

POLICY – Student Leadership

Rationale:

Our school is a partnership between teachers, parents, students and the community. Student input into formal decision-making is integral to our combined success. A formal and structured student leadership program including School Captains, Junior School Council, House Captains and Senior School Leadership programs will provide a forum for students to express their views, to have them heard and to contribute to the development of leadership skills across the Senior and Middle School students.

Aims:

To provide a formal and recognised process to effectively and fairly gather and express students' opinions, suggestions and recommendations regarding school direction and day-to-day decision making. To provide avenues for students to develop age appropriate leadership skills and to contribute to the development of a positive school culture.

Implementation:

- Each year 2 school captains will be selected, one male and one female through an application, shortlisting and interview process chaired by the principal, which includes the assistant principal and other teaching personnel.
- Membership of the JSC must be proportionally representative, providing a balance of girls/boys and equal numbers of members representing each year level of students from the Middle and Senior School. The members of the JSC are elected by the students in each grade of Middle and Senior School. The 2 school captains are automatically part of the JSC and are counted in addition to those selected by the student body.
- 2 House Captains per House will be selected through a process of application chaired by the principal and include the assistant principal and other teaching personnel. House Captains may be involved in JSC meetings where deemed appropriate.
- Students may not be excluded from any leadership position due to any reason such as race, religion or non-payment of voluntary contributions.
- All members of the student leadership team will receive badges, will be recognised in the newsletter, and will receive directions as to their role and basic meeting procedures and protocols.
- All students enrolled at the school will be allocated to a House. House assemblies and activities will be co-ordinated by the House Captains and will aim to cover areas such as the arts, values education and sport.
- The selected school captains will co-chair all JSC meetings.
- The JSC and House Captains will meet monthly as a minimum, or more frequently if required.
- JSC issues will be placed on the School Council agenda, and the school captains will be invited to participate in School Council meetings as JSC representatives once per term.
- The opinions expressed by JSC will be carefully considered by the School Council and the principal, and will receive appropriate feedback.
- JSC will have available a regular section in the newsletter to report to the community.
- All JSC representatives will be provided with the opportunity to view the workings of School Council, local and state government.
- The day-to-day coordination of JSC will be managed by the school captains in partnership with an appropriately skilled and supportive staff member.
- All Senior School students will be a part of the kinder/ prep buddy program throughout the year.

Evaluation:

- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.

Ratified by School Council: October 2013

To be Reviewed: 2016