

STATEMENT OF VALUES AND SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact 9435 2585.

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

Lower Plenty 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 Lower Plenty 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, values and expectations of our school community. This policy is available 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 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 AND MISSION

To support children's ever-increasing curiosity about the world in which they live and prepare them to be successful in life.

PHILOSOPHY

Our priority goes beyond the development of the child's academic skills. Children are taught to become self confident, independent thinkers, interested in the world and enthusiastic about life. This excellence in learning and development is achieved by prescribing to the following:

- Learning is based on the principles of respect and independence

- Children learn to think for themselves
- Each child is considered to be a unique individual
- Children are driven by cooperation and collaboration
- Children learn from concrete experience and direct interaction with the environment

OBJECTIVE

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

At Lower Plenty Primary we CARE

- C – Compassionate towards others
- A – Take Action and use our initiative
- R – Role Models for others
- E – Engage in learning

Each term we teach 10 essential skills that will assist us in achieving our values:

Compassionate	Action Takers	Role Models	Engaged with Learning
What are the valuable skills that I possess and can develop?	How can I effectively contribute and share my ideas?	How can my personal skills be of service to others?	What are the ways in which I can work and better understand others?
1. Humility 2. Love 3. Humour 4. Compromise 5. Independence 6. Confidence 7. Resilience 8. Bravery 9. Empathy 10. Self Awareness	1. Body Language and Tone 2. Conversation Skills 3. Critical Thinking 4. Adaptability 5. Presentation Skills 6. Persuasive Skills 7. Dispute Resolution 8. Debating Respectfully 9. Time Management 10. Planning and Organisation	1. Team Building 2. Giving Back 3. Goal Setting 4. Global Awareness 5. Public Speaking 6. Motivating Others 7. Inspiring Others 8. Equality 9. Environmental Care 10. Story Telling	1. Creativity 2. Understanding 3. Verbal Communication 4. Active Listening 5. Interpersonal Relationships 6. Teaching 7. Emotional Intelligence 8. Mentoring 9. Intention 10. Self Assessment

BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS

Lower Plenty Primary School acknowledges that the behaviour of staff, parents, carers and students has an impact on our school community and culture.

Staff have a range of expectations around behaviour and must follow our school and Department policies and the Victorian Public Service Code of Conduct and Values. Teaching staff also adhere to the [Victorian Teaching Profession Code of Conduct](#).

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

Information about the expectations on parents and carers to ensure schools remain respectful and inclusive places is outlined in the Department’s [Respectful Behaviours within the School Community Policy](#) and our Respect for School Staff Policy.

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 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
- 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](#)

Example school policies:

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

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	30/5/2024
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	Feb 2027