



Holy Trinity Primary School

'Faith, Learning, Together!'

Student Leadership Policy and Processes

Holy Trinity Primary aims to develop leadership skills in Stage 3 students by their involvement in programs such as the Buddy Program, Young Leaders Program, House Days, Student Representative Council and the Year 6 Leadership Camp.

Buddies

The buddy program commences between Year 5 and Kindergarten students and continues into Year 6 and Year 1. Opportunities for the older students to support the younger students will be arranged with the teachers of these grades.

Young Leaders Program

In Semester Two, all Year 5 students will be involved in five principal-led sessions to explicitly teach personal and public leadership skills. The program teaches the building blocks of leadership (organisation, teamwork, responsibility and presentation skills) and prepares students as role models in public leadership.

Early in term one of Year 6, students who have been elected into leadership positions will take part in an **Induction Program**. The purpose is to prepare them for their positions of leadership and provide them with a greater understanding of leadership in general.

Leadership and Development Camp

In term one, all year 6 students will attend an overnight Leadership and Development Camp which is held at Borambola. The focus of the camp is to develop leadership skills, team-building, appropriate co-operative skills and to challenge students physically and mentally. It is also an opportunity for teachers to develop positive relationships with the children.

All Year 6 students will have an opportunity during the year to display leadership skills e.g preschool visits, tabloid sports days

House Days

House days were established in 2021 to highlight the meaning and importance of each of the Houses. The days are organised and run by each of the House Leaders with the support and guidance of the Principal. Student leaders are to use these days as a platform to highlight the name and meaning of their house name and motto. Each day has a specific purpose such as bringing all in the community together, younger students being assisted by older students, etc.

Burgess - Care and Compassion

Kelso - Respect and Responsibility

Sheridan - Excellence in Learning

Gindaymanha - Fun and Games

Student Representative Council

The SRC is a forum for students to have a say in items relating to school life at Holy Trinity. Points regarding the SRC are as follows:

- Meetings are held in Weeks 3 and 7 of each term during 2nd break
- School Captains will attend each meeting
- Each Year level from Year 2 to 6 to have 2 elected members of the SRC
- Class representatives will be elected in term one by their classmates
- New class representatives will be invited at the start of the second semester. Class meetings (chaired by class representatives) will be held in the lead up to each SRC meeting
- Minutes of each meeting will be distributed to each class after meetings

Student Leader Role Descriptions and Expectations

Typically at Holy Trinity Catholic Primary School we elect:

- Four school captains
- Two captains - Gindaymanha House
- Two captains - Burgess House
- Two captains - Kelso House
- Two captains - Sheridan House

These selections are not gender specific and are flexible depending on suitability of candidates.

In short, to be considered for captain or house captain nomination, a student should:

- live the message of Jesus daily
- model appropriate behaviour and consistently adhere to the school values of respect, responsibility and learning
- present themselves in correct school uniform
- participate in school activities in the expected manner
- make a concerted effort in school work
- show respect to peers, adults and staff
- have a satisfactory attendance record
- demonstrate leadership skills

Any student who has consistently received incident cards and reflection sheets for poor behaviour may be ineligible. Once elected, those holding a school leadership position must uphold their responsibilities and the school's standards of behaviour to retain that leadership role. A serious breach of responsibilities or of the school's standards of behaviour, may result in the leadership role being relinquished.

There are some specific roles that elected captains need to fulfil including:

- Demonstrating high standards of behaviour and leadership at all times
- Welcoming special visitors to the school
- Participating in Wagga Anzac Ceremony (School Captains only)
- Representing our school at special events

- Assisting with carnival preparations and organisation
- Involvement in the planning and coordination of 'House Days'
- Welcome new families at Open days

Process

The process for election for these positions begins in Term 3 each year and is outlined below. The newly elected school captains are involved in a captaincy changeover as part of the Year 6 Graduation Mass which takes place at the end of the year. The selection of all leadership positions will involve the following process.

1. Application Form

All students in Year 5 can nominate themselves as a candidate. They will then be required to fill in an application form stating the reasons why they think they would be a suitable leader at Holy Trinity. This form is to be signed by the candidate's parents and returned by the given closing date.

2. Staff Advocacy

All nominee names will be shared with all staff and feedback sought around the candidate's suitability.

3. Interview

All candidates will meet with the principal for an informal interview where they will be asked about their suitability as a leader. The interview will focus on many of the areas that are addressed in the application form and the leadership sessions.

4. Panel recommendations

A panel consisting of the school leadership team and the year 5 classroom teachers will review the applications. Consideration will be given to: consistent classroom and playground behaviour, participation in leadership sessions and quality of leadership application. From this, a limited number of candidates will be selected to proceed to speeches. Staff members who are parents of a candidate are not eligible to be part of this panel. Where necessary, discretion will be used to determine an appropriate number of students who will proceed to speeches, based on a system of points.

5. Speech

Selected candidates will be asked to prepare and present a speech in Term 4 in front of the school of no more than 3 minutes in length. In the speech students will address the following topics:

- What qualities they possess that would assist them in a leadership position
- What experience they have with leadership or general school activities
- What does the school motto, Way, Truth and Life, mean to them
- Students will not be permitted to talk about the implementation of activities and events that contradict the ethos of Holy Trinity eg: KFC for lunch day

6. Vote

All students from Years 2 to 6 will be required to vote for candidates for the four School Captains. Once these positions are filled, house captain nominees will then give their speeches to the house group, who will then vote for captains of their particular house. Staff will vote for all captains. Year 5 students can nominate themselves for school captains or house captains only, or both.