



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

Queenscliff 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 Queenscliff 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 induction handbook and enrolment/transition 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

Queenscliff Primary School's vision is 'learning for the future'.

MISSION

Queenscliff Primary School’s mission is to provide rigorous, purposeful and comprehensive learning programs that empower our students to achieve the highest quality of academic success. Our holistic approach to learning encompasses extra-curricular disciplines including; extensive arts, language, science, health and wellbeing programs. We aim to provide multiple exposures that enable students to live in, and contribute to an ever-changing society, whilst working collaboratively within and beyond our school community.

OBJECTIVE

Queenscliff Primary School’s objective is to cultivate creative, resilient, respectful, and inclusive learners who achieve their potential and become responsible, independent citizens who care about themselves, others and their environment.

VALUES

Queenscliff Primary School’s values are Empathy, Integrity, Gratitude and Optimism.



Optimism



Gratitude



Integrity



Empathy

BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS

Queenscliff 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.

Queenscliff Primary School – Behaviour Expectation Matrix				
	Integrity	Gratitude	Empathy	Optimism
Classroom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I will focus on my learning. I will encourage others to focus on their learning. I will do the right thing at all times. I will make good choices that will help my learning. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I will respect my learning tools and belongings. I will value my opportunity to learn. I will respect the ideas and opinions of others. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I will respect the differences of my peers and teachers. I will be understanding of the feelings of others. I will share the classroom space with others. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I will see challenges as an opportunity to learn. I will seek help when I need it. I will aim to do my personal best at all times.
School Yard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I will play fairly and follow the rules of all games I will help others understand the rules of games. I will respect the personal space of others. I will play safely at all times. I will use strategies to solve problems. I will show sportsmanship at all times. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I will take care of all school resources. I will care for the environment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I will be inclusive of others. I will share the school yard space with others. I will listen to and accept staff decisions. I will assist other students in need. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I will be receptive to the ideas of others. I will seek the yard duty teacher when needed. I will have a positive attitude when participating in all games.
Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I will be responsible in the community. I will show pride in my school. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I will value learning in the community. I will appreciate the contribution of all community members. I will appreciate the opportunity to learn outside of our school. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I will share and respect the community space with others. I will use kind words. I will show understanding of others. I will consider the feelings and circumstances of others. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I will appreciate the learning opportunities in my community. I will be open to all learning opportunities. I will ask questions to help me understand.
All Settings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I will own my actions. I will use my manners at all times. I will demonstrate honesty at all times. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I will be respectful to my peers and teachers. I will appreciate all opportunities given to me. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I will share the space with others. I will use kind words. I will listen and accept staff decisions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I will see challenges as an opportunity to learn. I will try my personal best at all times.

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
- 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
- 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.

- Communicate politely and respectfully with all members of the school community, in line with the Department's [Respectful Behaviours within the School Community Policy](#).

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

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
- 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](#)

Queenscliff Primary School policies:

- [Student Wellbeing and Engagement](#)
- [Inclusion and Diversity Policy](#)
- [Bullying Prevention Policy](#)
- [Parents Complaints Policy](#)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	26/10/2022
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	10/2026