



Hallam Happenings

16 February 2024 2024 Term 1 #2
<http://www.hallam-ps.vic.edu.au/>



Hallam Primary School's learning and teaching programs support and promote the principles and practice of Australian democracy, including a commitment to elected government, the rule of law, equal rights for all before the law, freedom of religion, freedom of speech and association and the values of openness and tolerance.
 Hallam Primary School has a zero tolerance approach to child abuse.
We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land where we work and live, the Bunurong People of the Kulin nation, and pay our respects to Elders past and present.

School Council Elections

The School Council Election process commences with the Notice of Election and Call for Nominations. Information about the election process and timeframe is included in this newsletter.

School council election process and timetable	
Name of the school: HALLAM PRIMARY SCHOOL	

Letter	Event	DATE
a)	Notice of election and call for nominations	Friday 16 February 2024
b)	Closing date for nominations	Friday 23 February 2024
c)	Date by which the list of candidates and nominators will be posted	Wednesday 28 February 2024
d)	Date by which ballot papers will be prepared and distributed	On or before Friday 1 March 2024
e)	Close of ballot	4:00PM Friday 8 March 2024
f)	Vote count	08/03/2024
g)	Declaration of poll	12/03/2024
h)	Special council meeting to co-opt community members (the Principal will preside)	N/A
i)	First council meeting to elect office bearers (the Principal will preside)	21/03/2024

School Council Elections – information for parents. What is a school council and what does it do?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the broad direction of a school, in accordance with Ministerial Order 1280 Constitution of Government School Councils, and the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*. In doing this, a school council may directly influence the quality of education for students.

Who is on the school council?

For most primary school councils, there are several possible categories of membership.

A mandated elected parent member category –members of this category generally comprise more than one third of the council's total membership. Department employees can be parent members at their child's school providing that they are not engaged in work at the school.

A mandated elected school employee member category –

members of this category make up no more than one-third of membership. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

An optional community member category –

members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experience. Department employees are not eligible to be community members. A small number of school councils have nominee members.

For all schools with a Year 7 and above cohort, there is an additional category of membership: A mandated elected student member category, two positions.

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

Why is parent membership so important?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills and a range of experiences and knowledge that can help inform and shape the direction of the school. Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

Do I need special experience to be on school council?

Each member brings their own valuable skills and knowledge to the role, however, in order to successfully perform their duties, councillors may need to gain some new skills and knowledge. It is important to have an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

Code of conduct for school councillors

School councils in Victoria are public entities as defined by the *Public Administration Act 2004*. School councillors must comply with the Code of Conduct for Directors of Victorian Public Entities issued by the Victorian Public Sector Commission. The Code of Conduct is based on the Victorian public sector values and requires councillors to:

act with honesty and integrity – be truthful, open and clear about their motives and declare any real, potential or perceived conflict of interest and duty

act in good faith in the best interests of the school – work cooperatively with other councillors and the school community, be reasonable, and make all decisions with the best interests of students foremost in their minds

act fairly and impartially – consider all relevant facts of an issue before making a decision, seek to have a balanced view, never give special treatment to a person or group and never act from self-interest

use information appropriately – respect confidentiality and use information for the purpose for which it was made available

exercise due care, diligence and skill – accept responsibility for decisions and do what is best for the school

use the position appropriately – not use the position as a councillor to gain an advantage

act in a financially responsible manner – observe all the above principles when making financial decisions

comply with relevant legislation and policies – know what legislation and policies are relevant for which decisions and obey the law

demonstrate leadership and stewardship – set a good example, encourage a culture of accountability, manage risks effectively, exercise care and responsibility to keep the school strong and sustainable.

Indemnity for school council members

School councillors are indemnified against any liability in respect of any loss or damage suffered by the council or any other person in respect of anything necessarily or reasonably done, or omitted to be done by the councillor in good faith in:

the exercise of a power or the performance of a function of a councillor, or

the reasonable belief that the act or omission was in the exercise of a power or the performance of a function of a council.

In other words, school councillors are not legally liable for any loss or damage suffered by council or others as a result of reasonable actions taken in good faith.

How can you become involved?

By participating in, and voting in the school council elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might consider:

- standing for election as a member of the school council
- encouraging another person to stand for election.

What do you need to do to stand for election?

The principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for Nominations in Term 1 of each year. Council elections must be completed by 31 March, unless varied by the Minister for Education.

If you stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or, you can nominate yourself in the parent member category. You can only be nominated by another member of the same category that you are eligible for (e.g. a member of the parent electorate may only nominate another parent of that electorate). **Nomination forms are available from the Administration Office from 8:30am-4:15pm.**

Department employees with a child enrolled at a school where they are not engaged in work, are eligible to nominate for parent membership at that school.

Return your completed nomination form to the principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt via post, email or by hand delivery.

Generally, if there are more nominations than vacancies a ballot will be conducted in the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

Remember

- Consider standing for election to school council.
- Ask the principal for instructions if you are not sure what to do.
- Be sure to vote if the election goes to ballot.
- Contact the Principal if you are unsure about what is required at any stage of the election process.

Form 2: notice of election and call for nominations

An election is to be conducted for members of the school council of *(school name below)*

HALLAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by 4.00pm on
FRIDAY 23 FEBRUARY 2024

The ballot will close at 4.00pm on *(insert day, month and year)*.

FRIDAY 8 MARCH 2024

Following the closing of nominations, a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school.

The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows:

Membership category

Parent member

Term of office

Year

From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in

2024

to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in

2026

Number of positions:

3

Membership category

School employee member

Term of office

Year

From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in

2024

to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in

2026

Number of positions:

1

Membership category

Student member

Term of office

Year

From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 20

to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 20

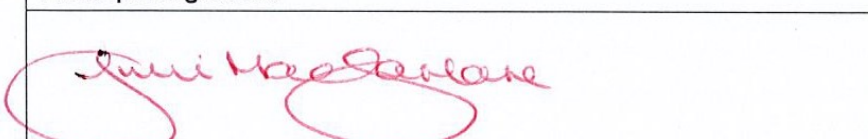
Number of positions:

0

Following the closing of nominations, a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school.

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.

Principal signature





Hallam Primary School's

Annual Colour Run

Friday 23rd February

It's time for our annual colour run!!

In 2024, there will be no cost to participate.

Each student will get sunglasses, rainbow headband,
icy pole and awesome colour powder!!

Permission to participate in the 2024 HPS Annual Colour Run

Please complete the details below and return to the school with no later than

9:30AM Thursday 22nd February

Student name:..... Class:.....

I give permission for my child (named above) to participate in the Hallam primary school annual colour run on Friday 23rd February

Parent name.....

Parent signature.....

Parents are welcome to come and watch from the top oval behind the BER building on the day. This event will start at 2:15PM

The event consent form is now available for parents on the Compass App. Please login using your username and password to view the event details, give permission.



Hallam Primary School

Annual Colour Run

Friday 23rd February

- If it RAINS on the day, we will NOT run the event
- We will reschedule the event to a later date

Questions?

- Can we wear any coloured tshirt, plain or printed? **YES**
- The best colour to wear is a plain black or white tshirt
- Can I wear just my UNIFORM? **YES** (if your parent is happy for you to do so)
- Is it a FREE DRESS DAY? **NO**
- Can I wear different shorts/pants? **YES**
- Do I wear my School Hat? **YES**

Other stuff!

- Please pack your 'Colour Run' clothes in your bag or wear under your uniform and you can change into them before the event.
- If you Do Not want to be 'powdered' we will pop a sticker on your shirt so that you don't get 'powdered'!

We just want everyone to have a FUN afternoon to celebrate being back at school for 2024!

Kerry Fenton - Event Co ordinator

GET ACTIVE KIDS VOUCHER PROGRAM ROUND 7 IS NOW OPEN.

Hello

GET ACTIVE KIDS IS excited to announce that **Round 7 of the Get Active Kids Voucher Program** is now open!

In this round, applications for a voucher or a reimbursement will close when the allocation has been exhausted. Vouchers expire 30 April 2024 so members of your community can use their voucher for a summer sport, winter sport or term-based activity.

IMPORTANT DATES

Round 7 opens for applications for a voucher or reimbursement: 10:00 am Tuesday 10 October 2023 until allocation exhausted

Reimbursement expenditure dates: from 8 May 2023 until allocation is exhausted

Vouchers expiry date: Tuesday 30 April 2024

Portal open for Activity Providers to redeem vouchers: Tuesday 10 October 2023 to Tuesday 21 May 2024.

Eligible families can apply for \$200 vouchers and use them at a registered Get Active Kids Voucher Activity Provider without having to worry about upfront costs.

The vouchers can help pay for sporting equipment, uniforms and memberships in a range of activities from club cricket to dance. There's also an opportunity to enrol toddlers in a range of activities including important learn to swim classes.

To be eligible, kids need to be aged 0 to 18 years, a Victorian resident, named on a valid Commonwealth Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card and on a valid Medicare Card at the time of application.

A special consideration stream is also available to support children residing in Victorian Care Services, temporary or provisional visa holders, undocumented migrants and international students up to 18 years at the time of application. More information on the special consideration stream is available on the website.

For more information about the program visit getactive.vic.gov.au/vouchers

or email us at getactivekids@sport.vic.gov.au

Kind Regards

Get Active Kids Voucher Program Team
Sport and Recreation Victoria

121 Exhibition Street, Melbourne, Victoria Australia 3000
www.getactive.vic.gov.au/vouchers/





Preps attend full time from 04 March 2024

Labour Day Holiday Monday 11 March

End Term 1 Thursday 28 March

Hallam PS closed

Dismissal 2:30pm

February / March 2024						
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT	SUN
12	13 Playgroup 9:00am-Hall 	14 Preps do not attend	15 School Council 7:00pm	16 SC Elections– Notice of Election and Call for Nominations	17	18
19	20 Playgroup 9:00am-Hall 	21 Preps do not attend	22	23 Colour Run! District Swimming Close of Nominations 4:00pm	24	25
26	27 Playgroup 9:00am-Hall 	28 Preps do not attend Posting of Nominations	29	01 MARCH Ballots distributed	02	03
04 PREPS ATTEND FULLTIME	05 Playgroup 9:00am-Hall  School Review Visit	06	07	08 Close of Ballot 4:00pm Counting	09	10
11 LABOUR DAY HOLIDAY Hallam PS Closed	12 Playgroup 9:00am-Hall  Validation Day Poll Declaration	13 NAPLAN	14 NAPLAN Free Dress Day For SSR	15 NAPLAN Casey Netball Clinics Y3-6	16	17
18 NAPLAN	19 NAPLAN	20 NAPLAN	21 NAPLAN School Council 7:00pm	22 NAPLAN Movie Night Y5 & 6	23	24