

Honour System

Guide for Students, Staff and Parents

Aim:

To recognise and reward students for their outstanding commitment and involvement at Killara High School across a broad spectrum of curricular and extra-curricular activities. The system aims to identify and acknowledge students who uphold the school values of Respect, Ownership, Learner and Environment. Students can accumulate merit awards and roll them over throughout their Killara High School career to progressively achieve higher awards.

It is the responsibility of all teachers to regularly and equitably use the honour system to celebrate student effort, success and achievement.

Structure:

The Honour System follows a progressive level of awards allowing student achievement to be recognised as students progress through their school years. Each student's merit awards are carried on from one year to the next with the goal to recognise every students' achievements. Under this system all students are known, valued and cared for by giving every student their chance to be acknowledged, while still allowing students who excel to rapidly advance through the tiers and achieve the most prestigious awards.

The progressive awards in the Honour System are as follows:

1. Merit Award (1 merit point)
2. Faculty Merit or Extra-Curricular Merit (5 merit points)
3. Bronze Award (10 merit points)
4. Silver Award (3 Bronze Awards)
5. Gold Awards (2 Silver Awards)
6. Honour Badge (1 Gold and 1 Silver Award)
7. Honour Pennant (4 Honour Badges)
8. Honour Blue (6 Honour Badges)
9. Honour Platinum (7 plus Honour Badges)

Awarding and Recording of Merit Awards

All merits awards are centrally recorded on Compass and should be given by teachers regularly and equitably.

Merit Award:

Merit Awards are awarded by teachers and come in the form of a digital award on Compass. These will be given in line with the PBL value the award most closely aligns with- Respect, Ownership, Learner or Environment and has the option for a teacher to add additional information in an open text box. This information is then automatically sent in a generated email informing both the student and their parent/caregiver to ensure the system is transparent and student success is shared with families.

Merit (1 point)

Below is an outline of things students could do within each of the PBL values that a merit could be awarded for.

Respect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting a peer in need • Positive engagement with an external presenter/guest • Positive engagement with a teacher • Respectfully works in a group • Sharing respect and care for a peer
Ownership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following teacher instructions • Improvement in attitude/behaviour • Showing outstanding responsibility and leadership
Learner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive contribution to class discussion • Positively participated in class activity • Consistent effort and application • Improvement in classwork • Consistent engagement in learning • Supported/assisted a peer in the completion of classwork
Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cleaning the playground • Tidying the classroom • Assisting in setting up for an event/class • Caring for an aspect of the school grounds

Faculty Merit

Nominated by classroom teachers and approved by Head Teachers for outstanding achievement.

Criteria for achieving this award may differ for each faculty. Some suggestion include:

- Consistent Application (per term)
- Most Improved (per term)
- Top 5 performing students in an assessment task AND/OR Top 2 performing students per class in an assessment task

Extra-Curricular Merit:

Nominated by the coordinating teacher of an extra-curricular activity. Students can receive these merits based on effort, application and achievement in the activity and may receive more than one per year for a specific activity eg. Band members may receive a merit per term they are involved in the band. Below are some extra-curricular activities in our school:

- Band (eg. concert, strings, stage, etc)
- Musical
- Light and Sound
- Dance Ensemble
- Knockout Sport Teams
- Debating
- Ethics Olympiad
- Exam assistance
- Participation in KSP event
- Peer Support
- Library Initiative
- Leadership Councils
 - Participated/facilitated the running of a council event
- Sport Carnivals
 - Breaks a record, participates in multiple events, age Champions, attends zone, area, state.

Bronze, Silver, Gold, Honour Badge, Pennant, Blue, Platinum:

For award levels Bronze, Silver, Gold and up Compass will automatically trigger these awards when the correct amount of merits has been received by a student. When an award is triggered an automatically generated email will be sent to the student and their parent/caregiver. Physical awards will also be given to students to retain the personal acknowledgment and value we place on students achieving higher awards. These physical awards will be given in the following settings:

- Bronze- Home Groups (Distributed by Year Advisers)
- Silver- Year Meetings
- Gold- Stage Assembly
- Honour Badges- Stage Assembly or Whole School Assembly
- Honour Pennant, Honour Blue, Honour Platinum- End of Year Awards Ceremony or Ekuba.

Additional information:

Each year, students who achieve an Honour Badge will also be invited to attend an end of year Principal's Celebration to acknowledge their commitment to the school.

Data updates will be given to teachers and the executive team showing how many awards are being given by each faculty and which year groups are receiving them. This can be generated from Compass and will be a key strategy to encourage teachers to give merits and achieve consistency in merit distribution across the school.

As a way to build the school House System and to expand the achievement of an award from an individual level to a wider purpose, all merit awards will be added to a running house total that will be transparent and published to the school community.

The Honour System will be strategically and explicitly presented to the school ensuring all community stakeholders (students, teachers, parents) are knowledgeable and confident to use and understand the new system. Resources will be created to support ongoing clarity around the system including system overview written documents, posters, videos and classroom resources and the wellbeing team will actively promote the system each year to maintain school focus.



Killara High School

Honour System

Merit Award	1 Merit Point Awarded by teachers based on a student upholding the school values; respect, ownership, learner, environment. This is a digital merit on Compass.	
Faculty Merit	5 Merit Points Nominated by classroom teachers and approved by Head Teachers for outstanding achievement at faculty level.	
Extra-Curricular Merit	5 Merit Points Nominated by the coordinating teacher of an extra-curricular activity based on effort, application and achievement.	
Bronze Award	10 Merit Points Awarded to students who have received 10 merit points. Students are awarded a digital Bronze as well as a physical award in Home Group.	
Silver Award	3 Bronze Awards Awarded to students who have received 3 Bronze Awards. Students are awarded a digital Silver as well as a physical award at a Year Meeting.	
Gold Award	2 Silver Awards Awarded to students who have received 2 Silver Awards. Students are awarded a digital Gold as well as a physical award at a Stage Assembly.	
Honour Badge	1 Gold plus 1 Silver Award Awarded to students who have received 1 Gold plus an additional Silver Award. Students are awarded a digital Honour Badge as well as a physical award in a Stage Assembly or Whole School Assembly.	
Honour Pennant	4 Honour Badges Awarded to students who have received 4 Honour Badges across their school career. Presented at the end of year Awards Ceremony or Ekuba.	
Honour Blue	6 Honour Badges Awarded to students who have received 6 Honour Badges across their school career. Presented at the end of year Awards Ceremony or Ekuba.	
Honour Platinum	7 Honour Badges The schools most prestigious award. Awarded to students who have received 7 Honour Badges across their school career. Presented at the end of year Awards Ceremony or Ekuba.	

Each student's merit awards are carried on from one year to the next with the goal to recognise every students' achievements over time.

All merit awards are centrally recorded on Compass and should be given by teachers regularly and equitably

Students individual merit points will also contribute to their House points total helping their House to win the annual House Cup.

More info on the Honour System



Record of Updates:

The Honour System was updated as part of an Honour System Review in 2021 and was implemented from the start of 2022.