



Montmorency Primary School

JUNIOR SCHOOL COUNCIL POLICY

RATIONALE

At Montmorency Primary School, we believe in the rights of the student population to voice their views, opinions and ideas with regard to their experiences at school in a formal and productive manner. We acknowledge the importance of leadership within the student population and that the Junior School Council provides avenues for students to take on leadership and decision-making roles for and on behalf of the student body. We believe that through participation in a variety of student leadership opportunities, our students are developing their capacity to be leaders of the future.

JUNIOR SCHOOL COUNCIL PROGRAM

Aims

- To provide opportunities for students to play a significant and effective role in the decision making processes of our school.
- To provide opportunities for students to become skilled in all aspects of leadership.
- To ensure that our student leaders are positive role models for other students.
- To create a whole school community where every member feels their contribution is valuable.
- To inspire our student leaders to become leaders within the community of Montmorency.
- To develop a school spirit within the school and greater community.

Election

- A Junior School Council will be constituted bi- annually, at the beginning of Terms 1 and 3.
- Students will elect two students from each grade (one boy and one girl) to act as their representatives in the Junior School Council.
- Students can put their name forward and the class will vote anonymously.
- Junior School Council Representatives cannot be voted twice from Foundation to Grade 2 and then from Grade 3 to Grade 6.
- Staff will refer the election results to the principal, who will consider the election results and make the final appointments.
- The principal will announce the election results at an assembly of the whole school.
- Junior School Council Representatives can be removed from duty by the principal for misconduct. Should this unlikely event occur, the principal will appoint a replacement office bearer who will be presented with the appropriate badge, leadership opportunities and responsibilities.

Implementation

- The Junior School Council will be provided with an appropriate current staff member to act as mentor to the group.
- Each week, two representatives from the Junior School Council will lead and conduct the whole school assembly.
- Opportunities will be provided for the Junior School Council to practice their leadership skills in a variety of forums, e.g. introducing school events, making speeches to invited parents and guests.

- Students will be actively encouraged to participate in community based student leadership development programs with the full support of the school.
- A process of feedback and consultation will be implemented to ensure that the views of the whole student body are being considered.

What does being a class representative mean?

- Demonstrating the school values of Safety, Learning, Respect and Friendship
- Being put in a position to speak and act on behalf of a group
- Being placed in situations where decisions are made that affect others
- Looking after the interests and views of others
- Being: **FAIR**
RESPONSIBLE
TRUSTWORTHY
ACCOUNTABLE

This means that a representative has a responsibility to:

- Attend all meetings that they can/Apologise if they cannot attend
- Be punctual and reliable
- Contribute to the workings of the Junior School Council
- Be well prepared and organised
- Talk to all students in your class and listen to what they have to say
- See yourself as a representative of your class and make decisions in everyone's best interests
- Be available so that other class members can talk to you about ideas, issues or concerns
- Report back to your class after every meeting
- Be a good role model for all other students in the school

EVALUATION

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

This policy was last ratified by School Council on

6 October 2015