

Appointment for Positions of Responsibility

Nurturing good Pupil Leaders is an important element to St. Bernadette's success as a school. Pupils are encouraged to develop the necessary skills to enable them to take responsibility for their school and to then contribute positively both to the school and wider community.

Pupil leaders, at St. Bernadette's, consist of the Head Boy, Head Girl, Deputy Head Boy, Deputy Head Girl, House Captains and Sports Captains. Together, they work to improve the school and suggest solutions to various dilemmas.

In previous years, Year 6 pupils hoping to be given a position of responsibility have written a speech which they have then read aloud during an assembly. Following this, all pupils in school cast their votes to decide who they would like to represent them. We have found that, sometimes, younger pupils will vote for a friend or a 'gimmick'. In order to ensure that children in Year 6 are selected based on merit, the process this year has changed. After researching the practice of other primary schools, we have made the decision that Pupil Leaders will be selected, through an application process, by governors, the Senior Leadership Team and all staff.

The appointment process for positions of responsibility

Anyone standing for appointment must be able to demonstrate commitment to the school and involvement in the life of the school. The process, outlined below, will be explained to the children in Year 6.

Candidates need to submit an application form (given out in class) stating why they would like to be considered and how they will demonstrate excellent leadership and ultimately a positive ambassador for St Bernadette's school.

They can have help from family and friends with their application – in fact we encourage this! They must consider how their own personal qualities support them in becoming a leader within St Bernadette's.

Candidates will be shortlisted by the Senior Leadership Team and those pupils who have been shortlisted will then be invited to make a presentation during a whole-school assembly. Based on the children's application and presentations, staff and governors will vote for those pupils they feel best meet the requirements to be a Pupil Leader at St. Bernadette's.

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Head Boy & Head Girl

The Head Boy and Head Girl at St. Bernadette's play a vital role in the life of the school. They are the pupils' 'public face' of the school, representing their peers in a number of situations. They may be required to speak to groups of parents, students and teachers.

Some duties may be during break time, lunchtime, after-school or evening.

Their duties include:

- Welcoming visitors to the school
- Making presentations in assembly
- Support in planning events
- Giving tours of the school
- Preparing and giving speeches at school events.

As such, the Head Boy and Head Girl need to have qualities that will enable them to fulfill these demands.

All Positions of Responsibility

The following is a list of the qualities we are looking for:

- Reliability & time-management
- Initiative & commitment
- Communication skills (the ability to speak in front of others as well as listen to them)
- Organisation (personal and the ability to work in teams)
- Perseverance & determination
- Humility (the role represents the school, but at the same time it represents a service to the other pupils)
- Responsibility & leadership
- Resilience in the face of adversity

We look forward to reading your completed application forms – Good luck!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Alexis Satterthwaite
Acting Head Teacher
Mrs. Jill Greenhalgh
Acting Assistant Head/Year 6 Teacher