



STATEMENT OF VALUES AND SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact the school office

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

Pearcedale 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 Pearcedale 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.

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

At Pearcedale Primary School, students will...

- be provided with a nurturing environment where they value diversity, display empathy and are empowered to be confident and respectful of themselves.
- actively participate in a guaranteed curriculum and learn to set goals to further support their social, emotional and academic growth.
- use evolving technology as a tool to engage in a digital environment.
- work within their wider community, learning to both communicate and work collaboratively to become active participants within the global world

MISSION

Pearcedale Primary School's mission is to enrich and equip all students with knowledge, skills and strategies that empower them to be active life-long learners, productive community members and global citizens.

OBJECTIVE

Our school's objectives are considered as part of the 4 yearly strategic planning process and reflected in the goals listed in our current School Strategic Plan (SSP). We also develop an Annual Implementation Plan to operationalise the goals and key improvement strategies contained in our SSP.

VALUES

Pearcedale Primary School's values are :




Aspire,

Courage,

Respect

Be Safe

PPS VIRTUES

	ALL AREAS	LEARNING AREAS	PLAY AREAS/TOILETS/TAPS	IN THE COMMUNITY
Respect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Looking after belongings and resources with care Using manners Listening to others Being mindful of others space Listening to all perspectives Giving support to those in need (both teachers and peers) Being a good role model and setting a good example Celebrating and supporting diversity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actively listening to peers and staff Valuing and making the most of learning time Appreciating others rights / wants to learn Working collaboratively and fairly in group situations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Looking after your own and other's belongings Looking after the environment (picking up rubbish, using correct bins for rubbish, saving electricity) Practice hygiene Clean up after yourself 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Treating community members with kindness Using spaces with care 
Safe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using words not body parts Following rules Using equipment and resources carefully 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walking in the classroom and in buildings Being responsible online and with devices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using playground equipment safely/ the right way Respecting people's privacy Keeping hands and feet to ones self Being peaceful, respectful and sensible in the toilets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following road, traffic light and crossing rules Using community equipment responsibly
Aspire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Having and practicing a growth mindset. Being a role model to others. Expecting the best from everyone Not being afraid to make mistakes Discovering your potential Stepping out of your comfort zone Teamwork Choosing to spend time with people that are a positive influence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learning Pit. Setting and reflecting on goals Producing 5 star work. Using worked examples Taking pride in work Seek and accept feedback and use it to improve Focusing on goals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Being a role model Leading by example Playing fairly and encouraging others to do the same Choose responsible people to play with 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Celebrating the success of others Asking for help and advice from role models Supporting community members to achieve
Courage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Being honest Applying leadership roles Being an upstander. Making new friendships Standing up and saying something if something is wrong/you know its wrong Doing the right thing even if others are doing to the wrong thing Stepping outside of your comfort zone Having tricky conversations Trying new things 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Putting your hand up to answer a question Being in the learning pit, persisting if it's hard Taking part in classroom discussions Working as a team with different students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Looking out for others Seeking help/support Helping others Calling out negative behaviour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presenting at assembly Speaking to and involving community members Being an advocate for yourself and others

BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS

Pearcedale Primary School acknowledges that the behaviour of staff, parents, carers and students has an impact on our school community and culture.

Staff have a range of expectations around behaviour and must follow our school and Department policies and the Victorian Public Service Code of Conduct and Values. Teaching staff also adhere to the [Victorian Teaching Profession Code of Conduct](#).

Students are supported by school staff to meet expected standards of behaviour as outlined in our Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy, Inclusion and Diversity Policy, Bullying Prevention Policy

Information about the expectations on parents and carers to ensure schools remain respectful and inclusive places is outlined in the Department's [Respectful Behaviours within the School Community Policy](#) and our Respect for School Staff Policy.

Pearcedale 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
- ensure all parents/carers are aware of the expectations outlined in the Department's [Respectful Behaviours within the School Community Policy](#)
- 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, in line with the Department's [Respectful Behaviours within the School Community Policy](#).
- 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.

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:

- being violent or threatening violence of any kind, including physically intimidating behaviour such as aggressive hand gestures or invading another person's personal space
- speaking or behaving in a rude, aggressive or threatening way, either in person, via email, social media, or over the telephone
- sending demanding, rude, confronting or threatening letters, emails or text messages
- discriminatory 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 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 participate and learn.

COMMUNICATION

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

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Included in staff induction processes
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

Department of Education and Training policies and resources:

- [Work-Related Violence in Schools Policy](#)
- [Respectful Behaviours within the School Community Policy](#)

Pearcedale Primary School policies:

- Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Inclusion and Diversity Policy
- Bullying Prevention Policy
- Parent Complaints Policy

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	August 2022
Approved by	Principal and School Council
Next scheduled review date	August 2025