Strathtulloh Primary School

Statement of Values and School Philosophy Policy

Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact strathtulloh.ps@education.vic.gov.au

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

Strathtulloh 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 atStrathtulloh 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 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 HEART values in our school
- celebrate our values in our school communications
- provide awards and recognition for students who actively demonstrate the values
- discuss our values with students in the classroom, meetings and assemblies
- explicitly teach and positively reinforce behaviours that demonstrate our values.

VISION

Strathtulloh Primary School's vision is to *ensure all students graduate from our school as knowledgeable and talented individuals who embody respectful relationships and are positive, proactive members of the local and global community*.

MISSION

Strathtulloh Primary School's mission is to *provide students with the best possible foundation in life through a well-rounded education. We will empower and educate all students to achieve their next steps of learning.*

OBJECTIVE

Strathtulloh Primary School's objective is to *have each student achieve their equivalent of a minimum of 12 months growth over a traditional school year.*

VALUES

Strathtulloh Primary School's values are:
Helpful, Excelling, Accepting, Resilient & Trustworthy

🧡🧡🧡 We are **HELPFUL** when assisting ourselves, other students, staff, our school and community

💛💛💛 We are **EXCELLING** when we are striving for the best we can do individually and collectively

❤️❤️❤️ We are **ACCEPTING** when we welcome people of different beliefs, traditions and perspectives

💚💚💚 We are **RESILIENT** when we bounce back from the hurdles of life and find opportunities.

💙💙💙 We are **TRUSTWORTHY** when we are honest, keep our word and work for the greater good.
We have, demonstrate, support and strive for a Strathtulloh HEART #StrathtullohHEART

BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS

Strathtulloh 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.

Shared expectations of staff, parents, carers and students to support positive student behaviour are set out in the Respectful, safe, engaged: shared expectations to support student behaviour statement.

Students are also supported by school staff to meet expected standards of behaviour as outlined in our SPS Code of Conduct, Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy, Inclusion and Diversity Policy and Bullying Prevention Policy.

- 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 at all times
- respect ourselves, other members of the school community and the school environment • positively and proactively participate in learning and school life
- not disrupt the learning of others and make the most of our educational opportunities • treat all members of the school community with respect.

Staff must follow our school and department policies and the Victorian Public Service Code of Conduct and Values.

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 their children

- work with parents to understand the needs of their children and, where necessary, adapt the learning environment accordingly
- work collaboratively with parents to improve learning and wellbeing outcomes for all students (including students with additional needs)
- communicate with the principal and the school leadership team in the event we anticipate or face any tension or challenging behaviours from parents
- treat all members of the school community with respect.

Teaching staff also adhere to the Victorian Teaching Profession's Code of Conduct.

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.

Parents and carers play a vital role in helping their child understand and meet shared behaviour expectations.

- 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
- positively 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, other members of the school community with respect.

Additionally, information about the expectations of parents and carers to ensure schools remain respectful and inclusive places is outlined in the department's Respectful Behaviours within the School Community Policy, SPS Code of Conduct and our Respect for School Staff Policy. Schools can share these expectations through use of posters available in over 30 translated languages.

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:

- 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 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 Code of Conduct, *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 and staff information portal
- included as annual reference in school communication method *The Pulse* made available in hard copy from the front office upon request.

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

Department of Education policies and resources:

- Work-Related Violence in Schools Policy
- Respectful Behaviours within the School Community Policy
- Respectful, safe, engaged: shared expectations to support student behaviour

SPS polices:

- Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Inclusion and Diversity Policy
- Bullying Prevention Policy
- Parent Complaints Policy
- Respect for School Staff Policy

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	*January 2026*
Approved by	*School Council*
Next scheduled review date	*January 2030*