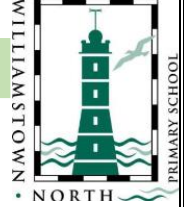




RESPECT – RESPONSIBILITY – RESILIENCE – DOING YOUR BEST



WILLIAMSTOWN NORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL No 1409

Statement of Values & School Philosophy

Date: September 2018

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline the values of our school community and explain the vision, mission and objectives (purpose) of our school; as well as articulating the behavioural expectations for all members of our school community.

2. Aims

2.1 Policy

2.1.1 Williamstown 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.

2.1.2 The programs and teaching at Williamstown 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.

2.1.3 This policy outlines our school's vision, mission, objective, values and expectations of our school community. This policy is available on our school website and is integrated into our staff induction materials.

2.1.4 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.

2.2 Vision

Williamstown North Primary School's vision is to empower students to reach their personal best and to make a positive difference with their learning.

2.3 Mission (Purpose)

Williamstown North Primary School is a dynamic and inclusive learning community that aims to promote personal excellence, critical thinking and empowerment.

2.4 Objective

Williamstown North Primary School's objective is to ensure all students leave our school equipped with a broad range of capabilities, which they will continue to further develop and nurture as lifelong learners.

2.5 Values

Williamstown North Primary School values are **Respect**, **Responsibility**, **Resilience** and **Doing Your Best**.

Our agreed understandings of these values are:

- **Respect:** *Treat others with consideration and respect another person's point of view.*
- **Responsibility:** *Be accountable for one's own actions, resolve differences in constructive and peaceful ways, contribute to society & civic life and take care of the environment.*
- **Resilience:** *Be equipped to successfully bounce back from setbacks, changes or disappointments.*
- **Doing Your Best:** *Seek to accomplish something worthy and admirable, try hard and pursue personal excellence.*

3. Implementation

3.1 Behavioural Expectations

Williamstown 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.

3.1.1 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.

3.1.2 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 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,
- treat all members of the school community with respect.

3.1.3 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.

3.1.4 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.

3.1.5 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.

3.2 Unreasonable Behaviour

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.

Our Community Code of Conduct 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. This code is underpinned by the agreed school values of Respect, Responsibility, Resilience and Doing Your Best.

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.

4. Evaluation and Review

- 4.1 This policy was endorsed by School Council on 5th September 2018 and is scheduled for review in 2020 as part of the school's Self Evaluation and Whole School Review.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES (FOUND ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE)

- *Student Wellbeing and Engagement*
http://willynthps.vic.edu.au/uploaded_files/media/student_engagement_policy_and_procedures_ratified_7th_september_2016.pdf
- *Community Code of Conduct*
http://willynthps.vic.edu.au/uploaded_files/media/community_code_of_conduct_final_2017.pdf
- *Child Safety Standards*
http://willynthps.vic.edu.au/uploaded_files/media/wnps_child_safe_documentation_september_2016.pdf
- *Visitors Policy*
http://www.willynthps.vic.edu.au/app/webroot/uploaded_files/media/visitors_to_school_policy_15_may.pdf

This Policy has been ratified by School Council September 2018