



# **RYE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

## **STATEMENT OF VALUES & SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY**

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to outline our school's vision, mission, objective, values and expectations of our school community. This policy is available on our school website, our staff and volunteer induction handbooks, and enrolment/transition packs.

### **POLICY**

Rye 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.

The programs and teaching at Rye 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 induction handbook, and in enrolment packs.

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

- publicise our school values through posters and banners
- celebrate our values in our school newsletter
- award and recognise students who actively demonstrate our values
- discuss our values with students in the classroom, meetings and assemblies.

### **VISION**

Rye Primary School's vision is to develop independent learners and creative thinkers whose values enable them to be productive citizens within a global community.

### **MISSION**

Rye Primary School's mission is to provide, within a supportive environment, a relevant, engaging and differentiated teaching and learning program based on high expectations and evidence-based teaching practices in a supportive environment.

## OBJECTIVE

Rye Primary School's objective is to foster deep thinking, creativity, collaboration and independence and inspire respect, resilience, responsibility, integrity and lifelong learning for all of our students.

## VALUES

Our school motto is 'Strive to Achieve' and our values are Respect, Integrity and Resilience:

- We **respect** and care about ourselves, about others and the environment. We understand that our attitudes and behaviours have an impact on the people and the world around us.
- We show **integrity**, and always do our best to be honest and to do the right thing.
- We demonstrate **resilience** by maintaining a positive attitude and making learning enjoyable, challenging and rewarding.

## BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS

Rye 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 safe and respectful school environment
- 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
- 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**

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
- making sexist, racist, homophobic, transphobic or derogatory comments
- using social media or public forums to make inappropriate or threatening remarks about the school, staff or students.

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 measures by the school Principal.

At the Principal's discretion, unreasonable behaviour may be managed by:

- requesting that the parties attend a mediation or counselling session/s
- 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**

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Communication with School Staff
- Respect for School Staff
- Bullying Prevention Policy

## **REVIEW CYCLE**

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's review cycle.

This policy was last updated in June 2019.

School Council approved this policy on 18th June 2019.

It is scheduled for review in June 2022.