

Cranbourne West Primary School

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 Cranbourne West Primary School Administration.

RATIONALE:

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

Cranbourne 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 at Cranbourne West 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, objectives and expectations of our school community. This policy is available on our school website, the Sentral Parents Portal, our staff induction handbook and on enrolment.

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:

We believe that successful people need to be active global learners who display effective executive functioning skills. This is achieved through:

- Exhibiting executive functioning skills through our daily organisation
- Readiness to engage in learning
- Ability to transition from one phase of learning to another
- Ability to work individually or collaboratively to solve problems
- Ability to articulate our learning through various media
- Being motivated to do our best and wanting to learn
- Displaying positive behaviours towards others and living the school values of Respect, Trust, Learn and Sense of Humour

Each of our school values is supported by our School Values Booklet distributed to all members of our school community and reinforced as part of our Learning Vision.

MISSION:

At Cranbourne West Primary School we ensure quality teaching and educational innovation through professional development, effective appraisal, team work, collegiate support and communication. We genuinely accept all children as individuals respecting their needs. We welcome community involvement through the provision of an open, supportive and consultative environment where contributions are recognised and valued. We promote a supportive working environment where we recognise and celebrate the contributions of all staff.

OBJECTIVE:

Cranbourne West Primary School's objectives are considered as part of the four 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:

Cranbourne West Primary School's values are Respect, Trust, Learn and Sense of Humour

Learning:

This is shown when we as students are prepared to accept challenges and we:

- ask questions about our work when we are unsure or curious
- have a go
- work alone or in groups
- are able to check how we are going
- ask and answer questions
- always try our best

This is what our school would be like if we did this:

- we would have the courage to try new things
- we would be proud of our achievements
- we would want to show all our hard work
- we would get help when we needed it

This is shown when we as students have confidence in sharing our knowledge and skills and we:

- feel safe to show and share our work
- help others by showing them what to do
- have good manners and good listening

This is what our school would be like if we did this:

- we would be confident to show all our hard work
- we would show pride in our achievements
- we would have the courage to try new things

This is shown when we as students listen and we:

- sit quietly when someone is talking

look at the person talking
listen carefully to other people's ideas

This is what our school would be like if we did this:
we would understand the rules of being a good audience

This is shown when we as students co-operate with others in a positive manner and we:
help and share with others
accept each other's differences
speak nicely to each other
work and play together and use good manners

This is what our school would be like if we did this:
we would be getting along with everyone else
good manners and courtesy would be shown throughout the school
everyone would feel safe

This is shown when we as students develop independent learning habits through the use of available resources and we:

organise our things and our time so that we are ready to work
tidy up after ourselves so that we are ready for the next activity
use lots of things and people to help us find out about our work

This is what our school would be like if we did this:
we would have tidy and organised work spaces
we would move around in an orderly and purposeful manner
we would use our time well

Trust

This is shown when we as students get a fair hearing and we:
can approach any staff member with an issue
can expect staff to look at us and listen when we are speaking
know that staff will respond in a fair manner
are provided with the opportunities to voice our opinions and talk about issues

This is what our school would be like if we did this:
we would talk and listen to each other and sort out problems
we would use our manners and courtesy when solving problems
time would be set aside in our classrooms to talk about issues, e.g. 'circle time'

This is shown when we as students can speak to staff in a confidential manner and we:
know that staff will deal appropriately with our sensitive issues
are shown consideration, respect and care
know that our privacy will be protected when dealing with confidential matters

This is what our school would be like if we did this:
we would be confident and comfortable when talking about sensitive issues
we would all have an adult we could trust

This is shown when we as students are safe, secure and free from harassment and we:
can play in our playground free from fighting, teasing and bullying
can learn in classrooms that provide the best opportunities for us to work together
understand that the school has consequences for behaviour
know that there are lots of different adults and students we can speak to about our problems

This is what our school would be like if we did this:
we would know how to solve our own problems
the classrooms and playground would be full of students working, and playing co-operatively
and looking after each other

This is shown when we as students are provided with appropriate learning experiences and we:

are given lots of interesting, challenging and enjoyable activities to help us with our learning
know that our teachers will help us with our work
know that it is ok to make mistakes
are given opportunities to practise what we have learnt
understand what we are learning and why we are learning it

This is what our school would be like if we did this:

we would be interested in our learning
we would be willing to have a go
we would enjoy our learning
we would have a say in what we learn

Respect

This is shown when we as students speak to everybody in a civil and positive manner and we:

use a normal friendly voice, no matter how we are feeling inside
look people in the eye when we are speaking to them
use the person's name when we are talking to them
use positive words like please and thank you and you are welcome

This is what our school would be like if we did this:

we would sort out our problems

This is shown when we as students care for our property, each other's property and that of the school and we:

care for our own property by –

knowing where our belongings are at all times
putting our name on everything we own

care for others' property by –

making sure it's ok before we use other people's things
understanding that borrowing something means returning it to the owner in the same condition

care for the school's property by –

keeping the school grounds rubbish-free
using books and equipment carefully

This is what our school would be like if we did this:

we would have books and equipment in good condition for everybody to use
we would have a clean and tidy playground and buildings
we would have less lost property

This is shown when we as students are good ambassadors for our school and we:

take pride in wearing the correct school uniform
set a good example for others to see by showing good manners and behaving responsibly at all times
welcome new students and visitors to our school

This is what our school would be like if we did this:

everyone would be saying great things about Cranbourne West Primary School

This is shown when we as students allow others to be different and we:

understand that people are different, and that people do things in different ways
understand that people react differently to different situations
understand that Cranbourne West is a 'no put-down' zone which means that there is no teasing, bullying or leaving others out

This is what our school would be like if we did this:

we would enjoy the playground for our own needs and would understand the rights of others to do the same

This is shown when we as students listen to and have empathy for others and we:

show the person that we are listening by looking them in the eye and nodding
wait for our turn to talk

listen to other people and care about how they feel

This is what our school would be like if we did this:

we would listen to others and sort out our problems

This is shown when we as students acknowledge the role of the teacher in our learning and we:

understand that the teacher is the boss

understand that we can trust our teachers to support our learning and show us how to learn

understand that the teacher's role is to teach and we need to behave in a way that allows this

understand that we cannot learn properly unless we behave properly in the classroom

This is what our school would be like if we did this:

we would see ourselves as successful learners

we would understand our role in the classroom

we would understand how we as individuals learn

Humour

This is shown when we as students can smile in the face of adversity and we:

see the brighter side of life even when things aren't going well

can laugh even when things are difficult

This is what our school would be like if we did this:

we would be happier and that looks good for the school when people walk past or come into it

we would have a go and smile even when things are difficult

we would be relaxed and calm and able to communicate well with others

we would have good strategies when we are being threatened, i.e. "Stop it, I don't like it."

This is shown when we as students endeavour to be optimistic and positive and we:

come to school ready to learn

think or say "I can do this"

don't get involved in arguments and grudges

This is what our school would be like if we did this:

there would be more friendships and fewer grudges

we would feel better about ourselves

BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS

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

As Principal Class Officers 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
- ensure all parents/carers are aware of the expectations outlined in the Department's [Respectful Behaviours within the School Community Policy](#)
- 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
- ask any person who is acting in an offensive, intimidating or otherwise inappropriate way to leave the school grounds.

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](#) together with Cranbourne West Primary School Staff Code of Practice.

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, Student Voice, Agency and Leadership Policy and 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 Parents Code of Conduct

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 and Volunteers Policies*).

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:

- referring to the Parents Complaints Resolution policy
- 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*, *Student Wellbeing 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.

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](#)

Cranbourne West Primary School policies and resources:

- Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Student Wellbeing Policy
- Inclusion and Diversity Policy
- Bullying Prevention Policy
- Complaints Resolution – Parents Policy
- Living Our Values Booklet

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

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Available on the Sentral Parents Portal
- Included in staff induction processes
- Included in staff handbook
- Referenced in enrolment packs
- Included as an annual reference in the school newsletter
- Available as a hard copy from the school Administration on request

REVIEW CYCLE

This policy is scheduled for review bi-annually. This policy will also be updated if significant changes are made to the school values and/or philosophy.