



# STUDENT VOICE POLICY

Ratified October 2014

*All children have the right to learn  
Everyone is treated respectfully  
We all have the right to feel safe*

## **WE VALUE:**

*Teamwork, Respect, Responsibility,  
Persistence and Honesty*

## Rationale

We value the positive contributions of all of the students at Geranium Primary School.  
We listen to their ideas and try to implement their suggestions into the daily running of the school.

## Process

### **Regular Class Meetings**

#### **The Middle and Upper Primary Class**

- Elect class leaders
- Class Meetings are held at least twice a term (or when the need arises)
- An agenda is placed in the classroom where students can list items they wish to suggest or discuss
- The teacher participates in the class meeting and is available for advice and may also offer suggestions or add agenda items
- The teacher may take items from class meetings to Staff meetings for discussion
- A method agreed upon by the students may be employed to ensure each student has equal say (eg 5 pop sticks to start and give one up each time a point of view is given)
- The Cabinet may make appointments to talk with the Principal about issues reflected from the class meeting

#### **The Junior Primary Class**

- Elect class leaders
- Class Meetings are held at least twice a term (or when the need arises)
- An agenda is placed in the classroom where students can list items they wish to suggest or discuss
- The teacher will facilitate the discussion about points raised by the students

### **School Cabinet**

The School Captains (and other relevant students) are to meet with the Principal regularly to inform and discuss any concerns or issues that the student body perceives. These meetings may include planning and organising student centred events.

## The Role of the School Captains

Two students (from either year 6 or 7) are elected by the student body early in the year.

### **Represent the school on important occasions and events:**

- Welcome new students and their families to the school
- Welcome and thank visitors and other guests
- Receive school awards i.e. swimming and athletics carnivals
- Attend kindergarten graduation ceremonies for new students

### **Facilitate student initiated proposals:**

- Work with other students to organise, manage and take responsibility for ideas, proposals and requests that emerge from class meetings i.e. crazy hair day, fundraising etc.

### **Assist the Staff in the Running of the School:**

- Look out for the well being of others
- Inform staff when issues arise and suggest possible solutions
- Plan student centred events and assist staff with planning and implementing whole school functions e.g. Concert, sports days, end of term celebrations
- Suggest and organise structured lunch time activities in collaboration with the Staff
- Provides a model to the other students of our school's values

# Expected Responsibilities of School Captains

## **Respect:**

- Takes care of themselves and others
- takes care of the school and school property
- models respectful behaviour to other students

## **Responsibility:**

- cheerfully undertake tasks given by teachers or the Principal
- can be trusted to act sensibly
- contributes to the school and the community (volunteers, participates in school events etc)
- models responsible behaviour to other students

## **Teamwork:**

- includes others
- accepts peoples' differences
- resolves differences constructively
- models good teamwork to other students

## **Persistence:**

- tries hard
- pursues excellence
- keeps going until tasks are completed
- models persistence to other students

## **Honesty:**

- is accountable for own actions
- acts and speaks honestly
- models honest behaviour to other students