would you define Student Voice?



- A collaborative process between Educators and Students
- Students' lived experiences being heard, which helps to shape what is on offer to them
- Participative and democratic processes that enable universities to gain insight into what will help to enhance student experience
- The opportunity for students to influence things that affect them
- Processes that enable contributions from the diverse group of students, being mindful of intersectionality



1 - What does good Student Voice look like?

- Authentic collaboration between students and educators
- Reaches marginalised students, enabling a wide range of voices to be heard
- Is based on meaningful engagement that leads to change - not tokenistic consultation
- Provides regular opportunities for students and lecturers to talk about matters that are important, enabling open and honest communication

What are the benefits of Student Voice?



- Universities provide an excellent experience for students, supporting those at the margins, as well as those in the mainstream
- Educators and university staff understand the needs, hopes and aspirations of students, which leads to student-focused solutions
- Educators and students operate on a platform of solidarity & mutual respect – supporting one another

How can we enable Student Voice?



- Create space within timetables to enable conversations between students and staff about emerging issues to enable quick resolutions
- Share potential issues that might impact students' learning experience e.g., ongoing industrial action. Students are happy to support staff to overcome these issues
- Provide regular networking opportunities for students and staff across the School of Education for open and honest conversations
- Enable varied platforms for communication - different students have different needs
- Create virtual and physical suggestion boxes - anonymous and quick way to get feedback from students
- Students can be involved in facilitating different forms of evaluation (e.g., not just EVASYS)
- Create Student/Class Discussion Forum on Moodle in which students and staff can raise concerns and receive feedback