



# School Captain and Vice-Captain Election Process 2022-2023

## RATIONALE

### What is student leadership?

Student leadership encompasses many of the ideas and intentions that are often described as student participation, student agency or student voice.

The term student leadership refers to education principles and practices that give young people the opportunities and support to find their voices, to participate in decision-making, and to understand their rights and responsibilities as active citizens.

When students are given the skills and opportunity to lead within their schools, they are empowered to have a real impact on their learning and school environment and are prepared to participate meaningfully in their community.

### Principles of effective student leadership:

- recognise students have legitimate perspectives and opinions on issues that matter: in the classroom, in the school, and in the community
- give students an active role in influencing decisions about these issues as well as in the implementation of these decisions
- enable students to participate as active young citizens

### Why is student leadership important to schools?

In addition to the rights of young people, student leadership practices are valuable for the ongoing improvement of schooling and society.

By allowing and supporting students to be active participants in their schooling, teachers and principals can play a vital role in improving their educational engagement and social awareness. Participation in the life of the school and the community is an important means of fostering the development of skills that provide a foundation for young people's wider active citizenship while also meeting more specific educational purposes such as improved student engagement, learning and outcomes.

## STUDENT LEADERSHIP at HWMHS

Student leadership opportunities exist across a broad spectrum of areas that can be divided into three separate groups.

Formal: School Captains, School Representative Council, Sport House Captains

Informal: Senior student leaders volunteers: e.g., student volunteers for civics and citizenship activities

Curricula: within class opportunities, co curricula, e.g., debating, public speaking, exhibitions and extra curricula activities e.g., sport

# SCHOOL CAPTAIN AND VICE CAPTAIN ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

## General roles and responsibilities

- Member of the SRC
- Formal assemblies
- Support all school activities
- Formal ceremonies
- Leadership forums and training
- Meet guests and dignitaries

## ELECTION PROCESS

### School Captains

The school captains are selected through a process to lead the school student body and must represent Hay War Memorial High School as exemplar students in every facet of their operation. Captains are elected in Term 3 every year. Students are required to submit an application and present a speech addressing the criteria within the application. Following the speech, students and staff will vote on preferred captains (using the preferential system of voting). The order of names on a ballot paper will be randomly selected. The selected captains and vice captains will be announced on the day of the Captains Induction.

### Aim

To provide the most equitable process for applicants to be selected as school captains and vice captains.

### Procedure

#### Week 7 (or the week after the trial exams) Term 3 2022

- Year 11 informed of captain and vice-captain election process
- Candidates wishing to nominate must collect an application form on the Monday from the Year 11 Advisor (or their delegate).

#### Specific Criteria

Potential candidates must have had:

- Regular attendance during the senior year (from Term 4, Week 6).
- No unresolved N Warnings (not applicable for 2022).
- Not been suspended from school during the senior year (from Term 4, Week 6).

### **Week 7 Term 3 2022**

- Applications, either paper or electronic, must be submitted to the Deputy Principal by the Thursday of Week 7 – no later than 3:10pm ( [janine.nelson@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:janine.nelson@det.nsw.edu.au) ).

### **Week 7 Term 3 2022**

- Candidates meet with Deputy Principal on the Friday to ensure the specific criteria has been met. Successful candidates are provided an outline of the time timeline for election process and requirements for captains' speeches.

### **Week 8 Term 3 2022**

- Speeches to whole school on Thursday period 3  
Speech parameters can include, but not limited to: skills and attributes applicant brings to the position, how applicant has demonstrated leadership and the role of captain.
- Voting conducted Thursday lunch using the preferential system of voting to determine the two vice-captains and two captains. Note: prior to voting an explanation to all students will occur explaining the preferential voting system. The order of candidate names on the ballot is chosen at random e.g. names pulled out of hat/box.
- Vote counting occurs after the vote by two administration staff, with two executive members as scrutineers. The names of the two vice-captains and two captains are not to be disclosed prior to the induction ceremony. The principal is to be advised of the successful candidates, unless already a scrutineer. Candidates who are not elected as vice-captain or captain are to be informed within 24 hours of the vote.

## Application for the position of school captain and vice-captain 2022-2023

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Roll Call: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicants are required to submit a one-page application addressing the following criteria. This will be used as a basis for aspects of your speech in front of the whole school.

Demonstrated application toward seeking academic success

Demonstrated student leadership skills

Demonstrated commitment to the school community

Demonstrated commitment to HWM High School values

In addition to this, please include an aspirational statement that advocates how you can make a difference to the school community as elected school captain and/or vice captain 2022-2023.

**Statement supporting factual information contained in this application**

The details of the skills and knowledge written about in this application are correct

Applicant's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

**Year Adviser's support**

I support the application for the position of senior student leader/school captain

Year adviser: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Carer support**

I support my child's application for senior student leader/ school captain and understand the role and commitment that this position holds.

Parent name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_