

Statement of Values and School Philosophy



STATEMENT OF VALUES AND SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact the Business Manager.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline the values of our school community and explain the vision, mission and objectives of our school.

Policy

Deanside Primary School is committed to providing a safe, supportive and inclusive environment for all students, staff and members of our community. Our school recognises the importance of the partnership between our school and parents and carers to support student learning, engagement and wellbeing. We share a commitment to, and a responsibility for, creating an inclusive and safe school environment for our students.

The programs and teaching at Deanside Primary School 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
- the values of openness and tolerance.

This policy outlines our school's vision, mission, objective, values and expectations of our school community.

To celebrate and embed our Statement of Values and Philosophy in our school community, we:

- will seek community input through social media and questionnaires
- display posters and banners that promote values in our school
- celebrate our values in our school newsletter
- provide awards and recognition for students who actively demonstrate the values
- discuss our values with students and engage them in explicit learning activities related to these values in the classroom and in wider school forums such as school assemblies.

Vision

Students at Deanside Primary School will become creative and critical thinkers, empowered to positively impact both their school and their community.

They will work in partnership with their teachers to monitor their progress, identify their next point of challenge and collaborate positively with their peers.

Deanside Primary School will maintain high expectations for all students, underpinned by an aspirational learning culture based on evidence, best practice and inclusion.

At Deanside Primary School, Learning and Wellbeing is equally important and we strive to create an inclusive environment that meets the needs of every student.

Mission

Deanside Primary School's mission is to ensure students are supported to achieve their personal best academically, socially and emotionally. Students are encouraged to become courteous, self-managing, resilient and independent young people who have a sense of social responsibility and who are effectively prepared for life in an ever-changing world.

Objective

Deanside Primary School's objective is to ensure that all students will attain the knowledge and learning traits that will enable a lifelong love of learning and the disposition and capacity to engage critically and confidently within Australian society.

Deanside Primary School will place great emphasis on students, staff and our community, treating everyone with courtesy and respect as well as having high expectations in relation to behaviour and how we respond to different situations. We will strive to develop social and communication skills which help students deal with a range of situations they will encounter as they become lifelong learners.

Values

Deanside Primary School's values are **EXCELLENCE, RESPECT, RESPONSIBILITY AND CARE.**

- To strive for **EXCELLENCE** –
 - We recognise we are all members of the school community who are encouraged to be confident, positive, persistent and resilient, as well as continual drive to achieve our personal best as we embrace new learning.
 - We are 'self-disciplined' and take pride in ourselves and school.
 - We are always ambitious, persistent and maintain a 'growth mindset' when challenged.
- To **RESPECT**-
 - We will respect ourselves, each other and the environment around us.
 - We will treat everyone with tolerance, acceptance and understanding.
 - We appreciate diversity and the worth in others.
 - We ensure our words and body language is positive and respectful.
 - We pride ourselves and using our manners and showing courtesy to other students, staff and visitors to our school.

- To show **RESPONSIBILITY**-
 - We take ownership and are accountable for our actions.
 - We understand that our attitudes and behaviours have an impact on the people around us.
 - We take care of our own and other people's property.
 - We will be organised, ready and prepared for the school day and complete any tasks or duties that have been assigned for completion.

- To **CARE**-
 - We will be polite, friendly, empathetic, inclusive and show genuine kindness.
 - We give our time and resources to help people in need and accepting different opinions, cultures, religions and languages.
 - We aim to be consistently honest, trustworthy and display a strong sense of fairness.
 - We are a community of students, staff and families supporting the hopes and educational aspirations of all.

Behavioural Expectations

Deanside Primary School acknowledges that the behaviour of staff, parents, carers and students has an impact on our school community and culture. We acknowledge a shared responsibility to create a positive learning environment for the children and young people at our school.

As principals and school leaders, we will:

- model positive behaviour and effective leadership
- communicate politely, respectfully and professionally with all members of the school community
- work collaboratively to create a school environment where respectful and safe behaviour is expected of everyone
- behave in a manner consistent with the standards of our profession and meet core responsibilities to provide safe and inclusive environments
- plan, implement and review our work to ensure the care, safety, security and general wellbeing of all students at school
- develop a school culture centred on the learning, achievement and wellbeing of each individual student
- identify and support students who are or may be at risk
- do our best to ensure every child achieves their personal and learning potential
- work with parents to understand their child's needs and, where necessary, adapt the learning environment accordingly
- respond appropriately when safe and inclusive behaviour is not demonstrated and implement appropriate interventions and sanctions when required
- inform parents of the school's communication and complaints procedures
- ask any person who is acting in an offensive, intimidating or otherwise inappropriate way to leave the school grounds

As teachers and non-teaching school staff, we will:

- model positive behaviour to students consistent with the standards of our profession
- communicate politely, respectfully and professionally with all members of the school community
- work collaboratively to create a school environment where respectful and safe behaviour is expected of everyone
- communicate politely and respectfully with all members of the school community
- proactively engage with parents about student outcomes
- work with parents to understand the needs of each student and, where necessary, adapt the learning environment accordingly

- work collaboratively with parents to improve learning and wellbeing outcomes for students with additional needs
- communicate with the principal and school leaders in the event we anticipate or face any tension or challenging behaviours from parents
- treat all members of the school community with respect.

As parents and carers, we will:

- model positive behaviour to our child
- communicate politely and respectfully with all members of the school community
- ensure our child attends school on time, every day the school is open for instruction
- take an interest in our child's school and learning
- work with the school to achieve the best outcomes for our child
- communicate constructively with the school and use expected processes and protocols when raising concerns
- support school staff to maintain a safe learning environment for all students
- follow the school's processes for communication with staff and making complaints
- treat all school leaders, staff, students, and other members of the school community with respect.

As students, we will:

- model positive behaviour to other students
- communicate politely and respectfully with all members of the school community
- comply with and model school values
- behave in a safe and responsible manner
- respect ourselves, other members of the school community and the school environment.
- actively participate in school
- not disrupt the learning of others and make the most of our educational opportunities

As community members, we will:

- model positive behaviour to the school community
- treat other members of the school community with respect
- support school staff to maintain a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students
- utilise the school's processes for communication with staff and submitting complaints.

Unreasonable Behaviours

Schools are not public places, and the Principal has the right to permit or deny entry to school grounds (for more information, see our *Visitors Policy*).

Unreasonable behaviour that is demonstrated by school staff, parents, carers, students or members of our school community will not be tolerated at school, or during school activities.

Unreasonable behaviour includes:

- Speaking or behaving in a rude, manipulative, aggressive or threatening way, either in person, via electronic communication or social media, or over the telephone
- the use or threat of violence of any kind, including physically intimidating behaviour such as aggressive hand gestures or invading another person's personal space
- sending demanding, rude, confronting or threatening letters, emails or text messages
- sexist, racist, homophobic, transphobic or derogatory comments
- the use of social media or public forums to make inappropriate or threatening remarks about the school, staff or students.

Harassment, bullying, violence, aggression, threatening behaviour and unlawful discrimination are unacceptable and will not be tolerated at our school.

Unreasonable behaviour and/or failure to uphold the principles of this *Statement of Values and School Philosophy* may lead to further investigation and the implementation of appropriate consequences by the school Principal.

At the Principal's discretion, unreasonable behaviour may be managed by:

- requesting that the parties attend a mediation or counselling sessions
- implementing specific communication protocols
- written warnings
- conditions of entry to school grounds or school activities
- exclusion from school grounds or attendance at school activities
- reports to Victoria Police
- legal action

Inappropriate student behaviour will be managed in accordance with our school's *Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy* and *Bullying Prevention Policy*.

Our *Statement of Values and School Philosophy* ensures that everyone in our school community will be treated with fairness and respect. In turn, we will strive to create a school that is inclusive and safe, where everyone is empowered to participate and learn.

Communication

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- available publicly on our school's website
- included in staff induction processes
- included in transition and enrolment packs
- included as annual reference in school newsletter
- made available in hard copy from school administration upon request.

Further Information and Resources

The following school policies are also relevant to this policy:

- Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Bullying Prevention Policy
- Child Safe Policy
- Complaints Policy
- Duty of Care Policy

Policy last reviewed	13th March 2024
Consultation	Staff Briefing - 29th January 2024 School Council - 19th March 2024 Newsletter - 22nd March 2024 Reviewed dates: 30 May, 2024
Approved by Principal Approved By School Council:	Stuart Telford - 13th March 2024 School Council Meeting: 13/03/24
Next Scheduled Review	March 2028