



## STATEMENT OF VALUES AND SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY POLICY (2023-2027)



### Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact Morang South Primary School office on 9404 1548.

### 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

Morang South 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 Morang South 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, our staff handbook, and included in enrolment packs.

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

## VISION

Morang South Primary School's vision is to become a vibrant learning community where all members are challenged and empowered to strive for and celebrate personal excellence and continuous growth. The children will become positive, compassionate, able, creative, confident thinkers, and life long, socially responsible learners equipped to thrive in and shape the future of our evolving global society.

## MISSION

### Teaming for Success; Striving for Excellence

Morang South Primary School is a committed and unified partnership of teachers, parents and children. We value diversity and strive for excellence. We are committed to providing a high quality education in a cooperative, caring and safe environment. Children are encouraged and challenged to reach their full potential.

## 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.

## VALUES

### Our Values

	Respect	Learning	Trust	Honesty	Caring	Tolerance	Cooperation
Definition	Treating everybody and everything with consideration and courtesy	Gaining knowledge, skills and understanding through endeavour and experience	Confidently relying on someone believing they will make the appropriate choices for both the individual and the group	Being truthful, sincere and open so others can trust you	Showing concern for others and being thoughtful and understanding of their feelings	Being fair towards and accepting of other people's beliefs, differences and opinions	Working together towards a common goal and being able to work and act positively with others
This means	Caring about myself, others and the environment	Knowing and understanding more	Doing the right thing and having faith in others	Your thoughts, words and actions reflect what you say or do	Thinking with the heart.	Finding ways of allowing for and celebrating differences	Working together to get the job done
This happens when	<p>I interact positively with others</p> <p>I am loyal to and supportive of my community</p> <p>I show courtesy to everyone – using manners.</p>	<p>I reflect on my learning</p> <p>I ask questions</p> <p>I focus on ideas and tasks</p>	<p>I can be relied upon</p> <p>I act in a responsible manner</p> <p>I make appropriate choices</p>	<p>I tell the truth</p> <p>I take responsibility for my actions</p> <p>When I am honest, I feel clear inside.</p>	<p>I consider the feelings of others</p> <p>I am supportive</p> <p>I am kind and considerate</p>	<p>I accept and respect other's differences and beliefs</p> <p>I value and listen to opinions</p> <p>I do my best to get on with others</p>	<p>I contribute positively to the team</p> <p>I consider other's ideas</p> <p>I support others</p>

I treat others the way I wish to be treated	I learn from mistakes	I have faith in others	I encourage others to be truthful	I am forgiving	I am patient	I share the load – knowledge, skills and responsibility
I am responsible for my own property	I try to solve problems	Others have confidence in my choices	I acknowledge others when they are truthful	I am understanding	I treat others equally	I use time wisely
I am careful with the property of others	I take responsibility for my learning		I demonstrate my honesty by my thoughts, words and actions	I treat others the way I wish to be treated	I see each person I meet as a unique being	I stay on task
I take care of the environment	I help others to learn		I truthfully report the words and actions I am concerned about	I think before I speak and act	I stay calm in difficult situations	I take turns
I have a positive and resilient approach to life	I allow others to learn			I show appreciation for the care I receive		I encourage others
	I use my learning in different ways			I acknowledge other's work and efforts		I am willing to negotiate and compromise
	I celebrate my learning					I can be a leader and a participant
	I take risks and challenge myself with my learning					
	I apply myself to my learning					
	I persevere to achieve my goals					

## BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS

Morang South 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 Engagement, Wellbeing and Inclusion Policy*, and *Bullying and Harassment 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](#).

## 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 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 Engagement, Wellbeing and Inclusion 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 handbook/manual
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

## RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

Department of Education and Training policies and resources:

- [Work-Related Violence in Schools Policy](#)

- [Respectful Behaviours within the School Community Policy](#)

Morang South Primary School policies:

- Student Engagement, Wellbeing and Inclusion Policy
- Bullying Prevention Policy
- Complaints and Grievances Resolution Policy

#### POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	April 2023
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	April 2027