

STATEMENT OF VALUES AND SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact the School Principal on 93144919

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

Yarraville Special Developmental 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 Yarraville Special Developmental 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 induction handbook, and student 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

Yarraville Special Developmental School's vision is 'Excellence in Learning'.

PURPOSE

Our purpose is to engage our students in innovative and high-quality education and social programs in a friendly and caring environment. The school is a place where learning is fun, and our students achieve in ways which provide a basis for continued learning. Our school community forms part of a diverse and larger community, and our focus is on the ability of our students to participate in this local community and beyond.

OBJECTIVE

Yarraville Special Developmental School is committed to providing EVERY CHILD, EVERY OPPORTUNITY, EVERY DAY to maximise the potential of each student.

SCHOOL VALUES

Yarraville Special Developmental School's values are to 'Be Safe, Be Respectful and Be Responsible'.

Yarraville Special Developmental School has clearly stated and visible expectations for each of the learning areas that are specifically taught, modelled, and actively rewarded at a Whole School and at a classroom level. The behavior expectations are taught and implemented according to the individual students' understanding.

Primary Learning Area

Expected Behaviours	Be Safe I will...	Be Respectful I will...	Be Responsible I will...	Always I will... 
Classroom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask before you leave the room Hands down, feet down Walk inside 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take turns Respect others' personal space Use quiet voice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look at schedule Pack away Take care of equipment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask for help Listen to teachers Wait quietly
Playground	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hands down, feet down Wear helmet when riding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take turns Clothes on in public 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stop, look, listen Personal space 	
Transitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walk together Stop when asked Stay together 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take turns Hands down, feet down 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pack away Go to the door 	
Community Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay with the group Put seatbelt on Look (road signs) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take turns Hands down, feet down Look with your eyes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep name tag on Be careful Pack away 	

Secondary Learning Area

Expected Behaviours	Be Safe I will...	Be Respectful I will...	Be Responsible I will...	Always I will... 
Classroom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask an adult before I leave the room Keep hands to myself and feet down Walk inside 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use my inside voice Wait my turn Use my manners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask for a break Look at schedule Pack away when finished Be organised 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask for help if needed Listen to adults Wait quietly Do my work Give personal space
Playground	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safe Hands Tell the teacher if something/someone is upsetting you Be aware of my surroundings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wait my turn Take a break Ask to join in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wear a helmet when riding a bike Be Sun Smart Wear appropriate clothing 	
Transitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walk safely Go straight to my next class 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold the door open for my friends Wait for an adult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pack away when asked Be organised 	
Community Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay together with the group Wear my seatbelt Be careful of moving cars Do not talk to strangers Stop, Look, Listen 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wait my turn Listen when others are talking Use my manners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep lanyard/wrist band on Pack away MT & Lunch Wear appropriate clothing Be organised 	

BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS

Yarraville Special Developmental School’s 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 behavior 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 behaviors from parents
- treat all members of the school community with respect.

As parents and carers, we will:

- model positive behavior 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 with support, we will:

- attend school
- participate fully in their educational program
- display positive behaviors that demonstrate respect for themselves, their peers, their teachers, and members of the school community
- respect the right of others to learn
- work and play safely with others

As community members, we will:

- model positive behavior 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
- utilize 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 behavior 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 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/manual
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Complaints Resolution Policy: <https://yarravillesds.vic.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Complaints-resolution-Policy.pdf>

REVIEW CYCLE: This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's four-year review cycle.

This policy was ratified by School Council on: 26th October 2021