



**Wimba
Primary
School**



Help for non-English speakers.

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Wimba Primary School.

Statement of School Values and 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

Wimba 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 Wimba 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, in our staff handbook and in enrolment/transition packs.

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

- share our vision, mission, and values at informal and formal school community forums
 - School assembly
 - Open days
 - Celebration of learning afternoons
 - Whole School Events (STEM night, Sport events, Art Show)
- display posters and banners that promote our vision, mission, and values in our school
 - Staff Areas – Staffroom, offices and meeting rooms
 - Parent Areas – Foyers, notice boards and displays
 - Students – Toilet areas, school grounds and play spaces
- celebrate our values in our school newsletter, school website and social media
- provide awards and recognition for students who actively demonstrate the values and behaviours outlined in our School Wide Positive Behaviour Support Matrix

- discuss and teach our values with students in the classroom, start-up program, meetings, and assemblies.
- we engage in school wide positive behaviour support with our staff and students, which includes programs such as: (Respectful Relationships and SWPBS)

Vision

Wimba Primary School's vision is to develop a **connected, inspirational, and supported learning community** in a dynamic and stimulating environment where children achieve their potential and become **confident** and **contributing** citizens.

Mission

Wimba Primary School's mission is to **cultivate excellence in every student** through high quality, research informed teaching and learning.

We aim to:

- prioritise developing skills and building capacity in Literacy and Numeracy to ensure that each child has every opportunity to achieve their greatest potential.
- work together as a Professional Learning Community to purposely maintain a relentless focus on continuous improvement of teaching and learning so that our students are curious, immersed, inspired, and engaged in learning that encourages them to thrive and develop emotionally, socially, and academically throughout their school years with us.
- develop responsible and engaged learners with high levels of pride and commitment to our school
- provide a curriculum that is rich and relevant, and research informed that allows all students to succeed
- continually generate evidence (data) to ensure the initiatives and programs implemented at the school are yielding positive results.
- develop supportive, positive, and genuine partnerships with our local community so we are partners in learning
- prioritise positive relationships between staff and students, recognising the fundamental role this plays in building and sustaining student wellbeing
- develop a climate for learning that supports an appreciation of diverse cultures and supports children to deepen their understanding of, and respect for, differences through respectful curiosity and their friendships with other children
- have high and consistent expectations of all staff, students, parents, and carers

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

Wimba Primary School's values are excellence, community, curiosity, and integrity

- **Integrity**—We are honest, open, trustworthy, and ethical;
- **Happiness**— We value the happiness of all those that play a part of our school community
- **Community**—We respect the rights of others, celebrate our diversity, and contribute to building an inclusive and thriving school and community.
- **Excellence**— We respect the rights of others, celebrate our diversity, and contribute to building an inclusive and thriving school and community.

Behavioural expectations

Wimba 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.

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 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.

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
- included in staff handbook/manual
- included in transition and enrolment packs
- included as annual reference in school newsletter
- made available in hard copy from school administration upon request.

Related policies and resources

- The Department's Policy and Advisory Library (PAL) and resources:
 - [Work-Related Violence in Schools Policy](#)
 - [Respectful Behaviours within the School Community Policy](#)
 - [Parent Complaints Policy](#)
- Related Policies:
 - Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
 - Inclusion and Diversity Policy
 - Bullying Prevention Policy
 - Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy
 - Complaints Policy
 - Duty of Care Policy

Policy review and approval

Policy last reviewed	May 2023
Approved by	*Principal
Next scheduled review date	July 2024 - to ensure ongoing relevance and continuous improvement, this policy will be reviewed every 3-4 years thereafter. The review will include input from students, parents/carers, and the school community.

* The Statement of Values and School Philosophy will be reviewed and approved by the School Council once they are appointed.