



## ST. PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

# STUDENT LEADERSHIP – SRC POLICY

Jesus is the primary model for Christian leaders that is one of service and voice. Student Leadership are students actively participating in their school and community by contributing to decision making processes and collectively influencing outcomes by putting forward their views, concerns and ideas. Student leadership allows students to engage, participate, lead and learn. Towards the end of each school year the school appoints students to make up the Student Representative Council (SRC) for the following school year. These students are our student leaders who are role models for others and have opportunities to use their gifts and talents in leadership roles. SRC will consist of NINE students. These students are to be in their final year of primary school.

Students can nominate to be a Social Justice Leader, an Environmental Leader, or Photography / Media Leader as part of the SRC / JSRC

### Social Justice Leaders are chosen who are committed to:

- Meeting with the Religious Education Leader
- Planning fundraising activities for Caritas and Catholic Mission
- Promoting to stand in solidarity with the marginalised in our community to end poverty
- Assisting with whole school liturgies

### Environmental Leaders are chosen who are committed to:

- Developing the garden areas in our school grounds
- Placing Environmental tips in the school newsletter
- Promoting the Ecological Footprint and practices in the school community
- Creating a compost system for our garden beds and recycling
- Organising regular playground clean ups

### Photography / Media Leaders are chosen who are committed to:

- Taking photographs at special events
- Writing articles to accompany photographs
- Being inclusive of all children when photographing

## ***ROLE***

To represent the school on significant occasions and to carry out a variety of leadership roles and responsibilities while focusing on the following leadership habits of the mind:

1. Speak Up
2. Step Up
3. Have a Go
4. Think Team
5. Show the Way

The student will meet regularly to discuss issues of importance to the children of our school. The student will be required to speak with a range of adults in the school and community and lead other students. Some of the responsibilities include:

- Presenting Student of the Week certificates at whole school assemblies
- Acting as Tour Guides for visitors to the school on important occasions Days / Evenings and school celebrations
- Organising fundraising events to support various charities / special causes
- Representing St. Patrick's School at special ceremonies (e.g. ANZAC Day)
- Consulting with other students and reporting school-based concerns to the SRC / JSRC
- Planning for the improvement of school facilities
- Responding to the need of children, teachers and parents.
- Assisting in making the school a safe and friendly place for all children.
- Preparing reports of meetings.
- Sharing ideas or needs of student voice

## ***CRITERIA for NOMINATION***

- Each candidate and their family must approve expression of interest
- Each candidate will write an expression of interest
- Approval for nomination from teachers and the Executive Leadership team must be sought
- Once a list of nominees has been finalised, candidates will be short listed based on the criteria
- Each candidate must be a student in year four or senior year of primary school education

- Each candidate must be a suitable role model in the living out of Gospel values and regular practise of our Catholic Faith, as well as demonstrating a positive attitude motivated by our Vision Statement and school spirit
- Each candidate should possess appropriate leadership qualities although these can be nurtured as part of the leadership role. These include but not limited to:
  1. Ability to clearly articulate with confidence the qualities required of a school leader that possess Respect, Integrity, Responsibility and Resilience.
  2. Ability to demonstrate personal leadership qualities that involves initiative
  3. Ability to demonstrate a pride in the school
  4. Ability to demonstrate respect for students, teachers and adults
  5. Ability to demonstrate being a good role model to other students
  6. An understanding of being a representative of other students
  7. Ability to demonstrate initiative and generate ideas

### ***PARENTAL SUPPORT***

Parents are requested to consider that their support to the student is crucial for them to be successful in the role. Parents are expected to assist their child in fulfilling their duties while maintaining academic progress.

### ***APPOINTMENT***

- Principal and Deputy Principal address all eligible students to explain criteria / expectations of the role
- All eligible students are given an opportunity to nominate themselves for consideration as a potential leader – (nominations are presented to the class teacher on an official nomination form)
- Students complete a nomination form for the Leadership Role for which they wish to be considered.
- Students will be provided with a copy of the SRC / JSRC Policy on request
- Students prepare and deliver a 2 minute speech to the staff and their peers in fourth term on the topic "Leadership at St Patrick's"

### ***THE FINAL PROCESS***

- All the names of the elected leaders are put forward to staff and best possible positions for the students are identified.

- The staff and students vote, the results are collated, and the leaders are selected based on their speeches and how they have shown leadership over time. The weighting of the voting system will be approximately 40% students and 60% staff
- Any candidate who unduly pressures other students to obtain votes will become ineligible to proceed to the ballot
- Applications will not be accepted after the closing date and time
- Staff base their decision on assessment of the qualities of the students and align it with the most suitable leadership role.
- The final decision is made by school staff, taking into account the outcomes of the students' voting process and professional knowledge of the staff
- The announcement of the successful candidates will occur via the school newsletter, while a formal public 'commissioning' of our new School Captains, Student Representative Council and Junior Student Representative Council taking place at a whole school assembly and again at the first whole school mass at the beginning of the new school year