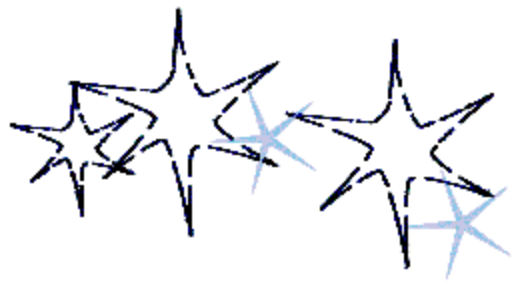


# The Fourth Element: Added Value of Students' Associations in the Wider Context of Student Engagement

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# Objectives

- To define the purpose of a Students' Association;
- To list some of the mechanisms for student engagement under Element 4;
- To consider how the College and Students' Association can better work together in developing and implementing formal student engagement mechanisms; and
- To define what support the Students' Association might need to do this.





# Scottish Student Engagement Framework – key principles

Partnership is a key concept – students have an equal role in shaping their experience which when fully realised goes beyond feedback, problem solving and membership of committees, to opportunities for real enhancement.





# Student Engagement Framework elements

There are five key elements:

1. Students feeling part of a supportive institution.
2. Students engaging in their own learning.
3. Students working with their institution in shaping the direction of learning.
4. Formal mechanisms for quality and governance.
5. Influencing the student experience at national level.



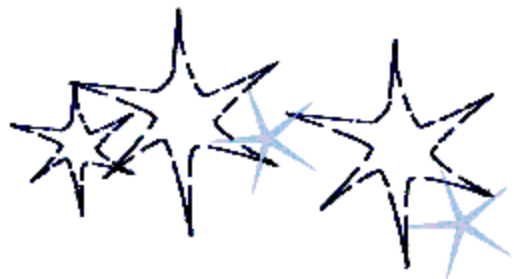


# Student Engagement Framework features

There are six features of effective student engagement:

- A culture of engagement.
- Students as partners.
- Responding to diversity.
- Valuing the student contribution.
- Focus on enhancement and change.
- Appropriate resources and support.





## The fourth element - examples

- Formal representation on institutional committees, and involvement in quality assurance and enhancement processes.
- Informal liaison with senior management, strategy away days, regular Principal liaison groups etc.
- Access to and engagement with institutional performance data, Education Scotland reports, survey data, KPIs etc.
- Joint strategic planning with institutions on large change projects.
- Student Partnership Agreements.





# Importance of representation

A representative voice can:

- take an informed position on issues;
- work to achieve compromise or settlement agreements; and
- own a jointly negotiated solution.

It recognises that in developing a partnership with students the individual voice is less powerful than the collective, and therefore the need for students to have representatives.





# Partnership

## What is partnership?

It is about more than a student simply being present when decisions are made, being involved in the process or being a committee member.

It is about an approach to student engagement which ensures student involvement in change, in partnership with staff at their institutions.







# Task

