



STUDENT LEADERSHIP POLICY

NOVEMBER 2019

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:
 - i. Qualities of an effective leader
 - ii. Roles and responsibilities of the various leadership roles
 - iii. Liturgy
- Following the leadership day, the Year Five students will have the opportunity to contest the following leadership roles:
 - i. Two school captains. There will be one male school captain and one female school captain.
 - ii. Two leaders of mission.
 - iii. Six sport captains – two from each of the three houses. The house captains from a house could be two males, two females or one of each.
- There is a role statement attached to each of these positions. The responsibilities attached to each role will be clearly outlined to the students prior to the nominations.
- Students will be encouraged to nominate for roles, but it is not compulsory to do so.
- For a year in which there is small cohort of students, the number of leadership roles may be reduced.
- Although a student may nominate for more than one leadership role, they would only be awarded more than one role if there were no other candidates or no other suitable candidates.
- If a student is contesting more than one leadership role, they must state on the nomination form, prior to the delivery of the speeches, which role would be their first preference (and, if necessary, their second/third preference). If they are voted in as the most suitable candidate for more than one role, they will be awarded the role that they state as their first preference.
- Students nominating for a leadership role are required to deliver a speech to the students and staff, outlining why they would be a suitable choice as either a school captain, a leader of mission and/or a sport captain. This speech will be delivered approximately one week after the Year 5 leadership day, which is held in November each year.
- All Year Five 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 or length of time at St Patrick's as a student.
- Every staff member may vote for:
 - One male school captain

- One female school captain
- Two leaders of mission

Staff members do not vote for the sport captains.

- Following the tallying of the votes, the staff will appoint the student leaders. The staff has the authority to exercise discretion in the appointments, but they will only overrule a vote if the candidate voted into the role would be unsuited to the role.
- The student leaders will be announced at the end-of-year presentation ceremony.
- If a student who is appointed to a position leaves the school after accepting the position to which they were elected, another student will be appointed by the staff to take that student's place.
- Each student elected to a position will be presented with a badge at the Mass to mark the beginning of the following school year.

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.