# Student Led Conferences A Guide for Parents, Students and Teachers



The purpose of a student-led conference is to empower students to take an active role in their learning. It is an opportunity for students to build personal agency and communicate their experience, academic progress and goals to their parent/caregiver and teacher. Student-led conferences place students at the helm of teacher-supported discussions with parents and caregivers about their learning, progress and goals.

The following table briefly outlines each person's role in the student-led conference.

### **Parent / Caregiver**

- Attend the student-led conference together with your child.
- Your student will lead the conference which will be facilitated and supported by their teacher.
- You are encouraged to ask your student questions during the conference about their progress, learning and goals.
- Ask the teacher about your student's progress, learning and effort in class.

#### **Student**

- Attend the student-led conference together with your parent/caregiver.
- You will lead the conversation and your teacher will support you by facilitating it and providing some prompts or further elaborations.
- Start by introducing your parent or caregiver to your teacher and the subject they teach.
- Next, provide your parent/caregiver with a brief overview of what you have been doing in this class so far this year.
- Use your reflection notes completed in Connect to help guide the conference.
- Answer any questions from your parent/caregiver or your teacher throughout the conference.
- Ask your teacher questions you may have about your progress or the subject or about upcoming assessment.

#### **Teacher**

- Discuss the student-led conferences in class in the lead up to the date and discuss any expectations or suggestions you might have with the students about how these might look.
- Your role in the student-led conference is to facilitate the conversation but allow the student to lead it. You might need to prompt them or provide elaborations throughout the conference.
- Provide feedback on the student's progress to date. You might like to discuss their effort in class, any successes or challenges you are observing, and any upcoming assessment tasks.

## Some guiding questions for parents, caregivers and teachers...

- What successes have you experienced in this class/subject so far?
- What has been your biggest challenge and what steps have you taken to overcome it?
- How can we support you in your learning?
- What will help you achieve your academic goals for this subject?
- How can I further support you in this class?
- What steps can you put in place to improve on any identified areas we have discussed?
- Regarding executive functioning. What has worked for you before? Is there anything new you would like to try? How can we support your strategies?