



STATEMENT OF VALUES AND SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY



Help for non-English speakers

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

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

Kurrun 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 Kurrun 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.

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

- promote our values through general school communications to parents/carers and the broader community
- provide awards and recognition for students who actively demonstrate the values
- discuss our values with students in the classroom, meetings and assemblies.



VISION

Kurrun Primary School's vision is for every student to be engaged with purposeful learning and making high levels of growth, every day.

At Kurrun Primary School students learn the fundamental skills, knowledge, understandings and attitudes to be highly literate and numerate members of society and to develop and maintain high levels of personal wellbeing in an ever-changing world.

The Kurrun Primary School learning environment is safe, orderly, supportive and stimulating. Diversity is embraced and celebrated throughout the community, including the acknowledgement and celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, histories and cultures.

Strong collaborative partnerships exist between students, staff, parents and the broader school community in meeting the individual learning and wellbeing needs of each student. Together we inspire and support each learner to succeed as creative and curious thinkers, who are connected, adaptable and resilient citizens, displaying empathy and courage.

MISSION

Kurrun Primary School's mission is to create and maintain a collaborative school community to empower and inspire students to become interdependent contributors to their community.

OBJECTIVE

Our objective at Kurrun Primary School is to:

- ensure that each student achieves high levels of learning and wellbeing
- develop a learning community that meets the learning needs of every student with a focus on academic, social, emotional, physical and creative needs
- build students' capacity to become interdependent learners
- establish and maintain a strong sense of belonging and school and community connectedness among students, staff and families.

VALUES

Kurrun Primary School's values are Inclusion, Courage, Aspiration, Respect and Empathy.

Inclusion – Inclusion is ensuring that everyone feels like they belong and are part of the school community. In displaying inclusion, we maximise opportunities for people to participate in school life and we embrace and celebrate diversity.

Courage – Courage is accepting challenges and embracing opportunities. In displaying courage, we are brave, persist, stand up for what is important and we do the right thing, even when it is difficult to do.

Aspiration – Aspiration is having high expectations and achieving to a high level. We display aspiration when we set challenging goals and are relentless in the pursuit of these goals.



Respect – Respect is when we value ourselves, others and property. We display respect when we treat ourselves, others and property with kindness, courtesy and care.

Empathy – Empathy is being able to share or understand the emotions and feelings of another person. We display empathy when we actively seek to understand how another person is feeling and show that we have care and compassion for that person.

BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS

Kurrun 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, 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:



KURRUN Primary School

- 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 staff handbook
- included in transition and enrolment packs
- included as annual reference in school newsletter
- made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- The Department's Policy and Advisory Library (PAL) and resources:
 - [Work-Related Violence in Schools Policy](#)
 - [Respectful Behaviours within the School Community Policy](#)
- Related Policies:
 - Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
 - Inclusion and Diversity Policy
 - Bullying Prevention Policy
 - Parent Complaints Policy
 - Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy
 - Complaints Policy
 - Duty of Care Policy



POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	June 2022
Approved by	Principal. To be ratified by School Council in 2023*
Next scheduled review date	June 2023 - to ensure ongoing relevance and continuous improvement, this policy will be reviewed every 3-4 years thereafter. The review will include input from students, parents/carers and the school community.

* The Statement of Values and School Philosophy will be reviewed and approved by the School Council once they are appointed.