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*St Mary's School*  
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*PARISH PRIEST: Fr Shane Mackinlay*  
*PRINCIPAL: Mr Chris Kavanagh*

# STUDENT LEADERSHIP POLICY

Reviewed: March 2017

Ratified: 30<sup>th</sup> March 2017 St Brendan's  
30<sup>th</sup> March 2017 St Mary's

Review: March 2021

## **Student Leadership at Bungaree Parish Schools**

### **Student Leadership Policy**

#### **Rationale**

The school is represented on a daily basis by the elected school leaders therefore it is important to ensure that the students selected for this role demonstrate a high standard and that they are an appropriate role model for all students.

By being actively involved in leadership at student level and contributing to the decision-making process where appropriate, students will develop skills and capacity to lead and influence others in a responsible way. By empowering students through leadership opportunities, engagement and connectedness to the school will be enhanced.

#### **Aims**

To build positive self-concepts and relationships by providing our students with a sense of meaning, empowerment, purpose, control and belonging; while simultaneously increasing student knowledge, skills and attitudes.

Students, parents and staff understand the roles and responsibilities of Student Leadership Positions.

Students, parents and staff are aware of the process of electing student leaders

#### **Implementation**

Students who aspire to, and accept one of the leadership positions must have a clear understanding of their role and the responsibilities associated with the role.

#### **Role Statements**

##### **School Captain**

- Demonstrates good behavior at all times.
- Is a good example and role model for others at all times.
- Speaks respectfully to peers and school staff.
- Upholds the rights of all school members.
- Represents the school at official functions and should be ready to thank a guest or address an audience at short notice.
- Ensures that speeches are well prepared and practised.
- Communicates regularly with the staff and particularly the Principal.
- Ensures the students have a voice on the newsletter each week.
- Creates a timetable for the student voice component of the newsletter.
- Ensures that the senior children on the Student Voice timetable are performing their duties.
- Works closely with other student leaders within the school.

- Wears correct uniform with pride and presents themselves as an example to others.
- Ensures that SLT (Student Leadership Team) meetings are scheduled and carried out on a regular basis.
- Ensures that records are kept of SRC Meetings.

### **School Vice Captain**

- Demonstrates good behavior at all times.
- Is a good example and role model for others at all times.
- Speaks respectfully to peers and school staff.
- Upholds the rights of all school members.
- Represents the school at official functions and should be ready to thank a guest or address an audience at short notice.
- Ensures that speeches are well prepared and practiced.
- Communicates regularly with the School Captain, staff and the Principal.
- Assists the School Captain in ensuring Student Voice is published each week on the newsletter.
- Works closely with other student leaders within the school.
- Wears correct uniform with pride and presents themselves as an example to others.
- Is prepared to step in when the school captain is not available.

### **Student Representative Council Member**

- Demonstrates good behavior at all times.
- Is a good example for others at all times.
- Speaks respectfully to peers and school staff.
- Upholds the rights of all school members.
- May be required to represent the school at official functions and should be ready to thank a guest or address an audience at short notice.
- Communicates regularly with the School Captain, Vice Captain, staff and the Principal.
- Works closely with other student leaders within the school.
- Wears correct uniform and presents themselves as an example to others.
- Reports to Student Representative Council on suggestions or concerns of the other children in the school.
- Reports back to the other children and staff about SRC activities.
- Assists when needed, eg liturgical celebrations/Sports Carnivals etc
- Abides by meeting protocols during SRC Meetings

### **Buddy Program**

Each year the children will be paired up so that an older child and younger child will act as buddies if possible. The role of the Senior children will be to ease the transition of the younger student, particularly if they are buddied with a Prep Child, into the school setting. They will also act as a role model and provide support for their Buddy while developing their own sense of responsibility and self worth.

### **Restorative Justice Leader**

Each child in year five will be given the opportunity to be trained in Restorative Justice practices. They will use these strategies to help solve playground disputes during their service as a playground monitor.

### **Classroom Helpers/Monitor**

All students should be given the opportunity to undertake a variety of responsibilities within their classrooms over the course of the year. Other opportunities for leadership may be offered given certain priorities throughout the year.

## St Brendan's School School Captain Nomination Form

Students in Year 5 may nominate themselves for the office of School Captain. All nominees will be required to prepare a speech that will be delivered at a specially convened assembly. The speech will clearly detail why they should be elected school captains and how they will approach the role.

The school captain and vice captain will be announced prior to the end of Year Mass. At the end of Year Mass they will be presented with their badges and acknowledge their willingness to accept the position with the Captains' Pledge.

I ..... nominate for the position of 201\_\_ School Captain

- I feel that I show care and compassion for others at school
- I do the best I can in everything I do at school
- I am honest in all situations
- I show respect towards teachers, parents and other students
- I have an acceptable standard of behaviour in the classroom, the playground and on excursions
- I wear the school uniform with pride
- I work and play safely
- I am a good role model for other students
- I work well as a team member
- I act fairly when dealing with others

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Witnessed by Principal: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**St Brendan's School**  
**Student Leadership Agreement**

Name:

.....  
.....

I have read and discussed with my parents and I understand the document "Responsibilities of Student Leaders" and I will be proud to fulfil my duties as outlined.

I understand that failure to perform my duties could result in the loss of the position of leadership.

Signed.....  
(Student)

Signed  
.....  
(Parent)

## St Brendan's School

### School Captain Nominations Schedule

Week	Action
Term 3 Week 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff advise the principal so that it can be determined if eligibility for school captain will be extended to children in Year four as well as five. This is recognition of the limited numbers in certain years.</li> <li>• Discuss policy with eligible students</li> </ul>
Term 4 Week 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Principal will meet with eligible students who wish to nominate for the position of school captain for the following year.</li> <li>• Discuss with students the criteria that being a school captain entails.</li> <li>• Discuss the different qualities and attributes of a school captain. Go through the nomination form.</li> <li>• Discuss with students the social impact of the nomination process.</li> </ul>
Week 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finalise the list of names of students who wish to nominate.</li> </ul>
Week 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students who are eligible to run for school captain will need to start preparing their speeches. Discuss with students that each speech should last approximately 2 minutes and will be presented to the entire school (K-6). Students will have until the end of week 6 to prepare and hand in their speeches for checking.</li> </ul>
Week 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All speeches handed in to the Senior Class teachers for checking on Monday of week 7. If any students need extra advice on speeches, they need to seek it out before week 7.</li> </ul>
Week 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Senior Class teachers hand back speeches to students. Students are not to change speeches after this.</li> <li>• Ensure that ballot papers are printed off with all candidates' names and photos.</li> </ul>
Week 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students present their speeches at a specially convened assembly. Students vote for the most appropriate candidate.</li> <li>• Prep to 5 and all staff are to vote. Voting will be weighted as follows Student votes account for one while staff votes account for two. The principal will have a casting vote if required.</li> <li>• The Principal and Deputy are to count the votes.</li> </ul>
Week 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students and parents are notified of the School Captains.</li> <li>• Student Representative Council for the following year is announced. This will consist of all the Year 6's should they choose to be a part of the process and two representatives from the Junior Room. Two Year fives will be offered a position and depending on numbers this may need to be allotted in allocations of time to provide opportunities for all in Year 5 to have a chance. We recognise that the Student Representative Council needs to be limited to a maximum of about 7 children</li> <li>• End of Year Mass – Presentation of Badges and Pledge.</li> </ul>
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Throughout the School Year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At the beginning of each term student leadership is discussed in the Senior classroom by teachers.</li> <li>• Invite children who have not opted in to become part of the Student Leadership Team.</li> <li>• New members must complete the Student Leadership Agreement.</li> </ul>

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