



Kurrajong North Public School

Student Leadership Policy

Developing leadership qualities among our senior students is a core goal of education at Kurrajong North Public School. While we expect all senior students to be exemplary role models for their younger peers, Year 5 students have the opportunity each year to nominate themselves for a formal leadership position. The following roles are available each year:

School Captain (2 positions)

The two students who receive the highest number of personal votes from the student and teacher body will be offered these positions in the following year. There are no gender rules to say one male and one female must be chosen, and the positions can be held by two males or two females at the same time.

School Captain Roles and Responsibilities

- Represent the school at external events, e.g. major commemorations
- Greet guests to the school and provide assistance to them
- Prepare and present reports at school events, such as assemblies and presentations
- Actively engage as a member of the Student Representative Council
- Assist the Sport Captains in performing their duties
- Model school expectations at all times, including uniform and behaviour

Sports Captains (2 positions)

The two students we receive the third and fourth highest personal votes from the student and teacher body will fulfil these positions in the following year. There are no gender rules to say one male and one female must be chosen, and the positions can be held by two males or two females at the same time.

House Captain Roles and Responsibilities

- Lead their house group at carnivals, providing support and encouragement to other students
- Raise and lower the school flags each day
- Maintain the 'sport shed', handing out and collecting equipment at play times each day
- Lead the school pledge at assemblies
- Model school expectations at all times, including uniform and behaviour

Student Ambassadors (multiple positions)

Any Year 5 student can nominate themselves to be a *Student Ambassador* for the following year. To qualify, they must fully engage in the election process.

Student Ambassador Roles and Responsibilities

- Assist students in the school who need help with social problems or challenges
- Work with the principal in the development of Peer Support programs and activities
- Monitor and support the delivery of the Peer Support program
- Model school expectations at all times, including uniform and behaviour

For each position, it is expected that elected students acknowledge their influence on others and strive to provide a positive example in every setting. It is important that students who are elected have demonstrated their capacity and willingness to follow school expectations. Students who are unable to regularly follow school expectations may become ineligible for the election process.

The Student Welfare & Behaviour policy outlines the behavioural expectations in each area of the school. These are taught to students at the beginning of every school year. We will ensure that students in Year 5 clearly understand these expectations at the beginning of the school year.

When expectations are not met, we will engage students in corrective strategies and provide fair warning before consequences are imposed. When behaviours are significant or persistent, a child may be required to engage in 'Planning'. This process aims to:

1. Ensure the student recognises the impact their choices had on themselves and others;
2. Explore the circumstances that led up to their choices; and
3. Plan a better response should the student find themselves in a similar situation in the future.

Student leaders should rarely, if ever, be required to engage in 'Planning'. In students' Year 5 year, they will become ineligible to run for student leadership if they:

Are required to attend ' <i>Planning</i> ' more than three times in any term of their Year 5 school year.	Are required to attend ' <i>Planning</i> ' more than five times in their Year 5 school year.	Receive a suspension after a formal caution or an immediate suspension for a serious behaviour of concern in their Year 5 school year.
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In addition, all school leaders need to have an attendance rate over 90% for their Year 5 School Year.

The Election Process

The election process commences in Week 2, Term 4 of each year. Eligible students will be invited to complete an **expression of interest**, noting the roles they wish to nominate for and listing the qualities they believe they possess that will ensure their success in the role. This expression of interest will need to be endorsed by both the classroom teacher and the principal.

Once the expression of interest is endorsed, students will be required to develop an **election poster** which needs to be completed by Week 6 of Term 4. This poster should be constructed using one A1 poster card.

It should contain:

- A clear photo of the candidate
- A list of qualities and achievement of the candidate
- A slogan or title
- Reasonable promises or pledges (discussed with the class teacher)

It must **not** contain:

- Promises or pledges that are not practical or reasonable
- Bribes or threats
- Tear-offs or hand-outs
- Inappropriate content
- Anything that provides an unfair advantage to a particular candidate

These posters will be displayed in the weather shed for the duration of Week 7.

While the poster is being developed, students are required to develop a speech to be delivered on Election Day held in Week 8, Term 4. The first draft of students' speeches are due on Friday of Week 6 to the class teacher for proofing and feedback.

Speeches may:

- Be creative in the mode of delivery: there are no rules on how a presentation must be delivered
- Be up to four minutes in duration (no longer)
- Discuss accomplishments and personal qualities that the candidate possesses which make them suitable for a leadership role
- Make pledges with prior approval from the classroom teacher

Speeches may **not**:

- Make promises that have not been approved by the classroom teacher
- Make bribe or threat
- Discuss any other candidate, other than to wish them luck

Voting Process

All students in K-6 in the calendar year are eligible to vote, as are all staff. From 2025 onwards, voting will be electronic and will be scored so that counting of votes is not required. All nominees will be entered into a Google Form with the school photo attached.

Directly after the speeches have been delivered, each student will log into their student portal and access the Google Form. They will select their first, second and third choice and submit their form. Once all votes have been cast, the results will be converted to a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet where formulas will be applied to determine the final vote.

Votes are scored as:

Student Votes

1st selection – 3 points

2nd selection – 2 points

3rd selection – 1 points

Staff Votes

1st selection – 9 points

2nd selection – 6 points

3rd selection – 3 points

Announcing successful candidates

To minimise the disappointment that can come from the announcement of leadership positions at Presentation Evening, the four captains (2 school, 2 sport) will be announced the day prior to the Presentation Day assembly. They will not be told which positions they have been voted into, and will have to wait for the award night to find out. Student Ambassadors will also be informed of their successful applications.

The Pledge

On announcement of the successful candidates, these students will be required to recite and commit to the KNPS Leaders Pledge:

As a Leader of Kurrajong North Public School,

I promise to carry out the responsibilities of my position to the best of my ability.

I will, at all times, represent my school in the way that is expected of a leader of Kurrajong North Public School.

I promise to be trustworthy, reliable and above all honest when talking to or working with the students, staff and parents.

I will always try my best to ensure that our school remains a happy, safe place to work and learn.

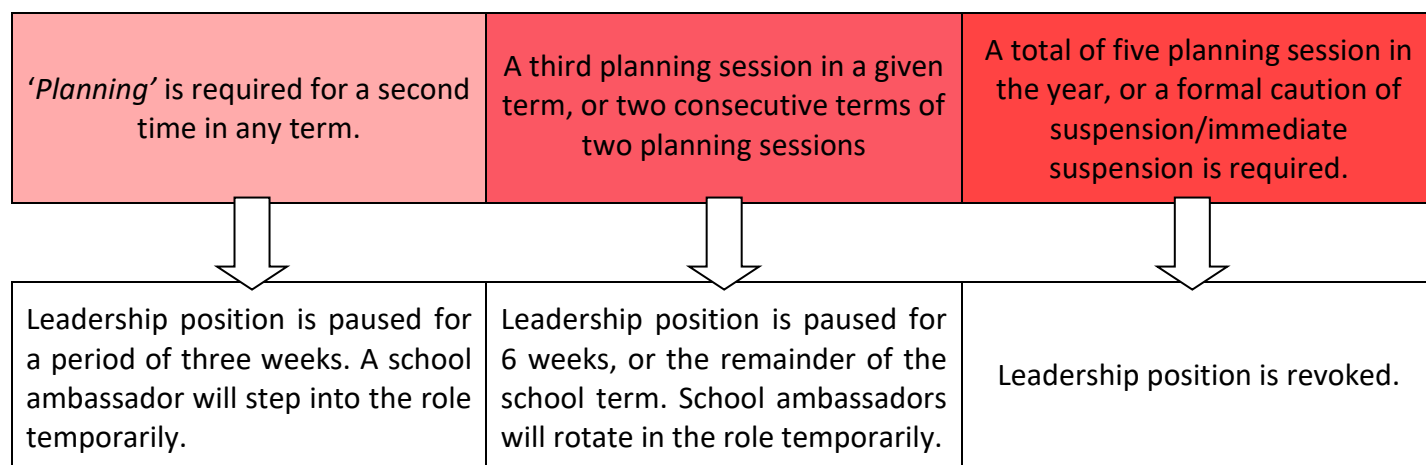
I will be Respectful. Responsible and Resilient.

In all that I do, I will always remember that I am a leader of Kurrajong North Public School.

Our school leaders will then be held to this pledge. For any school leader who is unable to abide by the promises made in this pledge, they may have their leadership position revoked for a period of time, or altogether if no improvement is made.

This is a last resort and not a desired outcome. However, trustworthiness, reliability and honesty are a non-negotiable element of leadership.

Process for Loss of Leadership Privileges



Parents will be notified every time a planning session is required. Both the parents and student will be reminded of where they are up to in this process each time.

Opportunities for Leadership Development

The school is committed to providing opportunities for students to show their leadership potential. In Term 2 of every school year, under the guidance of current Student Ambassadors, Year 5 students have the opportunity to lead a *Peer Support* group. This is a volunteer opportunity, but one that is essential to qualify for Student Leadership election.

As a Peer Support leader, student are required to lead deep discussion with younger students on various topics of social and emotional learning, including emotional regulation, friendship skills and responsible decision making. They will assist younger students, through various craft activities, to understand these challenging topics and make connections to their lives.

At the end of Term 2, teachers will nominate two of these students to receive *Peer Support Excellence* awards. These awards will be presented at the final assembly in Term 2, and will be a significant accomplishment to refer to in the leadership campaign.

Another award will be on offer to our Year 5 students – the playground buddy award. This award will go to two students who consistently help younger students in the morning by setting up, monitoring and encouraging others to play morning games on the Sport Court. These awards will be nominated at the end of Term 3 and announced at the final assembly of Term 3. This will also be a significant accomplishment to refer to in the leadership campaign.

Various other opportunities will occur throughout the year, including at sports carnivals and other whole school events. However:

The most important aspect of any student leadership campaign is the day-to-day interaction the child has with other students, staff and parents. Students should be considering their leadership aspirations at the beginning of Year 5 and show the school community that they are trustworthy, reliable and honest in all that they do.