



Walwa Primary School

Statement of Schools Values and Philosophy Policy



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact Walwa Primary School
(02) 6037 1380

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

Walwa 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 Walwa 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, values and expectations of our school community.

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
- explicitly teach the school values through our SWPBS program and The Resilience Project
- discuss our values with students in the classroom and yard
- embed these values in our Cluster Surveys for all F-6 Students

OUR MISSION

Walwa Primary School's mission is to provide all students from Walwa, Bellbridge and beyond with an inspiring and responsive curriculum to promote thinking and encourage curiosity. We nurture individual talents and needs in our setting underpinned by high expectations, quality opportunities and caring personalised attention in order for our children to reach their full academic and social potential.

OUR VALUES

Our Values are:

Courage

- * To learn new skills
- * To take risks
- * My 'best self'

Compassion

- * Being helpful
- * Being loving
- * Being caring

WALWA PRIMARY SCHOOL

A Strong Beginning For A Great Future

Respect

- * Good manners
- * Acceptance

Resilience

- * Bouncing back
- * Try again
- * Give it a go
- * Trust in ourselves and our teachers

Being a part of the community extending beyond Walwa Primary School is important to us. We are part of a small, rural community. Our school ensures that it has a positive physical presence in the community and engagement in community events to promote our school and build connections with families and locals.

CONNECTIONS

The three-way partnership between students, parents and teachers is valued and encouraged as an integral part of the total learning process. Underpinned by this partnership we strongly develop and promote essential skills in Literacy, Numeracy and Interpersonal relationships. It is our belief that these are fundamental life skills which are core to the development of active, engaged citizens of the future.

At Walwa Primary School we aim to have:

Students who:

- Accept responsibility for their own learning
- Possess a positive self-image
- Can acknowledge, value and celebrate their own learning and that of their peers
- Are willing to take risks in their learning
- Can transfer and associate their learning to everyday life.

- Strive to do their best and be their best at all times
- Respect themselves and each other
- Are inclusive of others and their opinions
- Are honest to themselves and others

Parents and the School Community who:

- Foster mutual respect and trust between parents and the school
- Are actively involved in a positive partnership with the school in achieving a safe and productive learning environment for all students
- Recognise the importance of the school as a keystone for the life education of its community
- Encourages and values the participation of community members in educational programs at the school
- Are ambassadors for our school always striving to promote it in a positive light.

Teachers who:

- Communicate honestly and openly about educational issues and student welfare concerns
- Are passionate about teaching
- Provide best practice in teaching
- Strive to provide a broad range of meaningful and engaging learning activities to cater for individual learning styles
- Work together as a team
- Network and communicate with the wider educational community and who acknowledge the changing global community
- Are ambassadors for our school always striving to promote it in a positive light.

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:

- speaking or behaving in a rude, manipulative, aggressive or threatening way, either in person, via electronic communication or social media, or over the telephone
- the use or threat of violence of any kind, including physically intimidating behaviour such as aggressive hand gestures or invading another person's personal space
- sending demanding, rude, confronting or threatening letters, emails or text messages
- sexist, racist, homophobic, transphobic 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 school Principal.

At the Principal's discretion, unreasonable behaviour may be managed by:

- requesting that the parties attend a mediation or counselling session
- 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.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- [Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy](#)
- [Bullying Prevention Policy](#)

REVIEW CYCLE

School Council Approval is not required for this policy however it will be checked for required updates every two years and it will be shared with the School Council.

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

- ✓ Provided to staff at induction and included in staff handbook/manual
- ✓ Discussed at staff meetings/briefings as required
- ✓ Made available publicly on our school website
- ✓ Included in transition and enrolment packs
- ✓ Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

Evaluation: This policy was last reviewed November 2022

Approved by: Christina Keyzer (Principal)

Next scheduled review date: November 2025

(Mandatory Review Cycle for this Policy is 3-4 years)

