

STUDENT LEADERSHIP POSITIONS OPEN FOR APPLICATIONS!

Dear Buckswood student,

As a future leader of the world, we expect that you are keen to learn about how you can start that journey at Buckswood. You have no doubt at some point this year seen one of your fellow students in a position of leadership and thought 'I could do that!' or even, 'I could do that better!'

Well, this is your chance to get involved! Every year, we look back at the year that has just passed and look to see how we can improve our student leadership opportunities. We seek to ensure the continuity of tradition whilst at the same time embracing change and looking ahead. We are grateful for the commitment made this school year by our outgoing student leaders and are now looking to appoint the 'leaders of tomorrow'. In order to get involved, here's what you need to know:

I. The leadership roles available

- A. Senior Prefects (The Lords and Ladies of the School!) – These are our senior students (so students moving from Lower 6th into Upper 6th in September). There are 4 positions available – each Prefect will be responsible for one of our Houses (School, Milne, Kipling, Wells) and will ensure that their House is engaged in school-wide activities, that they know when they are on duty, that they are taking part in academics as well as co-curricular events and that they are not last in House Points on Friday! We are seeking students who care about the values of the school, who are good role models and who understand what it means to be a student at Buckswood. You will set the tone for the year ahead and the eyes of the school will be upon you! Senior prefects will also have responsibility for ensuring that English is spoken around the school during the academic day and will run the 'red card' system.
- B. Residence captains (The residential motivators!) – This is a re-branding of the 'blue gown' prefects. We are seeking students who want to inspire and help other students living in the boarding environment to get involved with activities, to support each other, build a sense of 'residence spirit' and help their resident tutor in getting everyone out of bed, ready for inspections and on time to things. You will be a shoulder to cry on at times, a source of inspiration, someone who gets on with others and understands the challenges faced as a Buckswood student – but also someone who understands that as a society we need to operate within the rules! You will be a vital cog in the residential provision at Buckswood. These posts are open to all students currently in form 4 or above.
- C. Junior prefects (The leaders of the Junior School!) – Just as at the top of the school there are leaders, we are seeking students who wish to lead at the junior end of the school. Initially we will be seeking one boy and one girl but as the year goes on, there is scope for more leaders to be added. Unlike this academic year, these positions are not linked to a particular House, but are linked to leading the junior school (Forms 1 to 3). You will be key to helping your students learn how to do a bow tie, understanding what the traditions are in the dining room, helping people find their books and classrooms and generally being a role model and support for the teachers leading the junior school. These positions are open to students currently in form 2, moving up into form 3 in September 2020. Junior prefects will also have responsibility for ensuring that English is spoken around the junior school during the academic day and will report 'red cards' to the Senior prefects.
- D. Student council (Parliamentary representatives!) – If you want to be directly involved in helping the school improve then this is for you! The student council meets once every half of term (6 meetings per year) and discusses issues that are on the minds of students. It provides a direct student voice to Mr. Sutton and the school leadership and enables you to learn the art of diplomacy and how to enact change from within an organisation. We are seeking a Head of Student Council along with at least student council members. These positions are open to students in any year group.
- E. School ambassadors (The salesmen and women!) – no doubt you have seen a family going on a tour around the school at some point. You may have had to stand up when they came into your classroom or given them a polite greeting as you passed them around the school. We are seeking students who are proud of their school, who love talking about their experience at Buckswood and the opportunities it has provided them and who see themselves with a future in Sales and Marketing! This is a new position and any students selected to this post will be asked to help our sales team on tours occasionally, to assist on Open Mornings and possibly be 'Buckswood ambassadors' on trips to fairs and other marketing opportunities. These positions are open to students in any year group and we want students from a variety of language groups to apply.
- F. House representatives – do you want to take the lead in your House on sports? On drama? On art? Do you want to help your House with fundraising or charity work? We are looking for next year's House

representatives who will work with their Senior Prefect to ensure that their House is represented across the school. These positions are open to students currently in form 3 and above, although younger students if keen can certainly contribute. These appointments will be made in September so at present you just need to think about what you might like to do!

- G. The XII Club. The XII Club is made up of former prefects and student leaders. They work with Mr. Sutton and the School Leadership to ensure that traditions are upheld and that the school's social calendar functions as expected. They organise the 'events' and get students involved as well as provide counsel to the leaders who have come after them. These positions are filled by current prefects who are moving on to the next stage in their academic career at Buckswood. The XII Club will hold an election to ensure that they have a leader and this leader will ensure that they are effective and that the school is engaged in social events.
- H. The Debating Society (The talkers!) – As is often said at Buckswood 'I have no enemies but deal in dialogue'. That of course means we want to resolve disputes through talking and place debating at the heart of the school. If you are interested in joining the debating society (or even leading it) as you feel that one day you might need to develop your skills of negotiation or diplomacy, then this is something for you!

2. The application process

In order to apply for the positions above (to be clear, we are now seeking applications for positions A, B, C, D, E and H) then we want you to send in a Curriculum Vitae (C.V.) accompanied by a covering letter which explains a) which role you are applying for; b) what skills you think you would bring to the role; c) what Buckswood means to you; d) why you believe that you should be selected over others for the position you are applying for; e) who you believe is the greatest/most inspiring leader (historical or current) and why you believe this. If you are applying for more than one role, please make this clear on your letter.

Applications must be emailed to Mr. Samson at ksamson@buckswood.co.uk and **must be received by Friday, May 29th at 5pm BST**.

Once applications have been reviewed a shortlist of candidates will be asked to interview via Teams during the second half of the term. All applicants will be replied to indicating whether or not they have been shortlisted.

3. The appointment process

Following the interviews, candidates will be informed as to whether or not they have been successful and a list of appointments will be circulated in the school newsletter.

Finally, remember that even if you do not end up being successful, applying for a position is a useful skill in and of itself – to quote Theodore Roosevelt 'Far better is it to dare mighty things, to win glorious triumphs, even though checkered by failure... than to rank with those poor spirits who neither enjoy nor suffer much, because they live in a gray twilight that knows not victory nor defeat.'

We look forward to reading your applications!