Class Rep System - An Overview

Class Reps play a key role in college life, helping to improve the Learning & Teaching experience for our current and future students. All courses should have at least one, but ideally two Class Reps who are elected by their class at the start of the semester. The Class Rep system runs through a collaborative effort: LDTs and Course Tutors get Reps registered, and EC Students' Association works with the Board and curriculum staff make sure their voices are heard.

What does EC Students' Association do for Class Reps?
- We provide them with training (in-person and online sessions provided).
- We meet them three times a year to discuss the general student experience.
- Feedback reports go to the College Student Success Committee and SMT, and are published on our Class Reps webpage.
- We work with Class Reps and curriculum to ensure any issues are flagged and resolved as quickly as possible.

This report is intended as an overview for the Student Success Committee, as at the time of writing, our first Class Rep Meetings are still being carried out. This report will be supplemented by an extended report, which will be submitted later in November and will go into greater detail on the feedback received by Class Reps.

Class Rep Recruitment & Training

Class Rep Registration opened on Friday 19th September, with an aim to register most reps before 20th October. The registration system is hosted within our website and includes a video from Adam, Student President, explaining the importance of student representation and encouraging students to sign up as Reps. In the weeks of 20th and 27th October, we ran 10 different training workshops and trained over 150 Reps, which gives us the opportunity to go through the Class Rep Role, talk about the Student Learning Experience Model, and build connections with Reps early on. Our training is based on resources created by Sparqs (student partnerships in quality Scotland) and modified to suit Edinburgh College students.

As the below stats show, there has been a drop in the number of Reps registered. While some of this can be attributed to the fact that our ESOL Reps have not yet been added into the system (the registration process works slightly differently for them, given their varied English language skills), the lower numbers of registrations could also reflect some changes to the LDT and Course Tutor role at College.

This year, the College has changed the focus of LDTs to be on further education courses. This means that higher education courses, or HN courses (HNC, HND) no longer have an allocated LDT to work

with them on more 'pastoral' matters and operational tasks including electing and registering Class Reps. While Course Tutors were initially asked to fill this role, there was a dispute raised by lecturers' union EIS about the additional responsibility that the Course Tutors have been asked to carry out. For some HN Courses, Class Reps have been elected and registered by Curriculum Leads, or Curriculum Team Managers. However, we thought it important to highlight the impact that not having LDTs assigned to HN courses has had on Class Rep recruitment and student voice.

Year	Class Reps Recruited	Class Reps Trained
2022-23	502	179
2023-24	548	214
2024-25	677	257
2025-26 (at time of writing)	416	172

'Have your say'

In our training sessions this year, we used an online anonymous tool called Mentimeter to collect responses to a series of statements about their overall experience at Edinburgh College so far. Respondents rated a series of statements on a scale of 1 – 5, where 1 = "strongly disagree" and 5 = "strongly agree". We have compared the data gathered at training sessions (2025) below with data collected at Rep meetings in November 2024. There was no data for Midlothian in November 2024.

Statement	Weighted Average Score (1 = strongly disagree, 5 = strongly agree)								
	Sighthill		Granton		Milton Road		Online		Midlothian
	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2025
At Edinburgh College I feel cared about as a student	4	3.9	3.56	4.06	3	3.8	3.49	4.1	3.6
My course and classes have met my expectations	4.03	4.25	3.5	4.2	3.18	4.3	3.39	4.26	3.3
I feel positive about the College facilities	4.10	4.15	3.48	3.86	2.95	3.95	3.51	4.13	3.9

The above results show that scores seem to be trending higher this year, which indicates a broadly more positive start to the year in 2025 than in 2024, which is encouraging data. Rep Meetings are taking place on the week of 3rd November, where we will gather both group and individual feedback. This feedback will be summarised and written into a more detailed report which will be circulated both to Class Reps and the Senior Management Team, and made available to the Learning, Teaching and Student Experience Committee of the Edinburgh College Board of Management.

The Class Rep system continues to be a valuable way for students to reflect on their learning and teaching experience, and we hope that our Reps feel empowered to know that their feedback is being heard across the College and will help to shape student experience in the coming months and years.