

SEAFORD NORTH PS

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

Seaford North 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 Seaford North 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 [insert or amend] on our school website.

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

- display posters and banners that promote your learner profile and values in our school
- celebrate our mission statement and 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

Seaford North Primary School's vision is to provide all Seaford North Primary School students with a high quality, challenging, global education which develops compassion and respect.

MISSION

Seaford North Primary School's mission is to provide all Seaford North Primary School students with a high quality, challenging, global education which develops compassion and respect.

We provide engaging learning opportunities that includes essential knowledge, concepts, skills and attitudes, enabling students to transfer these to new situations necessary in a rapidly changing world.

We are committed to differentiation so that students work at their level and are able to make decisions about their learning in line with the curriculum.

We encourage students to take responsibility with their learning so that they can be purposeful and make a difference to themselves and their world.

VALUES

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.

BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS

Seaford North 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.

RESPONSIBILITIES

As Principal, Assistant Principal 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 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, Carers we will:

- ✓ model positive behaviour 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, 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.

The Department of Education and Training will:

- ✓ Provide support and advice to principals to equip them to manage and respond to challenging behaviour of students, parents and staff.
- ✓ Provide practical guidance and resources to support schools to manage and respond to challenging behaviour of students, parents and staff.
- ✓ Provide practical guidance and resources to support schools respond to and prevent bullying and promote cyber-safety and wellbeing.
- ✓ Provide access to evidence based resources and strategies to increase student safety, wellbeing and engagement.
- ✓ Provide schools with practical and legal support as required.
- ✓ Provide parents with practical guidance and resources to resolve conflicts with the school.

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 Volunteers and 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/restorative practice 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 **Seaford North PS Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy*** and ***Seaford North PS 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

- Seaford North PS Student Engagement and Wellbeing Policy,
- Child Safe Standards and associated policies and resources
- Seaford North PS Communication Policy,
- Seaford North PS Respect for School Staff Policy
- Seaford North PS Bullying Prevention Policy.

Visit the school website: www.seaford-northps.vic.edu.au

By agreeing to meet specified standards of positive behaviour, everyone in our school community can be assured that they will be treated with fairness and respect. In turn, this will help to create a school that is safe, inclusive and orderly, where everyone is empowered to participate and learn.



This policy was last updated on 20th November 2019 and is scheduled for review in November 2022.

School council approved this policy on 20th November 2019.