



# STATEMENT OF SCHOOL VALUES AND SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY

## Policy



### Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact Officer Primary School.

## 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

Officer 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 Officer 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. This policy is available on our school website and our staff induction handbook

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

- display posters and banners that promote your 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 in the classroom, meetings and assemblies.

## VISION

At Officer Primary School we promote the philosophy that all children can learn and become effective learners. As a learning community, made up of parents, staff and students, we hold high expectations of self and others.

## MISSION

Our purpose is to equip the learning environment with the best human and physical resources so that our students are supported to:

- Achieve their full educational and personal potential
- Strive for excellence
- Participate in innovative teaching and learning experiences
- Develop independence and resilience
- Become effective and productive members of a global society

## OBJECTIVES

Officer Primary School's objectives are to:

- Guarantee all students have access to a broad, balanced and flexible curriculum including skills for learning and life
- Provide a safe, stimulating and inclusive learning environment to ensure all students can achieve their full potential
- Ensure all students receive instruction that is adapted to their individual needs

## VALUES

Officer Primary School values are respect, kindness, excellence, honesty, resilience.

- *We respect ourselves, our school and each another, and understand that our attitudes and behaviours have an impact on the people around us.*
- *We model and demonstrate kindness, and take every opportunity to help others that may be in need.*
- *We strive for excellence, which means trying our hardest and doing our best.*
- *We are honest with ourselves and others while taking into consideration others' feelings.*
- *We are resilient when faced with setbacks. We use strategies to help us deal with negative emotions and we foster a 'never give up' attitude.*

## BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS

Officer Primary School acknowledges that the behaviour of staff, parents, carers and students has an impact on our school community and culture.

Staff have a range of expectations around behaviour and must follow our school and Department policies and the Victorian Public Service Code of Conduct and Values. Teaching staff also adhere to the [Victorian Teaching Profession Code of Conduct](#).

Students are supported by school staff to meet expected standards of behaviour as outlined in our Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy, Inclusion and Diversity Policy and Bullying Prevention Policy.

Information about the expectations on parents and carers to ensure schools remain respectful and inclusive places is outlined in the Department's [Respectful Behaviours within the School Community Policy](#) and our Respect for School Staff Policy.

## 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:

- being violent or threatening violence of any kind, including physically intimidating behaviour such as aggressive hand gestures or invading another person's personal space
- speaking or behaving in a rude, aggressive or threatening way, either in person, via email, social media, or over the telephone
- sending demanding, rude, confronting or threatening letters, emails or text messages
- discriminatory 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 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
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

## **RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES**

Department of Education and Training policies and resources:

- [Work-Related Violence in Schools Policy](#)
- [Respectful Behaviours within the School Community Policy](#)

Officer Primary School policies:

- Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Inclusion and Diversity Policy
- Bullying Prevention Policy
- Parent Complaints Policy

## **POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL**

Policy last reviewed	November 2022
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	November 2025