



# STATEMENT OF VALUES AND SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY

## 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

Boolarra 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 Boolarra 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, our staff induction handbook, student diary 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.

## VISION

Boolarra Primary School's vision is:

*At Boolarra Primary School we value creativity, curiosity and innovation. We recognize the fundamental importance of reflective and adaptable thinking. Our students are empowered to generate their own course for lifelong learning and make purposeful contributions to their community.*

School council approved this policy on **[insert date]**.

## MISSION

Boolarra Primary School's mission is:

Boolarra Primary School strives for our students to become motivated and independent learners. We provide a wide range of learning choices for students to demonstrate their understandings.

We consistently encourage students to have a 'growth mindset' in order to become lifelong learners who value themselves, others and the learning itself.

We promote social responsibility, resilience, perseverance and independence to capably prepare our students for an ever-changing world.

## OBJECTIVE

**Boolarra Primary School's objective** is to improve our performance in providing the best possible learning environment for our students, challenging them to reach their full potential.

## VALUES

Boolarra Primary School's values are:

- ❖ Respect
- ❖ Engagement
- ❖ Responsibility
- ❖ Aspiration

ENGAGEMENT		
STUDENT JOB	TEACHER JOB	OUR JOB
Make learning fun.  Include others. Be open to others.  Be interested in your learning.  Tell the teacher what you want to learn.	Make learning fun.  Make learning active.  Know your students interests.  Ask the students what they would like to learn.  Persist with what you are teaching. If it is not going right, keep working on it. Teach the kids how to fix up their mistakes.	Learn from everyone.  Make connections. Share ideas.  Listen to everyone.  Bring your own personality to the classroom.

RESPONSIBILITY		
STUDENT JOB	TEACHER JOB	OUR JOB
Look, listen and learn.  Keep focussed.	Help kids learn.  Plan for student learning.	Contribute to conversations.  Be on time.

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Manage your distractions.	Help your students. Give kids the opportunity to be the best they can be. Know the curriculum.	Be prepared for learning by bringing what you need. Be organised. Be trustworthy.
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RESPECT		
STUDENT JOB	TEACHER JOB	OUR JOB
Include others. Collaborate with others. Be friendly with your peers.	Make eye contact with students. Talk to the students with a respectful voice. Be friendly.	Look after the schools equipment and spaces. Care for everyone. Realise what you say/the choices you make affects others. Owning up to your mistakes and saying, "I did it".

ASPIRATION		
STUDENT JOB	TEACHER JOB	OUR JOB
Look, listen and learn. Do your best in your learning. Be open to new learning.	Be a learner, know what students need to learn. Challenge the students on the level they are on. Insist students set goals and review them often.	Set high goals. Fix up your mistakes. Desire to be better.

## BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS

Boolarra 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

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- 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
- 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 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.

## FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

[Insert links to related policies i.e. *Student Wellbeing and Engagement, Communication with School Staff, Respect for School Staff*].

## REVIEW CYCLE

This policy was last updated on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2019 and is scheduled for review in 2/2019

School council approved this policy on [insert date].