



PASCOE VALE SOUTH
PRIMARY SCHOOL

STATEMENT OF VALUES AND SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to outline the vision, mission, objectives, values and behavioural expectations of our school community at Pascoe Vale South Primary School.

POLICY

We are 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/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 our 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.

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

- display posters and banners that promote our 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
- Embed our values through our School Wide Positive Behaviour Expectations Matrix (SWPBS)
- Embed our values through our House Spirit Teams.

VISION

Our vision at Pascoe Vale South Primary School is to develop global citizens who belong, learn and thrive.

MISSION

Our mission at Pascoe Vale South Primary School is to develop students to be literate, numerate and curious, and to be part of a vibrant and engaged community of staff, family and friends.



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OBJECTIVE

We aim for all students to complete their primary education with the skills to be confident, collaborative, creative, caring and self-motivated life-long learners with high self-esteem and resilience who 'dare to be excellent'.

VALUES

Respect - means valuing ourselves; treating others fairly; appreciating different circumstances and views; considering others, their property and the environment

Caring - means valuing self, others and the environment; showing empathy, tolerance and understanding; welcoming students, staff, families and friends by promoting a sense of belonging and sharing in our school;

Learning - means embracing new ideas and challenges

Enjoyment - means developing a sense of belonging and achievement; stimulating curiosity and exploration as well as providing opportunities for choice, discovery and creative self-expression; having a positive attitude and approach and is the outcome of the other three values

BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS

Our 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 students at our school.

We have in place a range of strategies to promote engagement, positive behaviour and respectful relationships for all students in the school. We recognise that some students (as a group or as individuals) may need extra social, emotional or educational support to flourish at school. We put in place strategies to identify these students and provide them with the support they need.

Our school works collaboratively with students and parents/carers to establish fair and respectful behaviour policies and practices, based on the school's values, expected social competencies and the school wide positive behaviour framework. There are also intervention strategies in place to address inappropriate behaviours, which can negatively impact on the learning environment for the individual and others.

Our proactive approach includes:

- Modelling positive behaviour
- Establishing clear understandings of expected behaviours through our SWPBS Expectations Matrix
- Reinforcing positive behaviours
- Planning reasonable consistent consequences and establishing disciplinary measures for inappropriate behaviours. Refer to Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy.

Strategies to promote our values and associated behaviours include:

- Providing opportunities for students to learn about and demonstrate personal and communal responsibilities at school, for example through Social and Emotional learning sessions in curriculum programs



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- Establishing clear understandings of expected behaviours – through classroom agreements, minimising attention for inappropriate behaviours, consistent and fair consequences for negative behaviours, and through acknowledging positive behaviours
- Clear and consistent approaches and procedures to minimise absenteeism – through regular parent/carer to teacher contact; information to families; engaging curriculum programs
- Implementing the SWPBS to managing classroom behaviour and outside behaviour of all students
- Universal (whole-school), targeted (group-specific) and individual engagement strategies are used.

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/carers about student outcomes
- work with parents/carers to understand the needs of each student and, where necessary, adapt the learning environment accordingly
- work collaboratively with parents/carers 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/carers
- treat all members of the school community with respect.

As parents/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 as stated in our SWPBS Expectations Matrix
- 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.



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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. For more information refer to our *Complaints 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 refer to 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 belong, learn and thrive.



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FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy

Complaints Policy

Bullying Prevention Policy

Please refer to these policies on the school website

REVIEW CYCLE

This policy was last updated in June, 2021 and is scheduled for review in June, 2024.