



STATEMENT OF VALUES AND SCHOOL 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

Parkmore 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 Parkmore 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 our values in our school
- Celebrate our values in our school assemblies
- Provide awards and recognition for students who actively demonstrate our values
- Discuss our values with students in the classroom and assemblies

VISION

Parkmore Primary School's vision:

'Parkmore Primary School is a positive and inclusive learning community. We strive to achieve our best and to become lifelong learners, engaged citizens and good friends.'

MISSION

Parkmore Primary School's mission is to:

- Equip our learners with the knowledge, skills, resilience and mindsets for life as engaged and positive members of the community
- Empower our learners through student voice, inclusion and positive parent and community partnerships

- Utilise evidence-based practices to ensure optimum academic, social and wellbeing outcomes for every learner

OBJECTIVE

Parkmore Primary School's objective is to develop individuals who:

- Are curious and creative lifelong learners
- Understand themselves as learners, and use that knowledge to achieve optimum academic, social and wellbeing outcomes
- Are productive, adaptable and resilient members of their community

VALUES

Parkmore Primary School's values are:

Excellence

- We strive for excellence, which means trying our hardest and doing our best
- When we strive for excellence, we are proud of ourselves

Resilience

- We don't give up when things are difficult – we keep striving to reach our goals
- We have a growth mindset and show perseverance and curiosity

Responsibility

- We show responsibility when we think of others, and are honest about our actions
- We are responsible when we use our student voice to help our school community, our peers and our learning
- We show responsibility as leaders

Respect

- We respect ourselves, our school and each other, and understand that our attitudes and behaviours have an impact on the people around us
- We show respect to others when we treat them as we would like to be treated
- We show respect to others when we actively listen to their ideas

Inclusiveness

- We model and demonstrate inclusiveness, which means not leaving others out
- We take every opportunity to help others that may be in need
- We use our friendship chair to include others

BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS

Parkmore 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
- 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:

- 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 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.

COMMUNICATION

Under the Minimum Standards for School Registration, schools are required to publish a statement of their philosophy and be able to produce evidence of an outline of where the statement is published.

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 as annual reference in school newsletter
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

Department of Education and Training policies and resources:

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

This Statement will be published on the Parkmore Primary School Website:

<https://www.parkmore.vic.edu.au/>

For more information, refer to Parkmore Primary School's:

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

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	September 2023
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	September 2026