

STATEMENT OF VALUES & SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY POLICY



IF YOU NEED HELP TO UNDERSTAND THE INFORMATION IN THIS POLICY PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE ADMINISTRATION STAFF FOR INTERPRETER ARRANGEMENTS.

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

Carnegie 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 Carnegie 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, values and expectations of our school community. This policy is available on our school website, from the office and in our staff induction handbook.

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 recognition for students who actively demonstrate the values
- discuss our values with students in the classroom, meetings and assemblies.

VISION

"We foster a learning environment where every child is empowered to succeed through explicit teaching and shared routines. We ensure that students acquire the skills and knowledge necessary to thrive academically and socially. We believe in setting high expectations for all, supporting each child's unique journey and preparing them to face life's challenges with confidence and resilience."

MISSION

Carnegie Primary School has a commitment to fostering knowledgeable, respectful and caring young people who contribute positively and responsibly to their local and global community. We believe that students need to be well known to the school. Understanding learners and building connection through genuine relationships with each child, family and the wider community is central to our work at CPS. We also believe students need to be taught well. Carnegie PS implements evidence-based teaching approaches which ensure early and sustained success at school. The school provides training to all its staff, promoting a safe, positive and orderly environment where all students are expected to learn and achieve their potential.

CARNEGIE PRIMARY SCHOOL VALUES

Respect

Valuing ourselves, others and property by being safe, supportive and inclusive.

At Carnegie Primary School, we demonstrate respect by treating others with kindness and empathy, listening to their opinions, and valuing their feelings. It's about being polite, understanding differences, and showing care for people, property, and the environment. Respect helps everyone feel safe, included, and valued in our community.

Resilience

We are brave enough to make mistakes and learn and grow from challenges.

At Carnegie Primary School, we demonstrate resilience by acknowledging our challenges and always trying when things are hard. We demonstrate persistence as we try to learn and grow from our difficult situations.

Curiosity

We explore, seek, ask and want to find out more!

At Carnegie Primary School, we demonstrate curiosity by asking questions, listening to learn more and being active in our learning.

Integrity

We do the right thing even when no one is watching.

At Carnegie Primary School, we demonstrate integrity by being honest, taking responsibility for our actions and making good choices. We are guided by a moral compass.

BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS

Carnegie 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
- 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

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, 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 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 school policies relevant to this policy can be found on our school website

- Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy
- Bullying Policy

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
- Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

Policy Review and Approval

Policy last reviewed	June 15th 2025
Approved by	School Council electronic endorsement June 2025 Principal
Next scheduled review date	June 2028

