



Student Leadership Policy

Policy Document Information

Policy Name:	Student Leadership
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Compliance	
Board of Studies	Registered and Accredited Individual Non-government Schools (NSW) Manual May 2012 (incorporating changes from 2004 to 2012)
Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations	Commonwealth Schools Assistance Act 2008
Legislative requirements	NSW Education Act 1990
Other Policy Relationships	Child Protection Policy Student Welfare Policy Code of Conduct Complaints and Grievances (Conflict Resolution) Policy Pastoral Care Policy Student Leadership Policy
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1 Introduction

Student **Welfare** refers to the mental, physical, emotional and spiritual well-being of the student. Accordingly, the provision of student welfare policies and programs is essential in developing a sense of self-worth and fostering personal development. Because of the comprehensive nature of the school curriculum, student welfare will be affected by a range of matters.

It is noted that some school-based activities will be subject to a variety of 'policy areas'. It is also noted that each policy is not mutually exclusive, that is, there are implicit and explicit interrelationships between many policies.

2 Safe and Supportive Environment

All staff members must ensure students have a safe and supportive environment. A safe environment for students is one where the risk of harm is minimised and students feel secure. Harm relates not only to dangers in the built environment, involving such matters as architecture and construction, lighting, space, facilities and safety plans, but also refers to violence, physical threats, verbal abuse, threatening gestures, sexual harassment and racial vilification. A supportive environment facilitates and enhances the social, academic, physical and emotional development of students. (*Registered and Accredited Individual Non-government Schools (NSW) Manual Section 3.6.2*)

3 Student Leadership

One aim of our school is to develop and consolidate leadership within the student body. All of our students should be striving to develop their leadership skills in all areas of their lives both at school and in the wider community. The notion of student leadership is inextricably linked to the ideas of community. Students who exhibit pride in and commitment to their school community can positively influence others in the student body. For students to feel that they belong to the school community they must feel that they are able to play an active role in the decision-making processes of our school.

As a school we recognise that we must encourage all students to be leaders. As Christians we are called to be servants; to serve God and others:

“Whoever wants to become great must become a servant. Whoever wants to be first among you must be your slave. That is what the Son of Man has done. He came to serve, not to be served, and then to give away his life in exchange for the many who are held hostage.” *Matthew 20:24 The Message*

The leadership structure which operates in our school identifies that all students can be leaders through serving each other. Each student has a responsibility to identify and respond to needs in their school community.

At Kuyper we don't have student leaders who are elected to positions as representatives of their student body. Rather students are expected to lead at different times according to their gifts and strengths. More is expected from senior students in the high school and junior school.

Effective student leadership is encouraged by:

- Prior education of the student body regarding servant leadership
- Understanding the philosophy of the School
- Understanding the responsibility that all students have to the school community.

All students will be given opportunities to exercise their gifts in service these may include

- working with Leadership Staff to identify student issues and needs which can be addressed at a level.
- compeering assemblies and other school functions, this will include prayer, bible reading etc.
- taking an active role in School devotions and leading their peers in prayer.
- convening meetings with Houses for sporting activities eg: athletics and swimming carnivals
- representing the school at events in the community. For example, Anzac Day.
- attending Executive meetings to address issues facing the school body and to 'touch base' with the Principal and Heads of School.