

KEW EAST PRIMARY SCHOOL POLICY MANUAL

POLICY NO.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

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PURPOSE:

The purpose of the student Leadership Policy is to ensure that the students of Kew East Primary School are provided with opportunities to develop their individual capacity to lead and influence others in a responsible way by being actively involved in the everyday operations of the school and by contributing, where appropriate, to the decision-making processes of the school. The Student Leadership Program provides students with leadership opportunities and responsibilities in an effort to improve student engagement and connectedness to the school community.

POLICY STATEMENT:

The Student Leadership Program aims to build positive self-concepts and relationships by providing our students with a sense of meaning, purpose, control and belonging; while simultaneously increasing student knowledge, skills and attitudes. Leadership activities link closely with the Civics and Citizenship element of the curriculum, and the processes involved in democratic decision-making.

At Kew East Primary School, specific leadership opportunities include:

- Junior School Council (Levels 2 – 4)
- Student Committees (Level 4)
- Buddy Program (Levels 1 and Year 6)
- Classroom Monitors (All levels)
- Sports Captains (Level 4)
- School Ambassadors (Year 6)

The development of leadership skills involves opportunities that encourage students to:

- Act in roles of responsibility with integrity and honesty.
- Foster a sense of vision and purpose.
- Work with others to achieve a common goal.
- Take on responsibility to see a project through to its conclusion or a goal through to its achievement.
- Be active, reflective contributors capable of responding effectively.
- Earn respect from others through their actions.

GUIDELINES FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

General Guidelines

- All students have the potential and the right to develop and demonstrate leadership skills.
- Leadership opportunities should promote equity and need to be offered in ways that do not discriminate against any individual or groups in the school.
- Leadership roles will be perceived as valuable by all members of the school community.
- Leadership skills, knowledge, attitudes and values will be encouraged and developed through a wide range of school activities and programs.
- Leadership roles will be developed and applied consistently within each level as appropriate to the developmental stage of the students.
- Specific on-going leadership training and support will be provided for students to enable them to effectively fulfil the role to which they have been appointed.
- To ensure that students have varied experiences and to allow for greater opportunities, students should not occupy the same formal leadership position in two successive years.

Junior School Council

- Junior School Council representatives are nominated and elected by the student body. Level 2 classes have one representative each, and Levels 3 and 4 classes each have a male and female representative.
- Junior School Council elects its own office bearers at the first meeting each year. The office bearers are elected from Level 4 representatives.
- Two staff members will facilitate and supervise weekly Junior School Council meetings, however the office bearers are responsible for organising agendas, chairing the meetings and the keeping of minutes.
- A Junior School Council representative will report (verbally or in writing) to School Council meetings twice a year.

Student Committees

- Student Committees will be formed each year, and will generally consist of students from Level 4 classes.
- Applications for consideration to become a member of a Student Committee will be submitted by interested students. A staff member with the designated role of overseeing each particular committee will select the committee members based on their application, and if required, in consultation with other staff.
- Student Committees will be allocated roles that add value to the school and should not be seen as a group of 'monitors', but be recognised as a team and provided with real opportunities for responsibility and leadership.

Buddy Program

- Each Year 6 student will be allocated as a special 'buddy' to a Level 1 student.
- The role of the Year 6 buddy is to ease the transition of the younger student into the school setting, and to provide a role model and support for their 'buddy', while developing their own sense of responsibility and self-worth.
- Regular activities will be organised by Level 1 and Level 4 staff to ensure that a supportive relationship develops between the older and younger students.

Classroom Monitors

- All students should be given the opportunity to undertake a variety of responsibilities within their classroom over the course of the year.

Sports Captains

- Selection of Sports Captains will be the responsibility of each sporting team, in consultation with the Physical Education teacher and other staff as required.

School Ambassadors

- Students who wish to be considered for the role of a School Ambassador will need to submit an application to the school's Leadership Team.
- School Ambassadors will be selected from students in their final year at Kew East, and will consist of two female and two male students.

PARENTS' ROLE:

The role of the parents in the Student Leadership Program is one of encouragement. Parents should acknowledge student achievement in the Program and work with staff to further enhance their child's knowledge, skills and attitudes.

DOCUMENTS IN SUPPORT OF THIS POLICY:

KEPS Individual School Drug Education Strategy
Peer Support materials
Junior School Council Standing Orders
Buddy Program

Program Leader:

Bianca Hunt

Ratified School Council:

August 2005

Issue Number:

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