



Student Leader Policy

Settlers Primary School aims to develop student leadership and broaden student experience within the local school community. Potential student leaders are invited to participate in activities that will assist them in developing their leadership skills.

Students in the final year at primary school will be given the opportunity to demonstrate and develop responsibility. There are many who, during their years at school, have shown qualities which indicate they can contribute to the school in terms of:

- Assisting in suitable tasks that facilitate smoother day-to-day running of the school.
- Contributing a student's point of view in relation to school operation and procedures.
- Enjoying sport and aspiring to help increase the level of sport activities at Settlers Primary School (Faction Captains).
- Providing positive role-models for other children.

Student Leaders

Students will be identified through a selection process. In their roles as Student Councillors or Faction Leaders they will contribute to the school and develop their personal character and leadership skills. Students should be able to demonstrate the following leadership qualities:

- Be a positive role model by exhibiting school values
- Respect and follow all school policies, procedures and rules.
- Show initiative and contribute to the promotion of student needs
- Possess high organisational and communication skills.
- Have an interest in sporting events (Faction Captains).
- Be able to manage their classroom work load.

Student Councillors

In Term 4, ten Year 5 students will be selected as Councillors for the following year. Two Head Students (gender non-specific) will be selected from the successful candidates.

Duties may include the following:

- Welcome new students, parents and visitors to the school
- Hosting and leading school assemblies including giving reports
- Promote school rules and uniform by example
- Coordinate and organise some school activities; including during lunch and recess times
- Represent the school at official occasions
- Display and accept responsibility; use their initiative.
- Meet regularly to discuss roles, duties and learn leadership strategies
- Supporting Fundraising activities. ie Free Dress Day.

Faction Leaders

In Term 4, two Faction Captains for each Faction will be selected from Year 5 students; gender non-specific.

Duties may include the following:

- Promote school rules and uniform by example
- Work under the direction of the sports teacher to control/monitor the sports shed and equipment
- Coordinate and organise some school activities e.g. sports activities during lunch and recess times
- Represent the school at official occasions
- Display and accept responsibility; use initiative
- Meet regularly to discuss roles, duties and learn leadership strategies
- Assist staff and students to prepare for the sports carnivals
- Provide classes with sports equipment and regularly update faction results at assemblies

Parents are requested to consider that their support to the student is crucial for them to be successful in the role. Elected students are required to complete a “Code of Conduct” agreement, signed by the student and parents.

Benefits of Student Leadership

The student will:

- Develop a range of leadership skills including; speaking in public; speaking with a range of adults in the school and local community; leading and supporting other students
- Gain recognition and status in their role as a leader
- Develop confidence and resilience
- Opportunity to engage in activities reserved for student leaders
- Excursion to develop leadership and personal qualities

Nomination Process

Throughout the school year, Year 5 students will be made aware of the qualities required to be student leader, including; qualities of leadership, capacity to maintain their classwork, standards of behaviour, attitude to sporting activities and the demonstration of school values. The selection process for both Faction Captains and Student Councillors will involve three stages:

Stage One:

- Year five students complete a nomination application and submit it to the selection panel, Senior Phase Associate Principal.
- The student’s nomination form requires the signature of their Year 5 classroom teacher; demonstrating that the classroom teacher believes the student meets the general requirements to be a school leader.
- Along with the nomination form students are required to submit a letter outlining the skills and capabilities that they would bring to the position to the selection panel convenor.
- Student letters will be reviewed by the Student Council Coordinator/ Physical Education specialist as appropriate along with supporting staff.

Stage Two:

- In determining their ability to successfully undertake a leadership role, shortlisted students will engage in team problem solving activities whilst being observed by the selection panel.

Stage Three:

- **Student Councillors:** Shortlisted students will be required to present a short speech to the selection panel consisting of: the present Student Council Co-ordinator, School Councillors, Senior Phase Associate Principal and Year 5/6 teachers. The selection panel will award points for the presentation.
- **Faction Captains:** Shortlisted students will be required to present a short speech to the selection panel consisting of: present Faction Captains, Senior Phase Associate Principal, Physical Education Specialist and Year 5/6 teachers. The selected panel will award points for the presentation.
- Points from the problem solving activity and presentation will be used to determine the new Student Councillors and Faction Captains.
- Head students (may be gender non-specific) will then be selected from the successful applicants by the Associate Principal and Phase Team teachers.

Staff engagement in the selection process

Year 5/6 staff will review the recommended students. The staff retain the right to withdraw any student from a position should it be determined that they would not be reasonably able to undertake their roles successfully.

Selection Process Timeline

Term 4: Nomination process takes place. ***To be eligible students must have maintained a good behaviour record, have the approval and support of parents and the endorsement of their classroom teacher.***

Interested students will be given a Nominee Application to be taken home, discussed with parents and returned to school signed by the student and a parent/guardian.

Successful candidates will be informed of their appointment in Week Nine, Term Four and new Student Leaders will be named at the Senior Awards Ceremony. Badges will be presented at the first assembly the following year.