

GRIP



GRIP LEADERSHIP

Term 1 2017

HELPING STUDENT LEADERS

A **BLUEPRINT** FOR THE FIRST STUDENT LEADERSHIP MEETING OF THE YEAR

Pages 4-5



DIFFERENT APPROACHES TO STUDENT LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Pages 6-7

INSIDE THIS ISSUE OF THE NEWSLETTER

Latest From Our
Social Media

Page 2

Registration's
NOW OPEN

Page 3

Professional Development
for Staff

Page 8



GRIP LEADERSHIP

KEEP UP TO DATE WITH THE GRIP LEADERSHIP TEAM



FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM
[@gripleadership](https://www.instagram.com/gripleadership)



FOLLOW US ON TWITTER
[@gripleadership](https://twitter.com/gripleadership)



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK
[Grip Leadership](https://www.facebook.com/GripLeadership)

Below are pictures that our travelling team post every few hours across all of our social media platforms during recent conferences and school seminars.



REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN!

REGISTER NOW FOR THE GRIP STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE NEAR YOU!

Lock the date into your school's calendar now and register online to secure your school's booking.

AUSTRALIAN PRIMARY CONFERENCES

NEW SOUTH WALES

Sydney Option #1	8th Mar 2017	Sydney Olympic Park Sports Centre
Sydney Option #2	18th May 2017	Sydney Olympic Park Sports Centre
Goulburn	31st Mar 2017	Goulburn Workers Club
Moree	1st May 2017	Moree Memorial Hall
Tamworth	2nd May 2017	Tamworth War Memorial Town Hall
Armidale	3rd May 2017	Armidale Ex Services Club
Lismore	4th May 2017	Lismore City Hall
Tweed / Coolangatta	5th May 2017	Twin Towns Clubs & Resorts
Dubbo	15th May 2017	Dubbo RSL Memorial Hall
Bathurst	16th May 2017	Bathurst Memorial Ent. Centre
Newcastle	17th May 2017	University of Newcastle
Wollongong	19th May 2017	University of Wollongong
Albury/Wodonga	22nd May 2017	Commercial Club Albury
Wagga Wagga	23rd May 2017	Charles Sturt University
Griffith	24th May 2017	Griffith Leagues Club
Central Coast	29th May 2017	Central Coast Leagues Club
Forster	30th May 2017	Club Forster
Port Macquarie	31st May 2017	Panthers Port Macquarie
Coffs Harbour	1st Jun 2017	Coffs Harbour Racing Club

QUEENSLAND

Brisbane	17th Mar 2017	Sleeman Sports Complex
Cairns	6th Feb 2017	Pullman Reef Hotel Casino
Townsville	9th Feb 2017	Mercure Inn, Townsville
Gladstone	13th Feb 2017	Boyne Tannum Community Centre
Mackay	14th Feb 2017	Mackay Ent. & Conv. Centre
Bundaberg	14th Feb 2017	Brothers Sports Club
Emerald	15th Feb 2017	Emerald Town Hall
Maryborough	15th Feb 2017	Brolga Theatre
Rockhampton	16th Feb 2017	Rockhampton Leagues Club
Sunshine Coast	16th Feb 2017	Lake Kawana Community Centre
Kingaroy	13th Mar 2017	Kingaroy Town Hall
Toowoomba	14th Mar 2017	Highfields Cultural Centre
Coolangatta / Tweed	5th May 2017	Twin Towns Clubs & Resorts

VICTORIA

Melbourne Option #1	24th Feb 2017	Melbourne Con. & Exhibition Centre
Melbourne Option #2	20th Apr 2017	Moonee Valley Racing Club
Sale	19th Apr 2017	Sale Memorial Hall
Geelong	21st Apr 2016	Geelong West Town Hall
Shepparton *NEW*	26th Apr 2016	East Bank Centre
Bendigo	27th Apr 2017	Bendigo Stadium
Ballarat	28th Apr 2017	Federation University
Wodonga / Albury	22nd May 2017	Commercial Club Albury
Mildura	25th May 2017	Quality Hotel Mildura Grand

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Adelaide	21st Feb 2017	Adelaide Entertainment Centre
Mount Gambier	22nd Feb 2017	Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre
Port Augusta	28th May 2017	Lea Memorial Theatre

TASMANIA

Hobart	28th Feb 2017	Hotel Grand Chancellor Hobart
Burnie	1st Mar 2017	Burnie Arts & Function Centre
Launceston	2nd Mar 2017	The Tailrace Centre

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Perth	10th Mar 2017	Perth Convention & Exhibition Centre
Esperance	20th Mar 2017	Esperance Civic Centre
Albany	21st Mar 2017	Albany Town Hall
Bunbury	24th Mar 2017	South West Italian Club
Rockingham	31st Mar 2017	Gary Holland Community Centre
Geraldton	5th Apr 2017	Queen Elizabeth II Centre

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

Canberra	30th Mar 2017	Australian Institute of Sport
----------	---------------	-------------------------------

NORTHERN TERRITORY

Darwin	28th Mar 2017	Darwin Entertainment Centre
--------	---------------	-----------------------------

AUSTRALIAN SECONDARY CONFERENCES

NEW SOUTH WALES

Sydney Option 1	28th Oct 2016	Sydney Olympic Park Sports Centre
Sydney Option 2	21st Oct 2016	Western Sydney University
Sydney Option 3	7th Mar 2017	Sydney Olympic Park Sports Centre
Wollongong	20th Oct 2016	WIN Entertainment Centre
Albury / Wodonga	26th Oct 2016	Commercial Club Albury
Newcastle	31st Oct 2016	University of Newcastle
Dubbo *NEW*	1st Nov 2016	Dubbo RSL Memorial Club
Tamworth	2nd Nov 2016	Tamworth Town Hall
Coffs Harbour	3rd Nov 2016	C.ex Coffs Club
Lismore *NEW*	4th Nov 2016	Southern Cross University

QUEENSLAND

Brisbane	16th Mar 2017	Sleeman Sports Complex
Gold Coast	7th Nov 2016	Griffith University (Southport)
Cairns	7th Feb 2017	Pullman Reef Hotel Casino
Townsville	8th Feb 2017	Mercure Inn Townsville
Mackay	13th Feb 2017	Mackay Ent. & Conv. Centre
Rockhampton	17th Feb 2017	Rockhampton Leagues Club
Sunshine Coast	17th Feb 2017	Lake Kawana Community Centre
Toowoomba	15th Mar 2017	Highfields Cultural Centre

NORTHERN TERRITORY

Darwin	27th Mar 2017	Hilton Hotel Darwin
--------	---------------	---------------------

VICTORIA

Melbourne	23rd Feb 2017	Melbourne Conv. & Ex. Centre
Mildura	24th Oct 2016	Latrobe University
Ballarat	25th Oct 2016	Federation University
Wodonga / Albury	26th Oct 2016	Commercial Club Albury

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Adelaide	20th Feb 2017	Adelaide Entertainment Centre
Mount Gambier *NEW*	22nd Feb 2017	Main Corner Complex

TASMANIA

Hobart	27th Feb 2017	Hotel Grand Chancellor Hobart
Launceston	3rd Mar 2017	The Tailrace Centre

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Perth	9th Mar 2017	Perth Convention & Exhibition Centre
Albany	22nd Mar 2017	Albany Entertainment Centre
Bunbury	23rd Mar 2017	South West Italian Club
Rockingham	30th Mar 2017	Gary Holland Community Centre
Geraldton	4th Apr 2017	Queen Elizabeth II Centre

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

Canberra Option 1	27th Oct 2016	Australian Institute of Sport
Canberra Option 2	6th Mar 2017	Australian Institute of Sport

NEW ZEALAND CONFERENCES

PRIMARY CONFERENCES

Christchurch	10th Nov 2016	The Celebration Events Centre
Dunedin	11th Nov 2016	Dunedin Public Art Gallery
Wellington (NEW DATE)	6th April 2017	Pipitea Marae & Function Centre
Palmerston North	15th Nov 2016	Palmerston North Convention Centre
Rotorua	16th Nov 2016	Holiday Inn, Rotorua
Auckland	17th Nov 2016	Vodafone Events Centre
Queenstown	7th April 2017	City Impact Conference Centre

SECONDARY CONFERENCES

Christchurch	10th Apr 2017	The Celebration Events Centre
Wellington	11th Apr 2017	Pipitea Marae & Function Centre
Auckland	12th Apr 2017	Vodafone Events Centre

REGISTER ONLINE at www.gripleadership.com



GRIPLEADERSHIP

A BLUEPRINT FOR THE FIRST STUDENT LEADERSHIP MEETING OF THE YEAR

One of the highly practical elements of a student leadership team is gathering together for meetings, and the trajectory of your student leadership team's success can be determined in part by the effectiveness of these meetings. Whilst your students may have a high level of enthusiasm and vision, they may be a little light on experience, and setting them up to succeed in a meeting context is an excellent contribution for supervising staff members to make. With this in mind, the following is a simple meeting template for the first student leadership meeting of the year. Some of these agenda items may only feature in one meeting, while others will clearly be perennial.

1) OPENING/WELCOME (Teacher/Chair)

It's important to have a clear beginning and end for meetings, so that students develop a sense of value for the time that they invest in this part of student leadership, as well as for due process in meetings. An opening or welcome from the teacher in charge is a good idea at this point, and sets the meeting off with an official tone. During this introduction, explain any expectations you have for the meeting.

2) KEY INTRODUCTIONS

If the team is meeting for the first time, it is normally essential for each person to introduce themselves. If you are feeling creative, you can utilise a basic game or activity for this. Also introduce any key roles/responsibilities that any members of the team have been assigned specifically.

3) CURRENT CALENDAR & EXISTING EVENTS

Rather than diving straight into planning new activities for the year ahead (which many students will want to do), it can be wise to first examine what is already decided. Very rarely do student leaders begin their tenure with a blank slate – far more commonly, there are events and activities that they have inherited and are required to steward. Reinforcing these commitments will help to balance out the excitement and brainstorming that is to come, and remind your students that they are part of an on-going role in the school, rather than being isolated in their own contribution. Tackling these events at the beginning of the meeting will help to identify the space in your calendar for planning new events and initiatives. Much of this could be prepared beforehand by the teacher-in-charge, if only to ensure that substantial time isn't allocated to this agenda item.

4) BRAINSTORM NEW EVENTS

An opportunity to brainstorm and share ideas is exciting for most student leaders, and adequate time should be given to this in the first meeting. A good way to run this part of the meeting is to allow all types of ideas, and to use the rule 'no ideas are bad ideas'. This way, students can feel free to contribute to their heart's content without their idea dying on the table. Brainstorming should usually be conducted in this way, with students feeling empowered to have and share ideas in a safe space. It's important that this agenda item has a clear duration



(perhaps 10 minutes), otherwise it can easily swamp the remainder of the meeting time!

5) BRAINSTORM OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS

Now that you have a list of potential events, it's important to acknowledge the other types of contributions that student leaders will need to make. This will be different at every school, but there are always various tasks that are expected of student leaders in their role, and these should already be known before the first meeting. This section of the meeting is more about answering the question 'How *else* can we help our school, outside of the events that we run? How *else* can we make a difference?' If you need some help brainstorming ideas for this area, GRIP Leadership has designed a resource entitled *101 Opportunities for Student Leaders* that will expand the discussion beyond events in the calendar.

6) OUR FIRST PROJECT - WITH ACTION LIST

It's now time to draw students towards the 'pointy end' of the meeting – actually discussing and planning the first project of their time as student leaders. This could be anything at all that is going to be meaningful for the school/community, but should be something that is achievable, and something that will set them up for further success and effectiveness in the weeks and months to come. Ignoring this agenda item will risk sending the message to students that leadership is about contributing ideas, and leaving others to take action.

7) OTHER BUSINESS

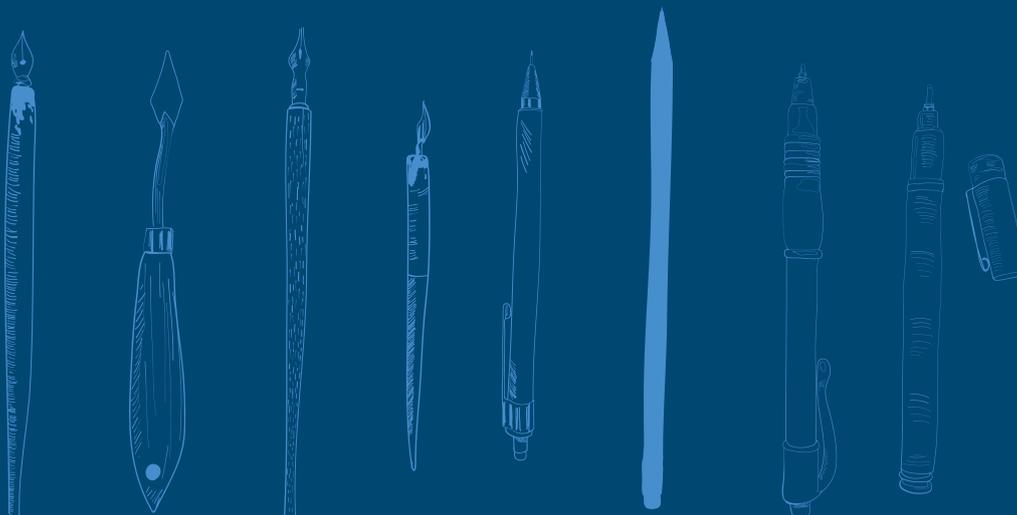
Most meetings will have an agenda item allocated to other business, and you may have information that's important to communicate about up-coming commitments. This

would be an ideal time to communicate these important pieces of information, as the excitement and 'bulk' of the meeting has been completed.

8) NEXT MEETING

appropriate way to finish the current meeting. Meetings should be regular whenever possible – and make sure that everyone has made a note of the time, date, and location of the next meeting.

Getting your meeting culture off to a great start is an important investment to make in your student leadership team. Using the above agenda items as a blueprint, you can scale your first meeting to cater for the capacity of your students as well as the time you can allocate to a meeting, and set your students up for an effective year ahead!



DIFFERENT APPROACHES TO STUDENT LEADERSHIP TRAINING

There are many ways to approach the cultivation of student leadership within the school environment. Training is one essential component of a healthy leadership culture for any school, regardless of the form that it takes. At GRIP Leadership, we are proud of the way we help students at our large annual conferences. We do however, believe, that outstanding leadership teams are built by approaching training through a variety of means. Here are some common (and not-so-common) suggestions for facilitating training for your student leaders.

1) ORGANISE A CAMP

A camp is a great idea for running focused student leadership training. Getting away from the school environment immediately provides a new frame of reference for your team, and can facilitate some different opportunities that might not be available at school. Even an one-night camp can give you a concentrated period of time for your students to focus, and allow you to map out training content and experiences that aren't possible in a student leadership meeting. As a suggestion, balance your schedule between key content and fun activities, and between practical skills and qualities/characteristics. Camp's are most useful if a student leadership team consists of students from multiple year levels, where strong relationships may not yet exist.

2) ATTEND A STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

GRIP Leadership started running student leadership conferences over 10 years ago, and in that time well over 100,000 student leaders have attended one of these conferences. Why do we choose to do so? Simply put, these conferences are effective. We hear from school after school that the leadership culture and effectiveness of their team has increased following their attendance, and that there are many ways to integrate the conference content in practical ways back at school. As an added bonus, students interact with leaders from other schools throughout the day, and have opportunities to exchange ideas and strategies for student leadership that they can apply back at school straight away.

3) BUILD YOUR LEADERSHIP LIBRARY

Having a leadership library is an investment that provides returns year after year, and is something valuable for next year's leaders to inherit. Student leadership resources can provide content and structure for your leadership training needs, and can allow your training to be spread across the year. You can draw on these resources at each student leadership team meeting, or encourage students to access



these resources in their own time. Some schools also require students to read allocated leadership resources before applying for a leadership position.

4) ASSIGN PROSPECTIVE LEADERS A CURRENT LEADER AS A MENTOR

This training strategy works particularly well when the leaders for the coming year are selected before the end of the school year. Current leaders can have, as one of their final tasks, the chance to mentor next year's leaders (or prospective leaders) by showing them the ropes, and by having them attend a meeting or two. Mentees may even assist their mentors with events and activities that are being run during the final weeks or months of the year. This will give you a running start on the year ahead, and will allow many of the responsibilities and expectations to be experienced before your new student leaders even begin.

5) REGULAR SESSIONS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

It may well go without saying, but taking time throughout the year for on-going training is important for the success of a student leadership team. Regular opportunities to work 'on' student leadership, as well as the normal working 'in' student leadership will ensure that your leaders are more aware, reflective, and considered in their words and actions

throughout the year. It will also afford your team the opportunity to learn new skills and strategies to engage in their role at an even higher level. Spreading training out across the year can also provide an opportunity to vary the training that your students receive. If finding time for these sessions is difficult they can be run afterschool or as breakfast gatherings. Consider allocating groups of students to run each training session for their peers.

6) START A LEADERSHIP BOOKCLUB

You may have heard the phrase 'Leaders are Readers'. Reading allows someone to absorb and reflect upon the wisdom and experience of others, and to explore and learn beyond their own circumstances. Creating a leadership book club where student leaders are always reading something new relating to leadership will provide new opportunities, new discussions and new insights for your student leaders to apply in their leadership context. You can choose from the leadership classics a few titles that are age-appropriate, and you can choose browse the range of books by GRIP Leadership covering a number of different topics and themes that are tailored especially to student leaders.

As you can see, student leadership training need not feel like another class that students attend, nor a burden to the staff who work with the leaders. With a bit of creativity, students can look forward to learning more and benefiting from training throughout the year. This, in turn, will build more effective leaders in the long run, and contribute to your school's leadership culture for years to come.



GRIP Professional Development for Educators

ONLINE TEACHERS PD PORTAL - **BRAND NEW!!**

Our new online leadership PD hub for educators features entire PD courses and leadership training handbooks for teachers.

12 months access is \$199 per year, but **FREE ACCESS** is granted to all schools who purchase the conference resources special offer (see back page of this magazine).

Visit: gripleadership.com/PD

VISIT THE
CONFERENCE
INFO TABLE
TO ASK ABOUT
FREE ACCESS

IN-SCHOOL FULL-DAY PD WORKSHOPS

We offer specialised leadership professional development courses for schools. They are intentionally designed for classroom teachers and administrators of all levels - from graduate teachers through to lead teachers, principals and members of the executive.

Enquire with Geoff Strong, our dedicated Coordinator of Professional Development, via geoff@gripleadership.com

