



<b>Policy Title</b>	<b>Statement of Values and School Philosophy</b>		
<b>Ratified at S.Council</b>	17 <sup>th</sup> November 2021		
<b>Updated on</b>	Term 4 2021		
<b>Reviewed by</b>	Leadership	<b>Date</b>	1/11/2021

## RATIONALE:

To outline the values of our school community and explain the vision, mission and objectives of our school.

## POLICY:

Bairnsdale West 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 Bairnsdale West 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.

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

- celebrate and acknowledge staff who demonstrate our values
- discuss our values with staff on a daily basis
- celebrate and acknowledge students who demonstrate our school rules
- discuss our school rules with students on a daily basis in a variety of contexts
- display posters and banners that promote our staff values and our school rules in our school

## VISION:

Bairnsdale West Primary School continually strives to create a high-quality learning environment that prepares all students to engage successfully in the global community.

## MISSION:

Bairnsdale West Primary School is committed to a culture of learning that:

- Emphasises relationships as a foundation for learning

- Provides social, physical, emotional and spiritual growth for all students
- Engages all students in their learning
- Delivers a comprehensive, flexible and sequential curriculum
- Provides a safe and happy environment
- Fosters strong partnerships with the wider community
- Fosters mutual respect, compassion and appreciation of difference

### AIMS FOR STUDENTS:

At Bairnsdale West Primary School students are the primary consideration in all decision-making. Our commitment and resources are focused on all students achieving to their maximum potential by:

- Being resilient, compassionate and appreciative of differences
- Developing high self-esteem and confidence
- Respecting themselves, others and the environment
- Valuing a high level of communication and interpersonal skills
- Being motivated, life-long learners
- Achieving to their best in all areas of the curriculum
- Developing enquiring minds and a spirit of curiosity

### STAFF BELIEFS AND VALUES:

The following beliefs and values are based on the commitment that students will be the primary consideration in all decision making.

#### *Respect*

- Recognising and valuing the opinions of other
- Recognising and valuing the diverse talents and abilities of all individuals
- Acknowledging the effort and achievements of others
- Encouraging a positive presentation and image of the school

#### *Honesty*

- Being truthful to ourselves and others
- Reflecting on our own values and opinions regularly
- Taking personal responsibility for words and actions
- Giving and accepting honest feedback to assist development

#### *Inclusiveness*

- Encouraging and providing opportunities for all to participate in the school community
- Recognising and utilising everybody's abilities and contributions
- Supporting minorities by making decisions empathetically
- Understanding where others "come from" so there is less judgement

#### *Effective Communication*

- Communicating is the responsibility of everyone
- Speaking to relevant people
- Listening to direct and indirect messages
- Strategically applying the timing and the delivery of interactions

### *Enjoyment and Humour*

- Having the ability to laugh at yourself
- Having the ability to laugh with others respectfully
- Having fun
- Developing an approach to education that values humour

### *Teamwork and Co-operation*

- Working together to achieve common goals
- Recognising and valuing the abilities and contributions of team members
- Accepting and supporting group decisions

## **BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS:**

Bairnsdale West 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.

At Bairnsdale West we expect all community members to follow our three school rules:

- Help others to be better
- Be Safe and thoughtful
- Respect everyone and everything

## **EVALUATION:**

- This policy is to be reviewed within a 4 year cycle.

## **COMMUNICATION:**

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Included in relevant staff induction processes
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request