

# COATESVILLE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Student Council Policy

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### 1. PURPOSE

Coatesville Primary School believes in the personal growth and development of every student. The provision of a wide range of opportunities for leadership development enhances student self esteem and self confidence. The role of Student Council recognises the personal qualities and attributes of students which can open pathways to further leadership opportunities in the future.

### 2. SCOPE

This policy applies to the whole Coatesville Primary School community and will be made available to others on request.

### 3. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

DEECD – Department of Education & Early Childhood Development.

### 4. RESPONSIBILITY AND AUTHORITY

This policy and procedure shall be issued under the authority of the Coatesville Primary School Council and was adopted at the School Council meeting on Wednesday March 19 2008.

### 5. POLICY/PROCEDURE

#### 5.1 Aims

To ensure that Coatesville Primary School elects Student Councillors who will

- Provide an outstanding role-model for other students by upholding whole school Values and the responsibilities outlined in the Student Code of Conduct per the School Strategic Plan
- Demonstrate positive leadership ability
- Show initiative and demonstrate good organisational skills
- Communicate effectively and be able to speak to an audience confidently
- Demonstrate pride in the school
- Be reliable and helpful to all members of the school community
- Represent the school

#### 5.2 Guidelines

- Students from each Grade 3, 4, 5 & 6 will apply for Student Council positions in line with criteria via application letter to their Classroom teacher

- A representative of the Leadership Team, in consultation with Grade 3 - 6 teachers will select from student applications candidates for election
- Applicants will be advised whether they have been successful in reaching the next stage
- One girl and one boy student from grade will be selected as Student Councillor. They will also represent a Junior Buddy grade.
- Students nominated will be requested to prepare a speech stating why he/she should be Student Councillor, outlining reasons for qualification
- Speeches will be performed in front of their own grade
- Students will vote in the form of a secret ballot

### **5.3 Implementation**

- The Student Leader Coordinator will disseminate information to Classroom teachers and coordinate the timeline for the voting process. In Grade 6, the timeline for this process will occur immediately following the election of the Student Leaders.
- Students will be given information about the Student Councillors' Policy prior to the commencement of the process and be provided with a copy of the policy upon request
- A representative of the Leadership Team, in consultation with the Student Leaders Coordinator and Classroom teachers, will meet to discuss nominations, taking into account evidence regarding criteria eg. record of behaviour, leadership background etc.
- Once nominations have been decided the nominated students in all grades will be informed and asked to prepare a speech
- Classroom teachers will discuss with their students the need to choose the best person for the position and that students nominated must not try to manipulate votes
- Votes will be counted by Classroom teachers and Principal and Student Leaders Coordinator notified
- The successful Student Councillors will be informed of the outcome and receive their badges at a whole school Assembly
- Acknowledgement will be published in the school newsletter
- Student Councillors will be asked to sign an understanding of their roles and duties
- Student Councillors may be removed from office by order of the Principal or Assistant Principal if they fail to abide by the Student Code of Conduct

## **7. RECORDS**

Student Council members will be published in the Annual School Magazine

## **8. TRAINING**

Student Leaders will participate in leadership training activities via conferences, forums and school programs.

## **9. REVIEW**

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