

# STUDENT LEADERSHIP POLICY

## Charlestown Public School

Endorsed by Staff: **October 2020**

Next Review: **October 2022**

### RATIONALE

Student leadership provides an opportunity for students to actively participate in the decision-making processes at our school. Students are encouraged to take on leadership roles in an endeavour to increase their own leadership skills, act as effective role models for the student body and offer responsible service to their school and peers.

### AIMS

- To provide opportunities for students to play a significant and effective role in the decision-making processes of our school.
- To provide an opportunity for students to become skilled in all aspects of leadership.
- To ensure that student leaders are positive role models for other students.
- To provide a democratic forum where all students are represented by a peer leader.
- To demonstrate and uphold the school's values.

The Student Leadership Team executive will consist of:

- two school captains (one girl and one boy) and two prefects (either gender) from Year 5 for Year 6, and
- two house captains from Year 5 for Year 6.

### CRITERIA FOR NOMINATION

Students will be eligible for nomination if:

1. They care for themselves and others including school property as well as completing all school work to the best of their ability.
2. They act and speak honestly as well as politely towards their peers, school staff and community members.
3. They engage in safe, friendly play and co-operate by working with other students.
4. They show consideration of others feelings and differences.
5. They wear their school uniform with pride and participate in all relevant school activities to the best of their ability.
6. They obey school rules.
7. A student can only hold one student leadership executive position of office in a given calendar year, ie cannot be a prefect and house captain.

8. Nominations to occur by the end of Term 4 Week 5.

## **ELECTION PROCESS**

### **School Captain/Prefect**

All Year 5 children may nominate and be nominated if they meet the above criteria. Students are allowed to nominate themselves. All candidates present their speech to the whole school at a whole school assembly.

- Following the speeches, Year K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 students vote in class.
- Voting will be by secret ballot.
- All staff vote and a staff vote has the same weighting as a student vote.
- Students vote for 1 boy and 1 girl to be captain, and then the next 2 students with the highest votes are elected to the student leadership executive.
- In the event of a position becoming vacant, the student with the next highest votes will fulfil the position. If it is the girl captain position, then the girl with the next highest votes will fulfil the position.
- In a tied vote the Principal casts the deciding vote.

School Leaders for the following year are announced at Presentation Day and badges are presented.

## **SPEECHES FOR STUDENT LEADERSHIP EXECUTIVE**

Once a student in Yr 5 is successful with their nomination, they are required to make a 2-3 minute speech. The speech must include:

- why they want to be a part of the student executive
- the personal qualities expected of a student executive and how they have demonstrated these qualities
- the responsibilities expected of a member of the student executive
- leadership roles and representative roles (zone sports, band, public speaking etc) undertaken
- students may add additional material, including outside interests and background information about themselves
- speeches should be no longer than two to three minutes in length

## **TIME LINE**

### **November Term 4:**

- Nominations called for from Year 5 students. Nominations presented to school Principal to put to the staff for ratification to ensure only students who meet the criteria proceed to presenting their speech.
- All candidates present speeches to the whole school.

- Students and staff vote.

#### **December Term 4:**

- New leaders announced at Presentation Day.

### **CAPTAINS AND PREFECTS ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

The captains and prefects could be called upon at any time to assist with a variety of roles and responsibilities. These include:

- regular meetings with the Principal or Assistant Principal;
- representing the school at outside functions;
- being a role model for other students and being respectful of their position;
- being pro-active in playground issues;
- delivering welcome and thank you speeches to special visitors and guests;
- greeting and welcoming special visitors at the school gates, introducing themselves and showing them to the office;
- running K-6 assemblies and assisting in the presentation of awards at assemblies;
- setting up for assemblies;
- assisting with Kindergarten Orientation;
- assisting with Kindergarten's first day;
- assisting in end of year Presentation Day assembly;
- assisting in any other additional activities as required;
- running special assemblies, eg ANZAC Day etc.

### **Captains and Prefects Pledge**

*In accepting the position of a Student Leader at Charlestown Public School, I promise*

- *I will always try to do my best;*
- *By my example I will try to set a standard for the rest of the school in punctuality, attendance, application, appearance and sportsmanship;*
- *By my conduct within the school and in public, I will try to advance the name of Charlestown Public School;*
- *I will always try to participate in school functions such as Sports Carnivals and Assemblies and perform all my duties with pride and commitment.*

### **SPORT HOUSE CAPTAINS**

- The same criteria for nomination will apply for Sport House captains as School captains and prefects. Nominations to occur by the end of Term 4 Week 5.
- Sport House Captains will be voted for following the election of captains and prefects.
- Sport House Captains must be in Year 5 during the voting period.

- Each nominee will be asked to speak very briefly to their sport house about why they should be elected.
- The boy or girl with the most votes after the election of captains and prefects will be Sport House Captain.
- Voting will be by secret ballot.

Sport House Captains will be announced at Presentation Day.

### **HOUSE CAPTAINS ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Assist staff conduct house meetings.
- Organise house cheer squads.
- Organise and lead house activities during sports carnivals.
- Accept awards on behalf of their house at Presentation Day.
- Always display exemplary sportsmanship.

### **EVALUATION**

This policy will be evaluated every year. The evaluation measures will be determined by the following criteria:

- number of students enrolled
- distribution of leadership roles
- needs of the school
- ratio of boys to girls