

PURPOSE

- The purpose of the student Leadership Policy is to provide students with leadership opportunities and responsibilities in an effort to improve student engagement, student voice and connectedness to the school community.

POLICY STATEMENT

- The Student Leadership Program aims to build positive self-concepts and relationships by providing all of our students with a sense of meaning, purpose, control and belonging, while simultaneously increasing student knowledge, skills and attitudes.
- Leadership activities link closely with the Critical and Creative Thinking, Ethical, Intercultural, Personal and Social capabilities within the Victorian Curriculum.
- Leadership skills, knowledge, attitudes and values will be encouraged and developed through a wide range of school activities and programs.
- Leadership roles will be developed and applied consistently within each level as appropriate to the developmental stage of the students.
- All students have the potential and the right to develop and demonstrate leadership skills.
- At Kew East Primary School opportunities provided for students to apply for leadership positions include:
 - School Ambassadors (Year 6)
 - Sports Captains and Vice Captains (Year 5/6)
 - Music Captain and Vice Captains (Year 5/6)
 - Student Voice Team President and Vice President (Year 5/6)
 - Student Voice Team Representatives (Years 1-6)
 - Buddy Program (Foundation and Year 6)
 - Flag Monitors (Year 6)
 - Library Monitors (Year 6)
 - Classroom Monitors (all classes)
- To enable as many students as possible to hold leadership positions, students cannot hold more than one leadership position in any one year.
- Students in Year 1 – 5 cannot hold the position of Student Voice Team Representative for two consecutive years.
- Year 6 students may apply for roles of House Captains or Music Captains even if they held Vice Captain positions in the previous year.
- Year 6 students may apply for Student Voice Team Representative even if they held the position in the previous year to allow them access to the positions of President and Vice President.
- All students participating in and nominating for leadership positions will have the process of the respective position that they are nominating for explained by staff.
- Selection process may involve student and/or staff nomination and staff endorsement. In the case where students vote for some leadership positions, final appointments will be made by the Principal/Assistant Principal, after wide consultation with staff.
- Students selected for leadership positions are expected to be exemplary role models, demonstrating the school values on a consistent basis.
- Specific ongoing leadership training and support will be provided for students to enable them to effectively fulfil the role to which they have been appointed.

KEW EAST PRIMARY SCHOOL

STUDENT LEADERSHIP POLICY

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- The development of leadership skills involves opportunities that encourage students to:
 - Act in roles of responsibility with integrity and honesty
 - Foster a sense of vision and purpose
 - Work with others to achieve a common goal
 - Take on responsibility to see a project through to its conclusion or a goal through to its achievement
 - Be active, reflective contributors capable of responding effectively; and
 - Earn respect from others through their actions.
- All Ambassadors, House and Music captains, and the Student Voice Team President will attend a leadership program in Term 1.
- The best applicants will be chosen for the leadership positions and there may be instances where gender balance is not possible.
- The Principal, in consultation with staff, has the discretion to give the final endorsement for any student leadership position.

GUIDELINES FOR IMPLEMENTATION

The process for the following leadership positions is as follows:

- **School Ambassadors**
 - Four ambassadors will be appointed annually.
 - All prospective Year 6 students will have an opportunity to apply for the ambassador role and positions will be given to the best four applicants.
 - Selection for ambassador positions will occur in late Term 4 from the Year 5 cohort.
 - Students who wish to be considered for the role of a School Ambassador, will be required to nominate themselves to the Year 5/6 teachers.
 - Year 5/6 teachers will interview all applicants on a rotational basis so that no teacher interviews their own student.
 - Once interviews are complete, Year 5/6 teachers will create shortlist for a second interview.
 - Recommendations are then submitted to staff, the Principal & Assistant Principal for approval.
 - A meeting will be held with all applicants to notify them of the shortlist.
 - The second interview will be conducted by a panel consisting of Principal, Assistant Principal, Student Wellbeing Leader and/or Year 5/6 team leader.
 - School Ambassadors will be selected based on their application and interview.
 - Final recommendations will be discussed with Year 5/6 teachers, however the Principal & Assistant Principal will give the final endorsement.
 - The Year 5/6 leader or Student Wellbeing Leader will meet with shortlisted students prior to final normal weekly, Monday assembly, to announce successful applicants. Students will be encouraged to keep this information confidential.
 - The new ambassadors will be announced at a regular assembly prior to the end of the year.
 - Ambassadors will meet with the Principal, Assistant Principal and/or Student Wellbeing Leader on a regular basis.

- **Sports Captains and Vice Captains**

- There are 4 houses (Strathalbyn, Kitchener, Belford and Windella). Each house has 2 captains, selected from Year 6 students and 2 Vice captains, selected from Year 5 students.
- House captains are elected late in Term 4 from the Year 5 cohort.
- Vice captains are elected in February of the new school year.
- Students self-nominate confidentially to their class teachers.
- Nominated students address the students in their house, giving a presentation/speech prepared at home.
- All students in the relevant house vote confidentially for the candidates in their house.
- Nominations are referred to staff for consultation so that they can give their endorsement.
- Recommendations are then submitted to the Principal & Assistant Principal for final endorsement.
- The Physical Education teacher is responsible for providing direction and support to house captains and vice captains.

- **Music Captains and Vice Captains**

- 2 music captains are elected late in Term 4 from the Year 5 cohort.
- 2 vice captains are elected in February of the new school year.
- Music captains are chosen from Year 6 concert band students and vice captains are chosen from Year 5 concert band students.
- Students self-nominate confidentially to their music teachers.
- Nominated students address the students in the music program, giving a presentation/speech prepared at home.
- Concert band members vote confidentially for the candidates.
- Results are referred to staff for consultation so that they can give their endorsement.
- Recommendations are then submitted to the Principal & Assistant Principal for final endorsement.

- **Student Voice Team**

- Student Voice Team representatives are self-nominated and elected by the students in each class from Year 1-6 via confidential voting.
- Each class has 2 representatives per semester. Therefore, 2 students are elected at the beginning of Term 1 and 2 students are elected at the beginning of Term 3.
- In multi-age classes, representatives can come from either year level or the same year level.
- Student Voice Team office bearers include President and Vice President. The President and Vice President will hold their position for the duration of the year.
- The other Year 5/6 representatives will be replaced in Semester 2 with 2 new representatives from each Year 5/6 class.
- Students in Year 5 or 6 can self-nominate for the position of President or Vice President to teachers in charge of SVT and then will make a presentation to the representatives and staff of SVT.
- SVT representatives (from Year 1 to Year 6) vote confidentially for the candidates at the first SVT meeting in Term 1.
- Results are referred to staff for consultation so that they can give their endorsement.
- Recommendations are then submitted to the Principal & Assistant Principal for final endorsement.

- **Flag Monitors and Library Monitors**
 - 2 flag monitors and 4 library monitors are appointed at the end of Term 4 from the Year 5 cohort.
 - Students self-nominate for these roles.
 - Candidates present a short speech/presentation to the rest of their cohort.
 - Results are referred to staff for consultation so that they can give their endorsement.
 - Recommendations are then submitted to the Principal & Assistant Principal for final endorsement.
- **Buddy Program**
 - Each Year 6 student will be allocated as a 'buddy' to a Foundation student.
 - Buddies are allocated at the beginning of the new school year to ensure that all students receive a buddy currently enrolled.
 - The role of the Year 6 buddy is to ease the transition of the younger student into the school setting, and to provide a role model and support for their 'buddy', while developing their own sense of responsibility and self-worth.
 - Regular activities will be organised by Foundation and Year 5/6 staff to ensure that a supportive relationship develops between the older and younger students.
- **Classroom Monitors**
 - All students should be given the opportunity to undertake a variety of responsibilities within their classroom over the course of the year.

EVALUATION

This policy will be reviewed by staff as needed.

Program Area: Student Engagement and Wellbeing

Last Updated: March 2021