



STATEMENT OF VALUES AND SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY

UNIVERSITY PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL

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:

University Park 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 responsibility for, creating an inclusive and safe school environment for our students.

The programs and teaching at University Park 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 and promote our values in the 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

University Park Primary School's vision is stated below:

'At University Park Primary School, we work collaboratively to ensure every individual learns to their full potential and is a respectful and responsible member of the school community.'

MISSION

University Park Primary School's mission is to build a positive environment through strong relationships that enable all students to become happy, healthy and resilient members of the community. We realise the goals of excellence and equity through an ongoing focus on the wellbeing and learning needs of every student. Our intent is to develop successful lifelong learners and active informed members of just and sustainable communities.

OBJECTIVES

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

University Park Primary School's values are honesty, respect, responsibility, learning and collaboration.

- Respect is defined as whole body listening, using kind words, including others, speaking in a calm voice, using school equipment properly and keeping hands and feet to ourselves.
- Honesty is defined as being fair, telling the truth, being trustworthy and accepting responsibility.
- Responsibility is defined as being organised, finishing what you start, taking care of property, showing effort in learning, self-regulating and finding out what you don't know.
- Collaboration is defined as taking turns, listening to each other, giving and receiving feedback, sharing and respecting different ideas and supporting each other.
- Learning is defined as being focused and ready, being curious, being persistent, sharing ideas, taking risks and making connections.

BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS

University Park 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.
- 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 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.
- provide the school with accurate emergency contact details if any changes occur.
- 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:

- 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.

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 school Principal.

At the Principal's discretion, unreasonable behaviour may be managed by:

- requesting that the parties attend 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.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES:

[Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy](#)

[Communication with School Staff Policy](#)

[Respect for School Staff Policy](#)

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

REVIEW CYCLE AND EVALUATION:

POLICY LAST REVIEWED	JUNE 2025
APPROVED BY	SCHOOL COUNCIL – AUGUST 2025
NEXT SCHEDULED REVIEW DATE	BEFORE JUNE 2029