

STATEMENT OF VALUES AND SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY POLICY CREEKSIDE K-9 COLLEGE



Last Ratified by School Council	Review Date	Responsible for Review
August 2026	August 2030	Principal

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

Creekside K-9 College 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 Creekside K-9 College 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 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

Creekside K-9 College's vision is to instil the values and develop the skills and knowledge students need to live effective and purposeful lives in the global community.

Mission

Creekside K-9 College's mission is to empower every student to succeed now and into the future.

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

Creekside K-9 College's values are respect, responsibility, acceptance and honesty.

Responsibility

At Creekside College, we expect students to follow the college and community rules just as they would at home. All students are expected to take care of their own belongings and that of others, and come to class prepared to learn with relevant materials. They are encouraged to take responsibility for their own learning and give it their best at all times.

Honesty

Honesty is about being truthful with ourselves and others. This includes telling the truth if we have made a poor choice and being honest about our feelings. Honesty at Creekside College is important because it allows open communication and higher levels of respect from one person to the next.

Respect

It is imperative that all members of the Creekside community have and show respect towards one another. It engenders peace and allows us all to feel safe and therefore learn more freely. Ways we can show respect include things like using manners, following instructions and being considerate of peoples' differences.

Acceptance

Acceptance is about appreciating the differences of everyone around us and celebrating people for who they are. We all have different stories and should celebrate diversity. We need to accept others in class and at playtime and always keep an open mind. When confronted with unfamiliar situations, acceptance and tolerance will allow harmonious interactions.

Behavioural Expectations

Creekside K-9 College 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](#).

How students demonstrate expected behaviours

At school, all students are expected to be respectful, safe, and engaged. These behaviours help make schools a place where everyone can succeed. Students are also 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.

Students meet these behaviour expectations by being **respectful, safe and engaged**.

Respectful

- Following staff instructions and school rules.
- Caring for school property and others' belongings.
- Using respectful language.

Safe

- Keeping themselves and others safe from harm.
- Speaking up or seeking help from an adult if they or someone else is being treated unfairly.
- Only bringing safe and necessary items to school.

Engaged

- Going to school every day, being on time, and ready to learn.
- Taking part, doing their best, and asking for help when they need.
- Knowing and following the school's policies, including the mobile phone policy.

How parents and carers can help

By modelling and encouraging positive behaviour, you help your child build the skills and habits they need to be successful at school. When families and schools work together, students can achieve their best.

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

Parents and carers can help support their child's behaviour to be **respectful, safe and engaged**.

Respectful

- Knowing the school's rules and supporting them at home.
- Modelling respectful behaviour in how you speak to and about school staff, families, and others both in person and online.
- Making use of the school's processes to raise and resolve concerns early.

Safe

- Working together with staff if your child is having problems at school to understand and resolve the issue.
- Ensuring your child knows it is okay to ask for help from a trusted adult at school.
- Ensuring your child stays safe online by talking with them and addressing concerns early.

Engaged

- Helping your child to attend school every day – every day counts.
- Communicating with school staff and working together to support your child's learning and wellbeing.
- Talking with your child about their day and how they are feeling, and encouraging their learning by noticing their effort and progress.

We know that some students and their families are struggling with school attendance or navigating school refusal. Here are some resources that can help:

- [Attendance and missing school](#)
- [Parenting strategies](#).

How schools support students to meet behaviour expectations

By teaching and reinforcing positive behaviour, schools ensure positive, safe and fair learning environments with a focus on learning and wellbeing.

Staff 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's Code of Conduct](#).

Schools support families and students by being **respectful, safe and engaged**.

Respectful

- Teaching and demonstrating school rules and positive behaviour expectations to students.
- Explicitly teaching, modelling and acknowledging expected respectful behaviour.
- Engaging collaboratively and positively with all students, parents and carers.

Safe

- Having clear policies and procedures to prevent and respond to bullying and keep students safe.
- Offering additional supports to students proactively, and supporting students to speak up and seek help.
- Proactively identifying and addressing problems to maintain a physically, socially and culturally safe school environment.

Engaged

- Delivering evidence-based, inclusive education that meets the needs of all students.
- Empowering students to have a say in decisions that affect their learning and school life.
- Building strong, trusting relationships to ensure all students feel seen, heard and valued.

The Department of Education provides resources and support for schools to build positive student behaviour and foster positive relationships between schools, students and families.

Where parents and carers can go for help

If you are concerned about your child's wellbeing, behaviour or safety you can:

- Talk to your child's teacher or identified contact person as the first step and follow the school's process for communicating concerns.
- Ask the school for support or a referral – they can connect you with wellbeing staff or specialist services.
- Contact the Department of Education's [regional office](#) if you need further assistance.

The following resources are also available:

- Raising Children Network – provides advice for parents and carers of [school-aged](#), [pre-teens](#) and [teens](#).
- [eSafety Commissioner](#) – advice for parents and carers to help keep children safe online.
- [Report Racism hotline](#) – find out how to report racism or religious discrimination in schools.
- [Bully Stoppers](#) – advice for parents and carers about bullying.



Prep to Year 6 Positive Behaviour Matrix

	Classrooms	Oval/Play Areas	Play Equipment	Canteen	Toilets	School Environment
Responsibility	Follow the classroom expectations Take responsibility for your learning Arrive on time Approach tasks with a positive mindset	Play safely with others Share and take turns Maintain a clean environment Ask permission to go out of bounds	Use equipment appropriately Report damaged equipment Return play equipment	Use your manners Spend your own money Be prepared to order Move away once you have your food	Use the toilets appropriately Practise good hygiene Use the toilet at break times	Line up safely, ready to learn Use passive areas quietly Wait calmly and safely
Honesty	Be honest about your feelings Ask for help when needed	Play by the rules Make honest decisions during games	Communicate honestly to teachers Report unsafe behaviours Return lost property	Hand in lost money Return incorrect change	Use toilets when needed Report inappropriate behaviour Report damage, misuse and graffiti	Be honest about the lining up order
Respect	Respect others' belongings Actively listen to others Speak to others respectfully	Demonstrate good sportsmanship Respect the space of others Respect property Speak to others respectfully	Respect play equipment Take turns and share	Place rubbish in bins Keep your food to yourself	Respect others' privacy Use toilets appropriately	Respect others' safety
Acceptance	Support and encourage others Accept we are all different	Include others in games Accept that accidents happen	Accept others need space to play	Wait in line patiently	Accept that our toilets are shared facilities	Involve everyone Accept our position in the line

'Empowering every student to succeed now and into the future'



Year 7-9 Positive Behaviour Matrix

	Classroom	Oval	Canteen	Toilets	School Environment	Lockers
Responsibility	Come prepared and on time Communicate events for consent/payment Ensure everyone is safe Wear correct school uniform	Maintain a clean environment Follow rules and be safe Report unacceptable behaviour	Place rubbish in bins Purchase food during allocated times	Use toilets appropriately Have diary signed Practice good hygiene Go to the toilet quickly	Stay in school boundaries Be aware of others safety Be aware of learning areas Carry a signed diary	Arrive early to get organised Ensure lockers are locked Maintain neat and tidy lockers
Honesty	Communicate openly and honestly Try our best	Demonstrate sportsmanship Play by the rules Be honest about our actions	Hand in lost money Be honest about change	Use the correct toilets Report problems	Hand in lost property Report incidents to teachers	Report locker damage or misuse Have required equipment at all time
Respect	Actively listen to others Support others to stay on task Respect the belongings of the college	Treat all belongings with respect Respect others' games and space	Be courteous to staff and students Be patient Keep our environment clean	Respect others privacy Keep the toilets clean Wait your turn patiently	Place rubbish in bins Respect others' space Line up respectfully	Respect people's lockers and locks Move away once finished
Acceptance	Accept we are all different Teamwork is a part of learning	Allow others to play Active play only	Allow people adequate space Wait patiently	Accept that our toilets are shared facilities	Wait patiently for your teacher Welcome peers and visitors	Be patient Allow people adequate space

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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
- Included in staff handbook/manual
- Included in student diaries so that it is easily accessible to parents, carers and students
- Made available in hard copy from school administration 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](#)

Creekside K-9 College policies:

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

Policy last reviewed	August 2026
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