1. **RATIONALE**
Our school is a partnership between teachers, parents, students and the community. 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 and to act as effective role models for the student body. By encouraging student leadership, we develop our community leaders of the future.

2. **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 create a whole school community where every member feels that their contribution is valuable.

3. **IMPLEMENTATION**
   - A leadership day will be facilitated during Term Four each year. The leadership day will incorporate the following elements:
     1. Qualities of an effective leader
     2. Roles and responsibilities of the various leadership roles
     3. Liturgy
   - Following the leadership day, the Year Five students will have the opportunity to nominate themselves for the following leadership positions:
     - Two school captains. There will be one male school captain and one female school captain.
     - Six house captains – two from each of the three houses. The house captains from a house could be two males, two females or one of each.
   - Students will be encouraged to nominate for positions, but it is not mandatory to nominate for a position.
   - For a year in which there is small cohort of students, the number of leadership positions may be reduced.
   - No student may be elected to more than one leadership position. Therefore, there must be at least eight students elected to the positions.
   - Students may nominate for both school captain and sport captain. They must indicate their preferences on their nomination form, in case they are elected for more than one position that may not be held concurrently by a single student. If they are elected to more than one such position, they will be given the role that they indicate as their first preference.
   - All Year 5 students are eligible to nominate for a leadership position. No student will be excluded from a leadership position on the basis of their religious affiliation.
   - During the week following the leadership day, those students nominating for leadership positions will write their speeches.
   - About one week after the leadership day, those students nominating for a leadership position will deliver a speech to the student body.
   - Immediately following the speeches, the students of Years 2, 3, 4 and 5, as well as each member of the school staff, will cast their votes. The votes will be cast by secret ballot.
   - The staff reserves the right to veto a decision made by the student body. The veto would only be exercised in very exceptional circumstances when it is clear that the popularly elected student is unsuitable for the role to which they were elected.
• The student leaders will be announced at the end-of-year presentation night.
• If a student who is elected to a position leaves the school after accepting the position to which they were elected, the voting results will be reviewed so that the student who gained the next highest number of votes for that role is considered. This may involve reshuffling of positions.
• Each student elected to a position will be presented with a badge at the Mass to mark the beginning of the following school year.
• In addition to the voting for the positions of school captains and house captains, three students will be elected to the Mini Vinnies executive: President, Secretary, Treasurer. These students will come from Years 5 and 6. The process for the election of the Mini Vinnies executive takes place outside of the parameters of this student leadership policy.

4. **BUDGET**
   • In relation to the area of student leadership, the school will make provision each year in its annual budget for professional development opportunities for both its student leaders and its staff
   • The school will budget for student leadership resources that develop ongoing understanding of this area.

5. **EVALUATION**
   As part of the school policy review and development cycle, the student leadership policy will be reviewed by the staff or a committee every three years.