

Junior School Council

POLICY

Rationale:

Junior School Council provides an opportunity for students to actively participate in the decision-making processes at our school. Students are encouraged to take on leadership roles in an endeavour to increase their own leadership skills and to act as effective role models for the student body. Our school believes encouraging student leadership ensures we are developing our community leaders of the future.

Aims:

- To provide opportunities for students to play a significant and effective role in the decision making processes of our school.
- To provide an opportunity for students to become skilled in some aspects of leadership.
- To ensure that student leaders are positive role models for other students.
- To initiate and coordinate some community and school-based fundraising.
- To create a whole school community where every member feels their contribution is valuable.

Implementation:

- A Junior School Council will be constituted annually.
- The school will, by process of student vote, elect two school representatives (one male, one female) from each grade form grade 2 – 6.
- A process of feedback and consultation will be implemented to ensure that the views of the whole student body are being considered.
- Students will be actively encouraged to participate in community based student leadership development programs with the full support of the school.
- Opportunities will be provided for the Junior School Council to practice their leadership skills in a variety of forums.
- The Junior School Council will conduct at least one school assembly per term.
- The Junior School Council will be invited on a regular basis to present at staff meetings and school council meetings on issues as raised by the student body where appropriate.
- The Junior School Council will contribute regular articles to the school newsletter.
- The Junior School Council will be provided with an appropriate current staff member to act as mentor to the group.
- The staff mentor will direct students in experiencing a variety of decision making models including seeking consensus and majority vote, and guide members towards taking full responsibility for the conduct of meetings.
- Proposals will be conveyed to classes, teachers and the Principal who shall have final responsibility for action. Outcomes shall be reported to the school community through both School Newsletter and School Council meetings.

Evaluation:

This policy will be reviewed with student input as part of the school's review cycle.

This policy was last ratified by School Council on the 30th October 2006