

Abbotsford PS Student Leadership Policy and Election Guidelines

Student Leadership Team

16 elected students will make up the leadership team; consisting of two captains (boy, girl), two vice-captains (boy, girl) and 12 student leaders (comprising any combination of boys and girls).

Role Description

The school captains and leaders of Abbotsford Public School represent the students at school and the student body during community events. They will lead the student body and demonstrate the qualities and attributes needed to be a successful leader.

Leadership team duties:

- Lead school assemblies and special events
- Meet visitors to the school and lead school tours
- Green team activities
- School message distribution (4 captains)

Student leaders and the two captains and vice-captains will nominate to join one of the following committees:

- **Environment** (one captain/vice-captain + three student leaders)
- **Community Engagement & School Promotion** (one captain/vice-captain + three student leaders)
- **Student Wellbeing** (one captain/vice-captain + three student leaders)
- **Local & Global Connections** (one captain/vice-captain + 3 student leaders)

Sports House Captains

A second election will be held to select a team of eight sports house captains (comprising boys and girls).

Role Description

- Encourage house spirit at all sporting events, including preparing and leading support at sports carnivals.
- Organise house members for carnival relays/games and organise practices for those teams.
- Collect house points across K-6 classrooms for weekly competition.
- Organise and distribute sports equipment daily across the school.

Essential Criteria for all Leadership Positions

- Demonstrate exemplary behaviour.
- Be prepared to do all tasks safely and responsibly.
- Be reliable, trustworthy, respectful, polite, friendly and helpful.
- Take pride in Abbotsford Public School and our school environment.
- Wear the correct school uniform.
- Follow school procedures.
- Set a good example for others at all times.

**All successful candidates may only hold one leadership position during the school year.

Eligibility for Nominations for all Leadership Positions

All students may nominate for a leadership position. The Principal and Stage 3 teachers will review behaviour records to confirm eligibility of Year 5 students with reference to the Abbotsford Public School Wellbeing Policy. The Principal or Stage 3 Assistant Principal will inform ineligible candidates and their parents/carers in writing.

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Student Leadership Team Nomination Process

Year 5 students nominate to stand for leadership positions by submitting a signed nomination form and contract. All nominated students must write and deliver a two-minute formal speech via video recording. In the first round, the speeches are then shown to Stage 3 students and K-6 SRC representatives on the following topic: **“Why would I make a good member of the student leadership group?”** Candidates must wear full school uniform and may not use props of any kind during the delivery of their speech. The student audience will then vote online. Stage 3 staff will also vote through the online process. The students (maximum 20) who receive the most votes move on to the next stage of the election process.

Student Leadership Team Election Process

The students who are successful in the first round of the nomination process will then have their speech shown via video recording at the same time in all K-6 classes. Candidates must wear full school uniform and may not use props of any kind during the delivery of their speech. Students from Years 2-5 will vote through an online process immediately after speeches have concluded. All staff will also vote through the online process. All 24 students in the current Student Leadership team and the four Y6 SRC students will also vote.

The boy and girl candidates with the most votes become school captains. The boy and girl candidates with the second highest votes become school vice-captains. The next 12 candidates become student leaders.

Sports House Captains Nominations

Year 5 students nominate to stand for leadership positions by submitting a signed nomination form and contract. All nominated students must write and deliver a two-minute formal speech via video recording on the following topic: **“Why would I make a good sports house captain?”**

Sports House Captains Election Process

All nominees will have their speeches shown via video recording to their sports house group in a house meeting. Students from Years 2-5 will vote online after the conclusion of speeches. All staff will also vote through the online process. All 24 students in the current Student Leadership team and the four Y6 SRC students will also vote.

The two students with the most votes from each house become sports house captains.

Election Guidelines

Candidates may, in the 2 weeks prior to their voting day, display the following:

- An election poster, no larger than A3 size. If standing for multiple positions, one poster per candidate is allowed. Posters will be displayed in the library foyer.
- An election badge, worn by the individual candidate. No other students may wear badges or paraphernalia.
- Students may not distribute any other promotional material during the election process.

Election Protocol

All candidates must follow the election process in the correct manner and with integrity at all times. Students who breach election guidelines may be disqualified from the election process after evidence is considered by the principal, deputy principal and Stage 3 teachers.

Announcement of Positions

The student leadership team and house captains are announced at the APS Presentation Assembly. Incoming leaders receive their badges from the corresponding outgoing leaders.

Should a student leader permanently leave the school, the student who received the next highest number of votes will be announced as their replacement.

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Investiture and Pledge (in the following year)

School captains, vice-captains, student leaders and sports house captains are invested in a K-6 assembly and make a pledge appropriate to their position (see timeline).

Loss of Position

Following formal complaint/s by member/s of the school community and depending on the severity of the behaviour, action may be taken as follows at the discretion of the principal:

1. Warning and counselling by the Principal.
2. Loss of position (badge and privileges) for two weeks.
3. Loss of position (badge and privileges) for the rest of the year.

The Principal will determine the action to be taken in consultation with relevant staff. If the behaviour is severe then immediate loss of position will occur.

Appropriate communication will advise parents of issues of concern. The incident and action will be recorded in the school welfare system.