
Statement of Values and School Philosophy



HELP FOR NON-ENGLISH SPEAKERS

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Aitken Hill Primary School on 03 8377 1000 or aitken.hill.ps@education.vic.gov.au.

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

Aitken Hill 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 Aitken Hill 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 and in enrolment packs.

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

- display posters and banners that promote our values in our school.
- celebrate our values in our school newsletter.
- provide CARE tickets and recognition for students who actively demonstrate the values.
- discuss our values with students in the classroom, meetings and assemblies.

1. Vision

Every member of the school community has a right to fully participate in an educational environment that is safe, supportive and inclusive. Our vision is to be a leader in 21st century learning, through creating a learning community where every student has the opportunity to achieve success and participate as a responsible global citizen who creates opportunities for themselves and others. Building a better world, one student at a time.

Aitken Hill Primary School is committed to providing a safe, secure and stimulating learning environment for all students. Students reach their full educational potential only when they are happy, healthy and safe, and when

there is a positive school culture to engage and support them in their learning. We acknowledge that student wellbeing and student learning outcomes are inextricably linked.

2. Mission

It is the mission of Aitken Hill Primary School to provide our students with a safe and supportive learning environment that motivates and challenges students to achieve their full potential. To provide excellence in teaching and learning and to ensure that all students experience success. Through community connectedness, students develop a love of learning allowing them to become self-motivated and curious citizens. At Aitken Hill Primary School, we pursue excellence, inspire performance, empower students to think big and be the leaders of tomorrow.

3. 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.

4. Values

Aitken Hill Primary School's values are 'Caring for Yourself', 'Caring for Others', 'Caring for your Learning' and 'Caring for our School'.

'Caring for your Learning' aims to develop students who:

- are prepared for their learning
- take responsible risks with their learning.
- maintain a positive attitude and growth mindset to their learning.
- are problem solvers.

'Caring for our School' aims to develop students who:

- look after their community, school grounds, equipment and property.
- follow our school values when we represent our school.

'Caring for Yourself' aims to develop students who:

- take responsibility for their learning.
- play safely and responsibly.
- strive to reach their goals.
- develop strategies for resilience.

'Caring for Others' aims to develop students that:

- greet others and speak politely.
- support others with their learning.
- work cooperatively with everyone.
- respect others' feelings.

Aitken Hill Primary School recognises that students who that commit to demonstrating these behaviours regularly contribute to a positive whole school culture and also their own personal growth and learning.

5. Behavioural expectations

Aitken Hill 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 and and 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](#).

6. 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 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 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
- Included in staff handbook
- Included in enrolment packs
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies on the Department's Policy and Advisory Library (PAL):

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

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	November 2024
Approved by	School Council – 5th of Feb 2025
Next scheduled review date	Before November 2028