

STATEMENT OF VALUES AND SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY

RATIONALE:

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. Our school recognises the importance of the partnership between our school and parents/caregivers to support student learning, engagement and wellbeing. We share a commitment to, and a responsibility for, creating a supportive, inclusive and safe school environment for our students, staff, parents/caregivers, and all members of our school community.

AIM:

The aim of this policy is to outline the values of our school community, explain the vision of our school and outline behavioural expectations and management for unreasonable behaviour.

IMPLEMENTATION:

The programs and teaching at Findon PS 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, values and expectations of our school community. This policy is available on our school website, through the school office and via school newsletter additions.

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

- regularly discuss our values with students in the classroom and school through, the Respectful Relationships Education program, Quality Start up program, class meetings and assemblies
- display posters that promote the values in our school
- celebrate our values in our school newsletter
- provide award and recognition for students and members of the school community who actively demonstrate the values via school assemblies and/or newsletter items.

VISION

At Findon Primary School, our vision is that our children will become lifelong learners with positive feelings of self worth. As young adults they must be confident, tolerant, adaptable and resilient. They will be effective team members who understand their rights and responsibilities within a global community.

VALUES

Findon Primary School's values underpin our actions and provide direction in our decision making.

OUR VALUES AT FINDON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Rights and Responsibilities

Everyone has the right to learn.

Everyone has the right to be safe.

Everyone has the right to be respected.

VALUE	DEFINITION
Respect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Respecting ourselves and others<input type="checkbox"/> Respecting our environment<input type="checkbox"/> Respecting differences in ideas, opinions and behaviours<input type="checkbox"/> Being inclusive and tolerant of all others
Responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Showing responsibility through your words and actions and ensure that your words and actions match<input type="checkbox"/> Being accountable to yourself and others<input type="checkbox"/> Showing personal and communal responsibility and leadership skills by making good choices<input type="checkbox"/> Encouraging others to demonstrate personal and communal responsibility
Honesty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Always telling the truth—through actions and words<input type="checkbox"/> Being honest with yourself, others and in difficult situations
Doing Your Best	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Working to the best of your abilities in all areas of learning and behaviour<input type="checkbox"/> Being organised by having all equipment, asking questions and planning and using time efficiently<input type="checkbox"/> Showing positive and optimistic learning behaviours<input type="checkbox"/> Having confidence in your ability and persevering when there are challenges, not being afraid to make mistakes<input type="checkbox"/> Demonstrating resilience in learning and social situations by communicating with others and restoring relationships<input type="checkbox"/> Staying on task and striving for excellence
Care and Compassion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Caring about yourself and the wellbeing of others<input type="checkbox"/> Acting in a caring and compassionate manner<input type="checkbox"/> Being inclusive and getting along with others, by being sensitive and respectful to others

BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS

Findon Primary School acknowledges that the behaviour of staff, parents/caregivers and students has an impact on our school community and culture. We acknowledge a shared responsibility to create a positive learning environment for the students 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 all students, including 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 caregivers, 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:

- actively participate in school
- 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
- make the most of our educational opportunities, and follow our values to not disrupt the learning of others.

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.

Unreasonable behaviour that is demonstrated by school staff, parents/caregivers, 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
- inappropriate language in the school environment and during school activities
- 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, in addition to regional and departmental support, 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
- legal action

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

EVALUATION:

This policy shall be reviewed as part of the school's three year policy and process review and is available via the school website and office.

REFERENCES:

Student Wellbeing, Engagement and Inclusion Policy
Behaviour Management Policy
Bullying Prevention Policy
Digital Technologies Policy