

Student Leadership Policy

Rationale

At Grays Point Public School effective School Captains and Vice Captains support the development of a positive school culture through adhering to the school values of pride, respect and acceptance. School Captain, Vice Captain and Prefect positions provide an opportunity for students to be actively represented in school decision-making processes.

Aim Of The Policy

- Provide clear guidelines regarding the democratic selection process of electing the School Captains, Vice Captains and Prefects.
- Provide clarification of student leadership responsibilities.
- Develop School Leaders' capacities in a supportive school environment.
- Encourage School Leaders to model responsible behaviours and support the development of a positive school climate.

Implementation

- A democratic process will be followed throughout the elections, with Principal and staff exercising discretion and equity.
- Adherence to our school values throughout the students' schooling will be considered throughout the process.
- All positions have a probationary period of one term. If students have not upheld the school values during this period and/or their term of office, their position may be suspended or terminated.
- Any queries or concerns about any student leadership process must be taken up with the Principal.
- Student leaders are expected to be a role model for other students and must demonstrate a range of behaviours as per the role description provided.

The Selection process for School Captains, Vice Captains and Prefects

At the commencement of Term 4 Year 5 students who wish to put themselves forward for nomination are encouraged to do so.

- The Year 5 cohort are asked to consider the qualities of a good leader and then vote for eight boys and eight girls from those who nominated.
- The 16 students are then given a template to complete outlining their student involvement and the reasons why they wish to be a school leader and then signed by a parent.
- The final sixteen are then required to prepare a speech 3-4 minutes in duration. Speeches must include why the candidate would be a good leader in the future. Props, costumes

or placards are NOT to be used. Students must also be present on the day of speeches - video entries or skype will not be accepted. Any candidate absent and not able to present speeches who wishes to be considered as a valid candidate must present a medical certificate to explain absence. Extended holiday leave will not be considered a valid reason.

- At the conclusion of the speeches students and all staff are provided with a voting slip with the names and photos of the candidates. Precise numbers of slips are printed to ensure one vote per eligible voter (staff and student votes are worth the same).
- Staff and students number their preferred candidates in order from one to eight and return their slips to the Stage Three teachers.
- At the end of voting Year Five teachers will count the votes using the preferential voting system (reflecting our own federal election system) where a voter's preferences may also be allocated to candidates. A review committee, comprising Stage 3 teachers and the school Principal will review all ballots.
- All candidates will be assembled and told whether they have been successful or not in gaining a leadership position. Successful candidates will not be told which position they have attained. All successful students will be required to write an acceptance speech which will be presented only by the new School Captains at the final assembly of the school year where all official positions will be revealed.

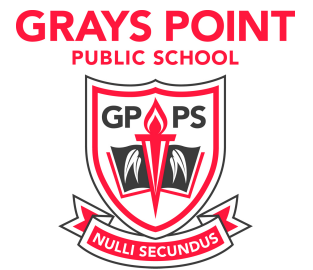
Timeline Term 4 2019

- **Week 1 (beginning Oct.14)** Year 5 students who wish to put themselves forward for nomination are encouraged to do so. Election information discussed with Year 5 students. Students will receive information about the Election Timeline, content of speeches and the voting process etc. at the start of Week 6.
- **Week 6 (beginning Nov. 18)** - Nominations by Year 5 students. Students indicate their intention to nominate for an elected position with the 2020 Leadership Team. This is a personal decision and children do not have to feel that they must nominate.
- **Week 6** – Voting by Year 5 students to elect 8 boys and 8 girls who will then need to prepare speeches and present these to a **Special Year 1-5 Assembly** in Week 8. Announcement of the 16 students will be made as soon as possible after the nomination process is completed.
- **Week 8, Monday 2nd December** – Speeches followed by voting – all students in Years 1-5. Students number 1-8 in order of preference for both boys and girls. Students' voting preferences continue to be allocated until top 4 boys and girls are elected. The 8 children (4

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boys and 4 girls) who will make up the 2020 Leadership Team are announced at a Year 5 Assembly in Week 8, but they will not be told which role they have attained.

- **Week 9 – Announcement of 2020 Leadership Team positions at Recognition Day on 12th December 2019.**





Selection Criteria

Prospective School Captains, Vice Captains and Prefects will adhere to the Core Values of Grays Point Public School:

- be respectful
- be kind
- be considerate
- be fair

Candidates must:

- Be in Year 5.
- Have a high involvement in the life of the school.
- Have demonstrated confidence in public speaking.
- Have an excellent attendance record.
- Aspire and strive to achieve the highest standards of learning.
- Show demonstrated leadership qualities including being mature, assertive, discrete, loyal and articulate.

Responsibilities may include:

- Representing the student body at official school functions.
- Assisting with the induction of new students.
- Assisting at weekly assemblies.
- Assisting on Kindergarten Orientation Days.
- Leading the Anzac Day and Remembrance Day ceremonies.
- Leading school special events.
- Leading the Presentation Day Assemblies.
- Assist the Principal and school staff when required.
- Welcome and thank visitors to the school.

In NSW public schools all students are expected to:

- Respect other students, their teachers and school staff and community members.
- Follow school and class rules and follow the directions of their teachers.
- Strive for the highest standards in learning.
- Respect all members of the school community and show courtesy to all students, teachers and community members.
- Resolve conflict respectfully, calmly and fairly.
- Comply with the school's uniform policy or dress code.
- Attend school every day (unless legally excused).
- Respect all property.
- Not be violent or bring weapons, illegal drugs, alcohol or tobacco into our schools.
- Not bully, harass, intimidate or discriminate against anyone in our schools.



Behaviour Code for Students

At Grays Point Public School prospective Captains and Vice Captains are required to meet the highest standards of respectful, safe and engaged learners.

Respect

- Treat one another with dignity.
- Speak and behave courteously.
- Cooperate with others.
- Develop positive and respectful relationships and think about the effect on relationships before acting.
- Value the interests, ability and culture of others.
- Dress appropriately by complying with the school uniform or dress code.
- Take care with property.

Safety

- Model and follow departmental, school and/or class codes of behaviour and conduct.
- Negotiate and resolve conflict with empathy.
- Take personal responsibility for behaviour and actions.
- Care for self and others.
- Avoid dangerous behaviour and encourage others to avoid dangerous behaviour.

Learner

- Attend school every day (unless legally excused).
- Arrive at school and class on time.
- Be prepared for every lesson.
- Actively participate in learning.
- Aspire and strive to achieve the highest standards of learning.
- Be a leader of learning.



Elections - 2020 Leadership Team

Dear Year 5 Parents

We have now reached a very important and exciting time in Year 5. Students are currently involved in a number of Leadership Training Sessions. The children are now about to take part in the process of electing the 2020 Leadership Team. We would like to congratulate all of them on the manner in which they have undertaken training and also on the important role they have recently performed in the Kindergarten Orientation. Next year's Kindergarten children will be well looked after due to the caring and responsible behaviour displayed by our current Year 5 students.

The Election Timeline is as follows:

- **Week 5 (beginning Nov. 11)** - Election information discussed with Year 5 students. Students will receive information about the Election Timeline, content of speeches and the voting process etc. at the start of Week 6.
- **Week 6 (beginning Nov. 18)** - Nominations by Year 5 students. Students indicate their intention to nominate for an elected position with the 2020 Leadership Team. This is a personal decision and children do not have to feel that they must nominate.
- **Week 6** – Voting by Year 5 students to elect 8 boys and 8 girls who will then need to prepare speeches and present these to a **Special Year 1-5 Assembly** in Week 8. Announcement of the 16 students will be made as soon as possible after the nomination process is completed.
- **Week 8, Monday, Dec 2nd** – Speeches followed by voting – all students in Years 1-5. Students number 1-8 in order of preference for both boys and girls. Students' voting preferences continue to be allocated until top 4 boys and girls are elected. The 8 children (4 boys and 4 girls) who will make up the 2020 Leadership Team are announced at a Year 5 Assembly in Week 8, but they will not be told which role they have attained.
- **Week 9** – Announcement of 2020 Leadership Team positions at **Recognition Day on 12th December 2019.**

Year 5 Teachers



2020 Captains and Prefects

Dear Parents,

Your child _____ has been successful in the recent school elections and has been selected as a member of the student leadership team in 2020.

You should be very proud of your child for reaching this level.

The announcement of exactly what position they have attained will be made on Recognition Day this 12th December, commencing at 9.30am.

Children will be required to prepare a very short acceptance speech in the event they are made School Captain. It must be quite short given the timing of the assembly.

Thank you for your support

Year 5 Teachers

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