



Statement of Values and School Philosophy

WEL012







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






Somerville Rise 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 Somerville Rise 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 enrolment/transition packs.

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
-  highlight our school values in our daily morning circles

Vision

Somerville Rise Primary school delivers a high quality, differentiated curriculum using evidence-based teaching and learning practices. We develop and support student relationships and wellbeing to increase engagement and develop active, inclusive members of our community.

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Mission

Somerville Rise Primary School's mission is to empower ALL students to be their best.

Objective

Our school's objectives are considered as part of the 4 yearly strategic planning process and reflected in the goals listed in our current School Strategic Plan (SSP). We also develop an Annual Implementation Plan to operationalise the goals and key improvement strategies contained in our SSP.

Values

Somerville Rise Primary School's values are:



Kindness



Creativity



Curiosity

Behavioural Expectations

Somerville Rise 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's 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.








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As teachers and non-teaching school 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
-  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.

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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 according 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.

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Communication

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

-  Available publicly on our school's website
-  Included in transition and enrolment packs
-  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](#)

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