

STATEMENT OF SCHOOL VALUES AND PHILOSOPHY

Purpose

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

Policy

Shepparton ACE Secondary School is committed to providing a safe, inclusive and supportive environment for all students, staff and members of our school community. Our school recognises the importance of the support given by parents and carers in the educational engagement and wellbeing of students and recognises that the commitment to, and responsibility for, creating a safe learning environment is one we share.

Shepparton ACE Secondary College supports and promotes the principles and practice of Australian Democracy, including a commitment to:

- Elected government
- The rule of law
- Equal rights before the law
- Freedom of religion
- Freedom of speech and association
- The values of openness and tolerance

This policy addresses our school's vision, mission, objectives values and expectations of our school community. This policy is available on our school website, our staff handbook and student enrolment pack and a hard copy will be available on request.

To support our values and philosophy we:

- Celebrate these values in our school newsletter
- Provide awards for community spirit
- Display art work that references our values inside and outside the school
- Ensure our values are prominent in class discussions and school assemblies
- Involve Student Voice in organising inclusive whole of school activities days
- Embed cultural studies in the curriculum
- Ensure all students are able to fully participate in incursions, excursions and school camps

Vision

Shepparton ACE Secondary College's vision is for each student to achieve their personal and educational potential.

Mission

Shepparton ACE Secondary College aims to provide the educational opportunities to ensure that students of all backgrounds and abilities can succeed in their education.

Objective

Shepparton AC Secondary College aims to ensure that all students, regardless of background or ability, have the opportunity to complete Year 12 and leave school with a pathway to employment or further study.

Values

Shepparton ACE Secondary College's values are based on the principles of **kindness, safety and responsibility**.

Behavioural expectations

Shepparton ACE Secondary College acknowledges that the behaviour of staff, parents, carers and students has an impact on the safety and wellbeing of our school community and school culture and therefore on student learning and success.

The school will:

- Model positive behaviour and leadership
- Model positive communication
- Work to maintain a school culture where safe behaviour and responsibility for one's actions is valued
- Adhere to expected professional standards
- Identify and support students who are or may be at risk
- Treat members of the school community with respect

Parents and carers will:

- Model positive behaviour to their child
- Communicate politely and respectfully to all members of the school community
- Ensure their child attends school on time every day the school is open for instruction
- Work with the school to achieve the best outcomes for their child
- Communicate constructively with the school and use expected processes and protocols when raising concerns
- Support school staff to maintain a safe learning environment

Students will:

- Model positive behaviour to other students
- Communicate politely and respectfully with all members of the school community
- Comply with the school values of safety, kindness and responsibility
- Actively participate in school curriculum
- Respect the learning environment of others
- Follow the student behaviour policy

Community members 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 processes for communication with staff and submitting concerns

Unreasonable behaviours

Schools are not public places. The principal has the right to permit or deny entry to the school.

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 but is not limited to:

- Speaking or behaving in a rude, manipulative, aggressive or threatening way in person, on 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
- Sexist, racist, homophobic or transphobic or other derogatory comments
- The use of public forums or social media to make inappropriate or threatening remarks
- Posting defamatory comments or reviews

Note that harassment, bullying, violence, aggression, threatening behaviour or unlawful discrimination will not be tolerated and failure to uphold the principles in 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 parties attend a mediation or counselling session
- Implementing communication protocols
- Conditions of entry to school grounds
- 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 Enrolment Agreement, Student Code of Conduct Policy and Student Behaviour Management Process.

Communication

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

- Publicly available on our school website
- Included in Staff Handbook
- Included in Enrolment Packs
- Made available on request in hard copy

Links to other policies

- Enrolment Policy
- Engagement Policy
- Anti Bullying and Harassment Policy
- Behaviour Management Policy and Process
- Child Safe Policy
- Parent and Carer Code of Conduct
- Student Code of Conduct

Date	Version No.	Change	Author(s)
February 2024	1.0	Issue	Bronwyn Rose