



KIEWA VALLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

STATEMENT OF VALUES AND PHILOSOPHY

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to outline the values of our school community and explain the vision of our school.

POLICY

Kiewa Valley 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 Kiewa Valley 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, purpose, values and expectations of our school community. [This policy is available on our school website, in our staff handbook, enrolment pack and on Compass via parent log in.](#)

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

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

VISION

KVPS is committed to the development of our students as motivated, independent and confident lifelong learners who have strong foundational skills in literacy and numeracy.

Critical thinking, problem solving, communication, collaboration, innovation and creativity are key levers in supporting our purpose: to have our students become responsible, resilient, optimistic and generous global citizens of the 21st century.

VALUES

Kiewa Valley Primary School's values are;

- * *Kindness*
- * *Respect*
- * *Team Work*
- * *Honesty and Trust*
- * *Resilience*
- * *Learning*
- * *Being your best*

KINDNESS

Students, staff and school community members will demonstrate the value of Kindness by:

- *Using the Golden Rule (Treat People the Way you want to be treated.)*
- *Including others so they feel part of our community*
- *Smiling and using their manners e.g holding the door open*
- *Being a bucket filler to put drips in the buckets of others*
- *Being genuine when you say sorry*
- *Doing random acts to help others or make them smile*
- *Showing gratitude to others when they do things for you*

RESPECT

Students, staff and school community members will demonstrate the value of Respect by:

- *Respect for self, others and property*
- *Valuing the individuality and diversity of all members of the school community.*
- *Greeting each other*
- *Treating people in a polite manner which engenders an open, calm, engaging and honest flow of communication.*
- *Treating others in a fair and consistent manner.*
- *Taking pride in and care of the physical environment of the school and community.*

TEAMWORK

Students, staff and school community members will demonstrate the value of Teamwork by:

- *Working productively in a supportive team environment, which upholds our school values.*
- *Working together to achieve the vision and goals of the school and community.*
- *Appreciate the different sets of skills, knowledge and attributes that each team member brings.*
- *Promoting inclusive practices.*
- *Being explicit about the skills required when working in a team.*

HONESTY AND TRUST

Students, staff and school community members will demonstrate the value of Honesty and Trust by:

- *Ensuring that there is open and honest communication which engenders a culture of trust.*

- *Providing a safe, supportive and secure environment.*
- *Contributing to the building and modelling of trustworthy partnerships.*

RESILIENCE

Students, staff and school community members will demonstrate the value of Resilience by:

- *Participating fully in the life of the school.*
- *Supporting and encouraging others to spring back or rebound in the face of adversity.*
- *Accepting that challenge provides the opportunity for personal growth.*
- *By the use of language which supports and encourages an environment of 'having a go'.*

LEARNING

Students, staff and school community members will demonstrate the value of Learning by:

- *Respecting each individual's right to learn.*
- *Understanding that learning is a dynamic process. That we all learn at different times and at different rates.*
- *Having a belief that everyone can learn.*
- *Engaging in and taking responsibility for their learning.*
- *Identifying and developing learning goals which are personal, achievable and supported by those around them.*
- *Appreciating that learning is not limited to the school environment.*
- *Supporting each other in the learning process.*

BEING YOUR BEST

Students, staff and school community members will demonstrate the value of Being Your Best by:

- *Setting personal goals that are achievable.*
- *Striving to put in their best effort at all times.*
- *Understanding that success is often measured by the journey taken (process) and not the final destination (product).*
- *Recognising and celebrating the achievement and success of self and others*

BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS

Kiewa Valley 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 principal and school leaders, we will aspire to:

- 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 aspire to:

- 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 aspire to:

- 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 aspire to:

- 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 aspire to:

- 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 our 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 and Harassment 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

Please see our *Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy*

REVIEW CYCLE

This policy was last ratified on 30th January 2019 and is scheduled for review in 2020.