

Democracy @school.

How does a democracy work?

The head teacher asks for your advice on:

The homework rules at school. A fixed homework day for each subject?

What healthy snacks would you like to be able to buy at school during break time?

What rules should we have regarding classroom order: sweeping the classroom, wiping the blackboard?

He/she expects your class to give a clear answer to these three questions.

How do we proceed?

Step 1. Formation of political parties

Each group forms a 'party' (like political parties).

Name:

Members:

- name of pupil 1 (chairperson)

- name of student 2

- name of student 3

- name of student 4

.Come up with a slogan (what does your party stand for?)

Step 2. Write a mini party programme (15 minutes)

Homework rules

Current situation at school:

Students' proposal:

What do we want to change compared to the current situation, and what do we want to keep?

Why change? Why keep?

Who benefits?

Healthy snacks at school

Current situation at school:

Pupils' proposal:

What do we **change compared to the current situation, and what do we keep?**

Why change? Why keep?

Who benefits?

Classroom order

Current situation at school:

Pupils' proposal:

What do we **change compared to the current situation, and what do we keep?**

Why change? Why keep?

Who benefits?

Step 3. Election campaign

Each party will have **5 minutes** to present themselves and their ideas for each of the 3 topics.

Try to **persuade** the other pupils in your programme.

Procedure:

The chairperson introduces the group to the other pupils: name of the group, team members and slogan.

Each team member presents the group's position.

Agree clearly who will say what!

Step 4. Voting

Once all parties have presented their ideas on the three topics, a vote will be held.

The teacher distributes ballot papers.

Everyone fills in their ballot paper and folds it in half.

Counting the votes

Which idea receives the most votes per topic?

Fill in the advice slip.

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Step 5. Develop the rule into a 'real law'

During the previous lessons, you worked in groups to develop a recommendation for your school's management. The headteacher agreed to the following rule that you proposed:

Rule:

.....
.....
.....
.....

The law must be: clear, applicable to everyone, explainable and enforceable.

Answer the following questions:

What does this rule mean in concrete terms?

When do you break the rule?

What is a **fair penalty**?

Who monitors this?

Is the penalty the same for everyone?