Fernbrooke
STATE SCHOOL
Exceeding Expectations

Awards Policy

2026

*At Fernbrooke State School, we embrace **Acceptance**, **Care**, and **Responsibility** to create a culture where everyone belongs, succeeds and grows.*

Awards Policy Rationale

Fernbrooke State School (FSS) staff work towards recognising and awarding students each and every day for demonstrating growth and personal success. Tangible awards are provided through our affirmation practices through the Positive Behaviour for Learning approach. At FSS we also recognise students achievement through presentation of awards at timely junctures throughout the school year. This policy outlines the criteria a student needs to meet to receive each type of award, how often the award is presented, and at which event or ceremony the award is presented.

Some awards have a documented nomination process for students and how a decision is reached. Awards such as e.g. Local High School presenting awards to Year 6 Graduates.

It is intended to make the process clear for the school community. Unless otherwise stated, a student needs to fulfil all of the criteria for a particular award to be considered.

This policy addresses awards where Fernbrooke State School holds the responsibility to:
1. decide who will receive the award; and
2. present the award.

This policy does not address awards that a student may achieve independent of the school or where the decision on who receives the award rests with an outside agency e.g., Representative Sport, Instrumental Music Awards, third party competitions / awards process.

Major Awards
Our school motto, “Exceeding Expectations”, reflects our commitment to developing our student to achieve beyond their personal best. As a school, it is important that our awards align with this vision and celebrate exceptional achievement, growth and contribution.

Semester 1 – Three Individual Class Awards Model
Recognition of Growth, Success and Citizenship

This semester 1, three awards from each class will be awarded against the following categories:

Award	Criteria
Teacher Award	One student will be selected by the classroom teacher. This award will be presented to the student who is on track to receive the strongest academic report card in the class. Teachers will need to review achievement across all learning areas and determine which student has demonstrated the highest overall academic achievement this semester. This award is based on academic achievement rather than effort grades.
Principal Award	One student from each class will be selected by the Deputy Principal for this award. Deputy Principals may consult with classroom teachers to assist in the final decision-making process. This award will recognise students who have demonstrated significant growth in academic achievement, social development, or both. Students who have received a School Disciplinary Absence are not eligible to receive this award.
Class STARS Citizenship Award	One student will be selected by their peers for consistently demonstrating STARS expectations both inside and outside the classroom. Teachers will facilitate a voting process that is confidential and does not allow students to see or hear the results (e.g. blind voting process). Further information regarding this process will be shared shortly. Students who have received a School Disciplinary Absence are not eligible to receive this award.

Semester 2 – End of Year Awards

Academic Awards – LOAs (Behaviour and Effort are not considered as criteria)

Across all Learning Areas

Criteria		
Juncture	**Gold**	**Silver**
Prep	· Applying in English and Mathematics · No lower than Connecting in all other learning areas.	· Applying in English OR Mathematics · Connecting in English OR Mathematics · No lower than Working With in all other learning areas.
Year 1 Year 2	· Applying in English, Mathematics and Science or HASS · No lower than Connecting in all other learning areas.	· 2 x Applying (English, Maths OR Science / HASS) · 1 x Connecting (English, Maths OR Science / HASS) · No lower than Working With in all other learning areas.
Year 3 Year 4 Year 5 Year 6	· A's in English, Mathematics and Science or HASS · No lower than B's in all other learning areas.	· 2 x A's (English, Maths OR Science / HASS) · 1 x B (English, Maths OR Science / HASS) · No lower than C in all other learning areas.

Award	Criteria	Awardee
Principal Award	One student from each class will be selected by the Deputy Principal for this award. Deputy Principals may consult with classroom teachers to assist in the final decision-making process. This award will recognise students who have demonstrated significant growth in academic achievement, social development, or both. Students who have received a School Disciplinary Absence are not eligible to receive this award.	Deputy Principals
Class STARS Citizenship Award	One student will be selected by their peers for consistently demonstrating STARS expectations both inside and outside the classroom. Teachers will facilitate a voting process that is confidential and does not allow students to see or hear the results (e.g. blind voting process). Further information regarding this process will be shared shortly. Students who have received a School Disciplinary Absence are not eligible to receive this award.	Students (Teacher Quality Assure Process)

Sportsman and Sportswoman of the Year Award

Purpose
Recognise athletes' prowess, personal sporting achievement and exemplary

Criteria
Be in the age bracket of 10 years and above

Have at least represented the school at a District, Regional and/or State level

Student must have attended the trial/carnival for the level of selection to gain the points

The following points system is awarded to each eligible student, the highest point scoring male and female (regardless of age) will receive their respective award:

- School age champion – 1 Point
- School Representative – 1 Point
- District Representative – 2 Points
- District Age Champion – 2 Points
- Regional Representative – 3 Points
- State Representative – 4 Points

Instrumental Music – Teacher Award

Criteria
To be eligible for an Instrumental Music Award, students must demonstrate a consistent commitment to learning their instrument through developing their musical skills and contributing positively to their ensemble. The Instrumental Music Program values musical growth, perseverance, teamwork, responsibility and a willingness to learn. Students should attend lessons and rehearsals regularly, arrive prepared with their instrument and music, practise at home, apply teacher feedback and persist when faced with challenges.
Within their ensemble, students are expected to participate actively, listen and respond to the conductor, follow instructions, cooperate respectfully with fellow musicians and work towards shared performance goals. Students should demonstrate responsibility in preparing repertoire for school performances and represent Fernbrooke State School positively at school and community events. Awards are based on demonstrated commitment, progress and participation rather than musical ability alone.

Year 6 Awards – To be presented at Year 6 Graduation

- Fernbrooke STAR Award: Student in Year 6 who personifies the Fernbrooke STARS expectations
- Highest Academic Award: Student in Year 6 who achieved the Highest Academic Achievement

Sponsored Awards

- REAL Scholarship: Presented by Redbank Plains State High School
- Phoenix Award: Presented by Bellbird Park State High School

Award Policy is reviewed annually