

	<b>Policy Name:</b>	School Philosophy and Statement of Values	<b>Approved by School Council</b>	27.3.23
	<b>Responsible:</b>	Leadership Team	<b>Review Date:</b>	March 2027

## SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY & STATEMENT OF VALUES

### POLICY

Tyabb 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/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 Tyabb Primary School support and promote the principles of the 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, objectives, values and expectations of our school community.

This policy is available on our school website, our staff information book and parent information book.

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

- display posters and 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,
- promote the expected behaviours for all members of the community through newsletters and our website.
- Consider our school vision, mission and values when making all decisions.

### SCHOOL VISION

All students are empowered to learn and achieve their personal best through high quality teaching and the best environment for learning which equip them with the knowledge, skills, values and positive mindset to become active, engaged and productive members of the local and global community.

### MISSION

Tyabb Primary School has been a vital part of the Tyabb community since 1891, providing leadership in the education of our children and a focus for the community.

We aim to ensure that all students:

- learn the necessary skills and attitudes to become productive, caring, thinking individuals, develop as adaptable and resilient individuals who respect themselves, others and the environment,
- become lifelong learners, and
- strive for excellence.

We will provide a safe, positive and stimulating environment where parents, teachers, students and the wider community work cooperatively to ensure:

- an engaging and challenging curriculum,
- exceptional teaching and high standard resources.

## OBJECTIVES

Our view of the future at Tyabb Primary School includes:

- An environment where confident students take responsibility for their learning. We show initiative, celebrate our successes and value an inquiring mind.
- A challenging and comprehensive curriculum that stimulates all students to do their best. We value effort, endeavour and we pursue excellence.
- A highly skilled staff who are motivated and enthusiastic about learning and teaching. We respect a teacher's right to teach and a student's right to learn.
- An environment where respect for others and unity between all members of the school community is highly valued. We treat each other with consideration and regard. We are inclusive.
- A caring and supportive environment which promotes honesty and where children feel safe and secure. We build positive relationships within our community.

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

Tyabb Primary School has a strong commitment to a set of core values. These values underpin all decisions made in the school and provide a framework for behavioural expectations of all community members. Our school values are taught through all curriculum areas and through our daily interactions with each other. They are the foundation for a safe and caring school committed to working and learning together.

### RESPECT

To act in a way that shows you care for yourself, others and the environment.

### SAFETY

To behave in a safe manner. To protect yourself and others from injury, risk or danger.

### RESPONSIBILITY

To take care of someone or something. To make good choices and **accept the consequences of your actions.**

### INTEGRITY

To do the right thing and be kind, caring, honest and trustworthy.

### OPTIMISM

To always strive for your best and display a positive attitude.

# STATEMENT OF VALUES

Tyabb Primary School recognises the importance of the partnership between schools and parents to support student learning, engagement and wellbeing. We share a commitment to, and a responsibility for, ensuring inclusive, safe and orderly environments for children and young people. This Statement of Values sets out our behavioural expectations of all members in this school community, including the principal, all school staff, parents, students and visitors. It respects the diversity of individuals in our school community and addresses the shared responsibilities of all members in building safe and respectful school communities.

Discrimination, sexual and other forms of harassment, bullying, violence, aggression and threatening behaviour are unacceptable and will not be tolerated in this school. Our Statement of Values acknowledges that parents and school staff are strongly motivated to do their best for every child. Everyone has the right to differing opinions and views and to raise concerns, as long as we do this respectfully as a community working together.

<u>Tyabb Primary School Values</u>	<u>Whole School Rules and Expectations</u> <u>Students</u>
<p><b>RESPECT</b></p> <p><i>To act in a way that shows you care for yourself, others and the environment.</i></p>	<p><u>We show this value by:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Being kind and caring</li> <li>• Accepting and including others</li> <li>• Actively listening</li> <li>• Using good manners</li> <li>• Following staff instructions</li> <li>• Caring for property / environment</li> </ul>
<p><b>SAFETY</b></p> <p><i>To behave in a safe manner. To protect yourself and others from injury, risk or danger.</i></p>	<p><u>We show this value by:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Respecting personal space</li> <li>• Keeping hands and feet to ourselves</li> <li>• Using equipment as instructed</li> <li>• Walking inside and undercover</li> <li>• Respecting school boundaries</li> <li>• Following staff instructions</li> </ul>
<p><b>RESPONSIBILITY</b></p> <p><i>To take care of someone or something. To make good choices and accept the consequences of your actions.</i></p>	<p><u>We show this value by:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Being persistent and trying our best</li> <li>• Bouncing back and being resilient</li> <li>• Being organised and ready to learn</li> <li>• Finishing what we have started</li> <li>• Making good choices and accepting the consequences of your actions</li> </ul>
<p><b>INTEGRITY</b></p> <p><i>To do the right thing and be kind, caring, honest and trustworthy.</i></p>	<p><u>We show this value by:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Doing the right thing</li> <li>• Helping others</li> <li>• Being kind, caring and trustworthy</li> <li>• Being honest and telling the truth</li> <li>• Accepting and including others</li> <li>• Taking responsibility for our actions</li> </ul>
<p><b>OPTIMISM</b></p> <p><i>To always strive for your best and display a positive attitude.</i></p>	<p><u>We show this value by:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Striving to be our best</li> <li>• Having a positive attitude</li> <li>• Encouraging and supporting others</li> <li>• Believing you can do it!</li> <li>• Enjoying school and making the most of opportunities</li> </ul>

## **BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS**

Tyabb 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,
- 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 ALL NON-TEACHING 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,
- communicate politely and respectfully with all members of the school community, in line with the Department's [Respectful Behaviours within the School Community Policy](#).
- 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 model positive behaviour to other students,

### **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*, *Welfare and Discipline 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.

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 the office 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](#)

Tyabb Primary School Policies (Available on the school's website):

- Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Inclusion and Diversity Policy
- Bullying Prevention Policy
- Parent Complaints Policy

## POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	27.03.23
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	March 2027