



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

Ashley Park 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 Ashley Park 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 our expectations of our school community. This policy is available on our school website and in our staff induction handbook 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 our values and philosophy in our school
- celebrate our values and philosophy in our school Week That Was Compass post.
- Provide Ashley Parker awards at weekly assemblies and utilise our school token system to recognise students who display our school values and positive behaviours
- discuss our values and philosophy with all members of our school community in the various forums in which school community members engage.

VISION

The vision for Ashley Park Primary School is to be *all we can be*. A collaborative school community formed through strong partnerships that contribute to the engagement, wellbeing and achievement of all.

MISSION

Ashley Park Primary School's mission is to provide a comprehensive education that empowers our students to contribute to their world and shape their desired future.

OBJECTIVE

Ashley Park Primary School's objective is to work collaboratively as a school community to ensure our students develop the skills, understandings, capabilities and dispositions that will enable them to be the best that they can be.

VALUES

Ashley Park Primary School's values are

Be kind – *to self and others.*

Be responsible – *for learning at school and learning at home, for actions, belongings and school equipment.*

Be all we can be – *independently and collaboratively, to achieve our best.*

BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS

Ashley Park 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:

- uphold and enact our school values
- 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:

- uphold and enact our school values
- 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:

- uphold and enact our school values
- 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 active 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 and refrain from using social media to voice complaints or discuss issues in this public forum
- 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
- discuss Ashley Park Primary School with pride and celebrate the efforts, successes and achievements of your child and the school.

As students, we will:

- uphold and enact our school values
- model positive behaviour to other students
- communicate politely and respectfully with all members of the school community.
- 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:

- support the values of the school
- 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 to communicate with staff and submit complaints and refrain from using social media to voice complaints or discuss issues in this public forum.
- discuss Ashley Park Primary School with pride and celebrate the efforts, successes and achievements of the school community.

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

The following policies have been referred to and should be consulted should further information be required

Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy

Bullying Prevention Policy

Visitors Policy

REVIEW CYCLE

This policy was last updated in September 2020 and is scheduled for review in September 2024.