



STUDENT LEADERSHIP PROGRAM GUIDELINES

SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

St Peter's School is a faith community witnessing to the values of Christ.

***We respect each person and work in partnership to nurture a love of learning
for the good of the whole community.***

RATIONALE

St Peter's Catholic Primary School's 'Student Leadership Program' is based on our Mission Statement and a philosophy of shared leadership. We strive to provide a dynamic program that values equality of opportunity, encourages personal growth and the development of self-worth in our students. Our leadership program gives witness to Christian values and is driven by service to others and is embedded in our school motto "Called to Serve".

The aim of this program is to ensure that all students are supported and encouraged to:

- Develop a sense of belonging, responsibility and partnership by working together within a Catholic Christian community to follow the teachings of Jesus
- Demonstrate respect for each person and the environment
- Strive for unity through co-operation with staff and other students
- Aim high in all that they do by being exemplary role models
- Provide opportunities for students to demonstrate leadership
- Recognise students for their leadership contribution within the school
- Provide a forum whereby students can participate in some decision making processes of the school

PREPARATION FOR LEADERSHIP

All Year Six students are seen as leaders in our school community. Once students reach Year Six and therefore their final year at primary school, they are acknowledged as our 'school leaders'. This role brings with it many responsibilities for students, but also many opportunities. Preparation for this year of student leadership begins in Year Five.

- Year Five students are buddied with Prep students and regularly meet. They are also responsible for collecting the Prep students for Pastoral Care Groups.
- Year Five Camp in Term 4 gives the students the opportunity to be involved in team building and trust activities that allow leadership qualities to develop. Students are also encouraged to challenge themselves, face fears and push the boundaries of what they think they can achieve.
- As part of the Leadership Camp the 'Student Leadership Program' is fully explained to the students and they are encouraged to reflect on how they would like to contribute to St Peter's in their final year.

- As part of this process the Student Leadership Model and selection criteria are fully explained and the expectations of Student Representatives are made clear.
- After the leadership camp the election process will begin.
- In the first term of Year Six, all students will participate in two days of Peer Support Leadership training at an off-site venue.

ELECTION PROCESS

- The students in Year 4 and 5 will work in collaboration with the staff to vote for the Student Representatives for the following year. The Leadership Team has the final input on the election of the Student Representative.
- Students who are interested in a Student Representative role are encouraged to submit a brief written application.
- Year 5 teachers, in conjunction with the Leadership Team, select candidates from the written applications, who are then invited to prepare a persuasive speech for their nominated Student Representative position. Selection of candidates is based on the selection criteria.
- Speeches are delivered to Year Four Students (Year Five the following year) and Year Five Students. Following the speeches Year Four and Five students will vote for their leaders for the following year.
- Staff are then given the opportunity to provide feedback on the voting results before the Leadership Team makes the final decision based on the selection criteria.
- Student Representatives will be recognised at the commencement of the school year, at the Beginning Year Mass/Liturgy with the presentation of badges stating their position.
- All Year Six Students will then be presented with Student Leader badges based on St Peter's shared leadership philosophy model that invites all Year 6 students to be leaders in their final year of primary education.
- All Year Six Students will be presented with senior shirts during Term 1 that can be worn on an agreed day once a week.
- At the end of the preceding year the Student Leadership Representatives will hand over to the group of incoming leaders.

SELECTION CRITERIA

A student leader should have the ability to:

- consistently meet the behaviour expectations of St Peter's
- live out their faith and 'Make Jesus Real' for peers and staff
- demonstrate being a good role model to other students
- clearly articulate the qualities required of a school leader
- demonstrate personal leadership qualities
- demonstrate a pride in the school
- demonstrate initiative and generate ideas

Students who submit a written application, but do not meet some or all of the selection criteria may not be selected as a candidate to present a speech.

Elected Student Representatives who continually fail to meet the selection criteria may be asked to step down by the Leadership Team. In such cases the Leadership Team, in conjunction with the Year Six teachers, will invite another Year Six student to fill the position.

ST PETER'S STUDENT LEADERSHIP MODEL

- All other Year 6 students are considered Student Leaders based on a Shared Leadership philosophy
- Model is designed to encourage a broader selection of student responsibility
- Nine elected Student Representatives

School Leadership Team			
Responsibilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oversees the selection of student representatives • Meet with current student representatives at least once a term • Ensure student representatives are upholding their responsibilities 			
Experienced Teacher Responsibilities: Assist student reps with special projects	Experienced Teacher Responsibilities: Assist student reps with special projects	Experienced Teacher Responsibilities: Assist student reps with special projects	Experienced Teacher Responsibilities: Assist student reps with special projects
MINISTRY/CULTURAL	WELCOMING/COMMUNICATION	ENVIRONMENT	SPORT
Two student representatives <i>One of each gender</i>	Two student representatives <i>One of each gender</i>	Two student representatives <i>One of each gender</i>	Three student representatives <i>One from each house</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Monday morning prayer ○ Assisting with Youth Masses ○ Representing the school at Diocesan Masses ○ Co-ordinating Bethany visits ○ Thanking visiting performers and artists ○ Assisting in organising cultural events (music gala, arts in the dark, dance spectacular) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Assisting with Friday assemblies ○ Greeting special guests ○ Updating school sign ○ Representing the school at Diocesan events ○ Regular student newsletter blurbs/inserts ○ Assisting with student social events 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Promoting a clean school environment ○ Gardening club ○ Promoting recycling ○ Monitoring power usage and reporting to students ○ Awards for environmental excellence / contribution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Generating team spirit ○ Writing/leading war cries ○ Assisting in sports house organisation at carnivals ○ Receiving trophies and presenting speeches
Year 6 Student Leaders (assisted by Year 6 teachers)			
Responsibilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Role models for the entire student body • Lead Pastoral Care Groups • Assist with assemblies (birthdays, National Anthem, etc.) • Additional school responsibilities (flags, bins, etc.) 			

CONCLUSION

The senior students are our student role models. We acknowledge the gifts and talents which they bring to our community. They work hard and are successful in making our school a welcoming, friendly, just and inclusive community in which all feel safe and happy to learn and play. They are the decision makers of the future and we hope that through St Peter's Student Leadership Program, which is based on a shared leadership philosophy, they will develop skills and attitudes to assist them to become good citizens, prepared to answer their 'call to serve' within the community.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE WRITTEN APPLICATION



Student's Name: _____ **House:** _____

I wish to nominate for the position of **Student Representative** in my final year at St Peter's Catholic Primary School.

MINISTRY/CULTURAL Two student representatives <i>One of each gender</i>	WELCOMING/COMMUNICATION Two student representatives <i>One of each gender</i>	ENVIRONMENT Two student representatives <i>One of each gender</i>	SPORT Three student representatives <i>One representative from each house</i>
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I am interested representing the students of St Peter's in the area of: _____

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I have read and understand the selection criteria, requirements and duties of this role and believe that I am able to bring leadership qualities to St Peter's by: *(no more than 150 words)*

Student Signature: _____ **Parent Signature:** _____