

Student Leadership Policy



AIM:

At Peakhurst West Public School, the development of lifelong leadership skills is one of the learning opportunities offered to our students. Having effective student leaders supports the development of responsible behaviours, a positive school tone and encourages students to model the school values of Respect, Responsibility and Safety.

In the final year of primary school, Year 6 students participate in school leadership activities aimed at encouraging them to reflect on their personal and public leadership skills.

GUIDELINES:

- To develop personal and social capability in students
- To develop leadership abilities in students
- To provide students with leadership opportunities in a range of different fields both curricular and extracurricular

STUDENT LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

Peakhurst West Public School has a range of leadership positions for Year 6 students, including:

- School Captains
- School Prefects
- Sports House Captains and Vice Captains
- Student Representative Council representatives
- Year 6 Peer Support Leaders

POSITION TITLE AND SELECTION PROCESS:

School Captains and Prefects (Year 6 students)

School Captains and Prefects are chosen to represent the student body in the following ways:

- *Represent the school at various times*
- *MC at special events*
- *Take part in fund raising activities of the school*
- *Assist as required during major school events and activities*
- *Thank special guests who come to the school*
- *Conduct tours of the school*

SELECTION PROCESS:

- The selection process for the election of School Captains and prefects takes place in Term 4 of Year 5 for positions to begin at the beginning of the following year. The outcome of the election will be announced at the school's annual presentation day at the end of the year.
- All Year 5 students who meet the learning and behaviour criteria have the opportunity to be considered.
- Eligible Year 5 students may nominate themselves or be nominated for the positions.
- A list of applicants will be displayed on a nomination sheet and a written secret ballot will be conducted amongst the Year 5 students, alongside current teaching staff members.
- From this ballot, the top 12 ranked students with the highest number of votes will then be put forward as the short-listed candidates to be voted on by all students in years 2-5 and current teachers.
- Shortlisted students are expected to present a short campaign speech indicating to students why they are a suitable candidate for School Captain/Prefect.
- The votes will be counted by the Stage 3 Assistant Principal, Stage 3 Teachers and the Principal to ensure confidentiality.
- The School Captains will be the male and female candidates with the highest number of total votes.
- The following 6 Prefects will be decided based on the highest number of votes in succession.
- Wherever possible there should be equal gender representation in these leadership positions.
- The successful candidates are announced at the school's annual Presentation Day, during an investiture presentation where they are presented with their leadership badges and embroidered jackets.

STUDENTS EXCLUDED FROM THE NOMINATION PROCESS:

In order to be eligible to be considered for any of the leadership positions, students must display exemplary behaviours in accordance with the school's PBL and disciplinary policies: Students may be excluded from nominations for leadership roles if they have any or a combination of the infractions outlined below:

- *Students who have received more than three minor behaviours in the Year 5*
- *Students who have shown themselves to be unethical in dealings with teachers or peers - involvement in bullying or harassment of other students or teachers, theft, misuse of school/other people's property.*
- *Students involved in intentional bullying of other students (including cyber bullying)*

House Captains (Year 6 students)

House Captains and vice Captains are chosen among year 6 students at the beginning of their final year.

House Captains are chosen to complete duties that include:

- Be an ambassador for Peakhurst West Public School.
- Be supportive and encouraging of all student's efforts and be a positive role model.
- Hold House meetings before all major events such as Swimming, Athletics and Cross Country.
- Assist as required during major events such as Swimming, Athletics and Cross Country.
- Lead House supporters to encourage their fellow team mates.
- Coordinate lunchtime sports sessions for different areas of the school as required and as directed by teachers.
- Assist the PDHPE teacher or other teachers with sports equipment as necessary

SELECTION PROCESS:

Year 6 students (who are not elected school captain or prefect) may be nominated or nominate themselves for the opportunity to be considered.

To be considered for this position, student candidates should be students who have represented the school in Sport during their primary (3 – 6) years. This could include PSSA sports teams, athletics/swimming/cross country carnivals at school and District level.

- Nominations will take place during the first sports House Meeting of the year.
- All students in 2-6 attending the House Meeting will vote for the candidates on the day by a show of hands.
- House Captains will consist of 1 boy and 1 girl House Captain; and one girls and one boy vice House Captain.
- House supervising teachers will count all votes.
- The student who obtains the most votes by a show of hands will be House Captain, second highest number of votes will be given the position of vice captain for each House.

Student Representative Council (Year 2 – 6)

Having leaders selected by their peers, across multiple ages, allows the entire school student population to be represented in issues across the school community including student welfare, school pride, as well as involvement in charitable causes.

Student Representative Councillors are expected to:

- Attend regular meetings
- Make decisions about which community service activities the students will support
- Feedback information and promote initiatives discussed at meetings with their class
- Actively listen to their class members' ideas and feed these back at SRC meetings
- Speak at assemblies when needed.

SELECTION PROCESS:

- Students who are interested in becoming an SRC representative nominate themselves or are nominated by another class member.
- A silent vote will be conducted within each class, and the student with the majority of the votes will be elected for the position.