



Graceville State School Student Leadership Policy

STUDENT LEADERSHIP AT GRACEVILLE STATE SCHOOL

Student leadership positions are highly valued by the Principal, staff, students, parents, and the wider school community. Our Student Leaders represent Graceville State School with pride, modelling the values and standards that our community upholds. They play a vital role in setting a positive example for younger students and in actively shaping behaviours and attitudes across the school.

Because of the importance of these roles, the selection process for Student Leaders is rigorous and guided by clear standards. These standards are demonstrated throughout the school year, observed by staff, students, and parents, and recorded within student records.

Throughout their primary years, students engage in a wide range of leadership opportunities embedded within the curriculum and annual school calendar. These include collaborative decision-making, public speaking, teamwork, mentoring peers, and contributing to community initiatives. Student Leaders are also key participants in Graceville SS events, assemblies, and school functions. In addition, senior students take on a 'buddy' role, supporting younger peers both in classrooms and during playtimes.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AT GRACEVILLE STATE SCHOOL

School Captain	4	Year 6
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School Captains embody the vision and purpose of the school, exemplifying the highest standards of student leadership and serving as inspiring role models within the school community and beyond. The role involves leadership, mentoring, guidance and the maintenance of an achievable standard to which other students can aspire in terms of self-responsibility. Duties include: representing the school at significant events within school community and beyond, welcoming visitors to the school and acting as hosts on such occasions and running of school assemblies. School Captains will also be involved in mentoring younger aspiring leaders, participation in all school activities and events, including the encouragement of the participation of others, liaise with all staff and chairing Student Council meetings. They may also elect to lead projects aligned to the school's values, vision and Annual Improvement Plan.

Sports House Captain	6	Two Year 6 Students from each Sports House
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Sport House Captains not only demonstrate high characteristic standards as expected of a Graceville State School student and exercise House Team leadership attributes evident both in past achievements and continuing House Team involvement. School House Captains are well respected by their peers. They lead, motivate, empower and support their House Team in meeting aspirational targets toward success in the context of 'healthy' competitive spirit and sportsmanship. Their main duties are to assist in preparation and implementation of school Inter-House programmes such as the Swimming Carnival, Athletics Carnival and Cross Country. At these events, they are expected to support their team by promoting participation and support and to role model healthy competition. Outside of these events, their duties include: the running of the sports shed at break times, provide assembly items including the promotion and celebration of events and to participate in Student Council meetings.

Music Captain	6	Two Year 6 Students from each of Band, Choir and Strings
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Music Captains not only uphold the high standards of character expected of a Graceville State School student but also demonstrate leadership through their passion, commitment and ongoing involvement in the school's music program. Music Captains lead, encourage, and support students in developing their musical talents while promoting a culture of creativity, discipline and joy in performance.

Their main duties include assisting in the preparation and delivery of school music events such as concerts, assemblies, competitions and community performances. At these occasions, they are expected to role model excellence, encourage participation and celebrate the achievements of all performers. Outside of these events, their responsibilities include supporting music rehearsals and ensembles, promoting involvement in the music program, assisting with the organisation and care of musical equipment, and representing the music program at Student Council meetings.

The Year Level Representatives take on the responsibility of looking after an individual class, as a Class Representative, but also manage all of the Representatives for classes on the same year level, and thus hold two positions. After Class Representatives gather data for individual classes, the Year Level Representatives analyse this data, ready to present findings to relevant Student Council Committees or at Student Council Meetings or to the School Administration Team. Year Level Representatives are mentored by staff to develop analytical thinking skills to examine data, identify trends and draw conclusions. Year Level Representatives may be called upon to present information at Student Council Meeting, or to the student body on assemblies. Year Level Representatives are members of the Student Council.

Class Representatives**Year 6**

The Class Representatives are responsible for being the communication connection between the Student Council, school and individual classes. They gather data to inform school decisions and Student Council projects. Collectively, they assist in organising events (recording readings for National Simultaneous Storytime, sharing learning journeys of classes, or advertising school events on assembly), attend meetings at lunch breaks and co-ordinate with teachers times to meet and talk with the students they represent, during the school day. Students need to be able to communicate effectively with classes, demonstrate great self-manager skills to liaise with staff, and commitment to attend meetings. While not required to speak on assembly, there are opportunities to do so during presentations. Class Representatives are members of the Student Council. Class Representatives sit with their classes during formal or full school assemblies.

SELECTION PROCESS FOR SCHOOL CAPTAINS

Selection of School Captains is based on the collection of data from the following:

- Past school participation and engagement, including in class time, lunch breaks and at school events
- Behaviour and adherence to the Graceville State School Student Code of Conduct
- Application – A response to selection criteria. Speech to be written at school with the support of a staff member.
- Election speech – A speech (1 to 2 minutes) based on their application is presented to all students in Years 1-6. Speech to be written at school with the support of a staff member.
- Interview with Principal and 2 other staff members.

The process:

1. Expression of Interest application submitted by the nominated deadline, using the form provided.
2. Students complete an application at school, during a supported session, to address the selection criteria.
3. Class teachers, Specialists and Principal peruse and evaluate the data above and develop a shortlist.
4. Short listed students create a speech at school, during a supported session, to address the selection criteria.
5. Election speeches held at a school assembly with an opportunity for teachers to write questions to support the interview process.
6. Students invited to an interview with Principal and 2 other staff members.
7. School leaders presented to whole school community at an assembly in Term 4.
8. School Leadership Induction Ceremony in Term 1.

Selection Criteria for School Captain positions

SC1: Leadership Skills

Demonstrates responsibility, reliability, and positive role modelling.
Engages positively in challenging situations and makes productive choices.
Encourages, motivates, and supports peers and younger students.
Shows initiative and contributes actively to school life.
Demonstrates commitment to school values, fairness, and inclusivity.

SC2: Communication Skills

Speaks confidently and respectfully to a range of audiences.
Listens actively and values the opinions of others.
Advocates for and represents the voices of others respectfully.
Expresses ideas clearly in both formal and informal settings.

SELECTION PROCESS FOR SPORT HOUSE AND MUSIC CAPTAINS

Selection of Sports House and Music Captains is based on the collection of data from the following:

- Past school participation and engagement, including in class time, lunch breaks and at school events
- Behaviour and adherence to the Graceville State School Student Code of Conduct
- Application – Written response to selection criteria.
- Election speech (Sports House Captains only) – A speech (1 to 2 minutes) based on written application is presented to all students in Years 3-6. Speech to be written at school with the support of a staff member.

The process (Sports House Captains):

1. Application submitted by the nominated deadline, using the form provided.
2. Class teachers, Specialists and Principal peruse and evaluate the data above and develop a shortlist.
3. Short listed students create a speech at school, during a supported session, to address the selection criteria.
4. Election speeches held at a Sports House Meeting with students in Year 3-6.
5. Year 3-6 students vote to elect the Sports House Captains for their houses.
6. School leaders presented to whole school community at an assembly in Term 4.
7. School Leadership Induction Ceremony in Term 1.

The process (Music Captains):

1. Application submitted by the nominated deadline, using the form provided.
2. Class teachers, Specialists and Principal peruse and evaluate the data above and nominate captains.
3. School leaders presented to whole school community at an assembly in Term 4.
4. School Leadership Induction Ceremony in Term 1.

Selection Criteria for Sports House and Music leadership positions

SC1: Leadership

Demonstrates responsibility, reliability, and positive role modelling.
Motivates and encourages others to participate and strive for success.
Promotes teamwork, sportsmanship, and a healthy competitive spirit.
Displays resilience and makes positive choices in challenging situations.
Advocates for and supports peers with fairness and inclusivity.
Demonstrates behaviour aligned with the Graceville State School Student Code of Conduct.

SC2: Commitment & Participation

Actively engages in school sporting, or music, activities, both in and out of class.
Shows consistent effort and enthusiasm at school events.
Represents their teams/ensembles with pride and dedication.
Works closely with staff to support their teams/ensembles.

SELECTION PROCESS FOR YEAR LEVEL AND CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

Selection of Year Level and Class Representatives is based on the collection of data from the following:

- Past school participation and engagement, including in class time, lunch breaks and at school events.
- Behaviour and adherence to the Graceville State School Student Code of Conduct.
- Class teachers, Specialists and Principal peruse and evaluate the data above and develop a shortlist.

The process:

1. Application submitted by the nominated deadline, using the form provided.
2. Class teachers, Specialists and Principal peruse and evaluate the data above and nominate Class and Year level Reps.
3. School leaders presented to whole school community at an assembly in Term 4.
4. School Leadership Induction Ceremony in Term 1.

Selection Criteria for Class and Year Level Leadership positions

SC1: Communication & Representation

Communicates clearly and respectfully with their class, teachers, and peers.

Listens actively and shares class ideas, opinions, and feedback accurately.

Represents classmates' views responsibly at Student Council meetings.

Acts as a positive role model within the classroom and school community.

Demonstrates fairness, inclusivity, and respect for others.

(Year Level Reps) Provides guidance and support to Class Representatives at their year level.

SC2: Organisation & Commitment

Demonstrates strong self-management skills to coordinate with staff and peers.

Attends meetings reliably and follows through on responsibilities.

Assists in organising and promoting school events and projects.

Shows enthusiasm for contributing to school improvement and community spirit.

Demonstrates behaviour aligned with the Graceville State School Student Code of Conduct.

TIMEFRAME FOR STUDENT LEADERSHIP POSTIONS

All Roles	
Information Session	Week 9, Term 3: Tuesday 9 th September, 2025
Assembly Announcement of Leadership Positions for 2026	Week 9, Term 4: Wednesday 3 rd December, 2025

School Captains	
Information Session	Week 9, Term 3: Tuesday 9 th September, 2025
EOI Due	Week 10, Term 3: Friday, 19 th September, 2025
Application workshop	Week 1, Term 4: Tuesday 7 th October, 2025
Short-listed students notified	Week 3, Term 4: Wednesday 22 nd October, 2025
Speech workshop for short-listed students	Week 3, Term 4: Thursday 23 rd October, 2025
Assembly Speech	Week 4, Term 4: Wednesday 29 th October, 2025
Interviews	Week 5, Term 4: Wednesday 5 th November, 2025
Announcement of School Captains	Week 5, Term 4: Friday 6 th November, 2025

Sports House & Music Captains	
Application Due	Week 4, Term 4: Friday 24 th October, 2025
Short-listed students notified	Week 6, Term 4: Wednesday 12 th November, 2025
Speech workshop for short-listed students (Sports only)	Week 6, Term 4: Thursday 13 th November, 2025
Sport House Captain speeches & voting	Week 7, Term 4: Wednesday 19 th November, 2025
Announcement of Sport House and Music Captains to school community	Week 8, Term 4: Wednesday 26 th November, 2025

Year Level Representatives and Class Representatives	
Application Due	Week 4, Term 4: Friday 24 th October, 2025
Announcement of Year Level and Class Representatives to school community	Week 8, Term 4: Wednesday 26 th November, 2025