



# Statement of Values and School Philosophy

## **Rationale**

Cardinia 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, parents/carers and the community 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.

## **Aim**

- To outline the school's vision, philosophy, values and expectations of our school community to meet the minimum standards for school registration.

## **Implementation**

### *Vision*

At Cardinia Primary School we will provide a safe, caring and inclusive learning environment that inspires, challenges and supports all students to achieve their personal best.

### *Philosophy*

At Cardinia Primary School:

- we will provide a safe, nurturing and engaging learning environment;
- we will be inclusive and accept all members of the school community;
- we will implement consistent whole school teaching and learning practices through agreed systems and processes;
- we will provide explicit instruction with clear learning intentions, success criteria and high expectations of all students;
- we will encourage each student to strive for their personal best through differentiated learning;
- we will empower students to take ownership and be actively involved in their learning;
- we will encourage students to be active participants in their school and wider community;
- we will value creativity and innovative thinking;
- we will closely monitor student wellbeing and achievement; and
- we will value our role as educators and through targeted professional development strive for continuous improvement.

## **Values**

Cardinia Primary School's values are:

- **Resilience**

*We keep trying and never give up.  
We think positively.  
We accept challenges.  
We know that mistakes are part of learning.  
We bounce back from things that hurt and disappoint us.*

- **Respect**

*We respect the needs and rights of everyone.  
We accept and embrace difference.  
We listen to each other and our teachers.  
We follow the rules.  
We look after our school and treat school resources with care.*

- **Working Together**

*We can achieve more together than we can on our own.  
We learn from each other.  
We work as a team.  
We make sure no one is left out.  
We are part of the community.*

- **Personal Best**

*We always put in our very best effort.  
We have a go, even when things are hard.  
We accept help and support from others.  
We try to learn from our mistakes.  
We focus on our own achievements.*

- **Caring**

*We care about others and consider their feelings.  
We are fair and kind.  
We include everyone.  
We look after ourselves and take care of each other.  
We are a big family.*

## **Behavioural Expectations**

Cardinia 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 Principal and school leaders, we will:

- model positive behaviour and effective leadership;
- communicate politely and respectfully 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;
- 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 their 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; and
- ask any person who is acting in an offensive, intimidating or otherwise inappropriate way to leave the school grounds.

As teachers and non-teaching staff, we will:

- model positive behaviour to students consistent with the standards of our profession;
- 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; and
- 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; and
- 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; and
- 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; and
- 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; and
- 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 session/s;
- 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; and/or
- legal action.

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

### **References**

- School Policy and Advisory Guide  
<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/participation/Pages/policydev.aspx>

### **Evaluation**

This policy will be reviewed every two (2) years or as deemed necessary.

### **Ratified**

This policy was ratified by School Council on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2018.