

## Statement of Values and School Philosophy



### Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact the school administration office.

### PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to outline the values of our school community and to explain the vision, mission and objectives of our school.

### STATEMENT OF INTENT

Craigieburn 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.

Craigieburn Primary School will ensure that it is aligned with and operates consistently with the principles of Australian democracy.

The programs of, and teaching in Craigieburn 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 and values and expectations of our school community.

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

- display posters 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.

### VISION

At Craigieburn Primary School we strive is 'For all children to reach their full potential and become effective members of society'. We encourage a learning community where students will enjoy a productive, rewarding and fulfilling life, whilst contributing to their local, national and global communities. We support and respect all students, as well as staff and volunteers. We are inclusive of all students including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders as well as students from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds and students with additional needs. We believe all students can learn given the right time, support and resources.

## MISSION

At Craigieburn Primary School we believe that creating a safe and supportive school helps students to learn and grow. Students learn best when they feel safe and happy. Our school values of Responsibility, Kindness and Resilience support our vision and mission. These values are part of our daily language within our school community.

## OBJECTIVES

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. Our school's main priority is on improving student outcomes in literacy and numeracy as well as supporting student engagement and wellbeing.

## VALUES

Craigieburn Primary School's values are resilience, responsibility and kindness.

At Craigieburn Primary we have defined our values as follows:

- Resilience is to work hard and bounce back from difficult situations.
- Responsibility is to make good choices with your actions and words.
- Kindness is being caring and looking after people and property.

## SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY

Craigieburn Primary School is clear about its philosophy and can articulate it to staff, students, parents, carers and the school community.

At Craigieburn Primary School we have high expectations of all our students as we believe that all students can learn. We want students to be intrinsic learners and develop attitudes and skills to be self-motivated, responsible, active and life-long learners. We instil in our students the belief that they can make a difference. We believe that students should have an active role in their learning and participate in decision making processes within the school community.

At Craigieburn Primary School we value the partnership we have with our parents, carers and the wider community. Establishing networks and collaborating with our parents, carers and the wider community has a positive impact on our students and families.

## COMMITMENT TO CHILD SAFETY

At Craigieburn Primary School we are committed to child safety. We want our children to be safe, happy and empowered. We have zero tolerance of child abuse, and all allegations and safety concerns will be treated very seriously and in line with our policies and procedures. We have legal

and moral obligations to contact authorities when we are worried about a child's safety. We are committed to preventing child abuse and identifying risks early so as to remove/reduce these risks.

We have specific policies, procedures and training in place that support our leadership team, staff and volunteers to achieve these commitments. These include:

- Child safe policy and statement of commitment
- Code of conduct
- Mandatory reporting policy
- DET Mandatory reporting training and education for staff

## BEHAVIOUR EXPECTATIONS

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

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 student achieves their personal 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
- ask any person who is acting in an offensive, intimidating or otherwise inappropriate way to leave the school grounds.

As teachers and non-teaching school 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 and carers about student outcomes
- work with parents and carers to understand the needs of each student and, where necessary, adapt the learning environment accordingly
- work collaboratively with parents and carers 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

- 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 display 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

## UNREASONABLE BEHAVIOURS

Schools are not public places, and the Principal has the right to permit or deny entry to school grounds.

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 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. Restrictive intervention measures will only be used as a last resort and only in situations consistent with the Department's Restraint and Seclusion policy. (See DET Restraints and Seclusion 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
- Included in enrolment packs
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

## POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	July 2025
Approved by	School Council September 2025
Next scheduled review date	September 2029