



Dingley Primary School

Statement of Values and School Philosophy

Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand this policy, please contact the school's office on 03 9551 5555 or dingley.ps@education.vic.gov.au



1. 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.

2. Objective

Our school's objectives are articulated in our 4-year School Strategic Plan (SSP) and operationalised annually through the Annual Implementation Plan (AIP), focusing on student outcomes, wellbeing, and excellence in teaching and learning.

3. Policy:

Dingley Primary School aspires for all members of our community to become respectful, compassionate, lifelong learners who contribute positively to their communities. We develop and promote academic, social, and emotional growth through inclusive, engaging, and challenging learning environments. By encouraging curiosity, resilience, and responsibility, we empower our students to be active participants in their learning journey. The programs and teaching at Dingley 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 Compass portal.

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

Dingley Primary School aspires all members of our community to develop respectful, compassionate, lifelong learners who take action as global citizens. We develop academic, social and emotional growth through engaging, stimulating and challenging learning environments. At Dingley Primary School, we are committed to high quality inclusive and intercultural education. By promoting choice, voice and ownership, we strive to create curious and knowledgeable inquirers who are open-minded and resilient when taking risks in all learning experiences.

Mission

Dingley Primary School is committed to educational excellence and providing children with the opportunity to learn to the best of their ability.

Values

The school values provide a positive framework for the entire school community and as such, it is expected that all members of our community will demonstrate a commitment to modelling these values.

An explanation of how we demonstrate each value follows:

• Empathy

Act in accordance with principles of moral and ethical conduct, ensuring consistency between words and deeds. Understanding other people's feelings.

Being aware of others and their cultures, accepting diversity within a democratic society, and being included and including others.

• Persistence

Seek to accomplish something worthy and admirable by trying hard to pursue excellence.



Dingley Primary School

Statement of Values and School Philosophy

- **Respect**
Treat others with consideration and regard, always respecting another person's point of view. Pursue and protect the common good where all people are treated fairly for a just society.
- **Responsibility**
Be accountable for one's own actions, resolve differences in constructive, non-violent and peaceful ways, take care of the environment.
- **Honesty**
Be honest, sincere and always tell the truth.
- **Resilience**
Cope with difficult situations and overcome challenges. Developing a growth mindset and learning to 'bounce back'.

Behavioural Expectations

Dingley 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 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 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 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



Dingley Primary School

Statement of Values and School Philosophy

- 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.

4. Communication:

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

- available publicly on our school's website
- available on our school's Compass portal
- included as annual reference in school newsletter
- made available in hard copy from school office upon request



Dingley Primary School Statement of Values and School Philosophy

This policy is also included in staff induction materials, enrolment packs, and communicated annually via the school newsletter.

5. Further Information and Resources:

- Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Bullying Prevention Policy
- Visitors Policy
- Respectful Behaviours within the School Community
- Respectful Workplaces
- Parent Complaints
- Work-Related Violence in Schools

6. Evaluation:

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's 3-year review cycle.

Created date	May 2025
Consultation	School Council – 20 May 2025 School community via website – 20 May 2025
Endorsed by	School Council Principal
Endorsed on	May 2025
Next review date	May 2028 – noting that the mandatory minimum review cycle is 3 years