



## TRARALGON SOUTH PRIMARY SCHOOL STATEMENT OF VALUES AND SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY POLICY



### Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact the General Office on (03) 5195 5244.

### 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:

Traralgon South 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 Traralgon South 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; and
- The values of openness and tolerance.

This policy outlines the vision, mission, objective, values and expectations of our school community. This policy is available on our school website ([www.traralgonsthps.vic.edu.au](http://www.traralgonsthps.vic.edu.au)), or upon request from our General Office.

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

- Display posters and banners that promote our values in our school;
- Celebrate our values in our school newsletter;
- Provide awards and recognition for students who actively demonstrate the values; and
- Discuss our values with students in the classroom, meetings and assemblies.

**1. Vision:**

Traralgon South Primary School's vision is:

*Our school community challenges and inspires us to be inquisitive and motivated learners with high expectation of ourselves. We will develop the skills to ably solve problems through life's challenges.*

**2. Mission:**

Traralgon South Primary School's mission is to provide students with the best possible foundation in life through a well-rounded education.

**3. Objective:**

Our school's objectives are considered as part of the 4 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.

**4. Values:**

Our values reflect our ambition to be community minded citizens for today, tomorrow and the future. Traralgon South Primary School's values are:



|                     |                                       |  |   |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| <b>Resilience</b>   | Accept responsibility                 | When you think you can't; you can            | Learn from difficulties and bounce back |
| <b>Independence</b> | Show courage to do things by yourself | Be your own hero                             | Be someone that makes you happy         |
| <b>Persistence</b>  | Never give up                         | Try a different way if you're stuck          | Remain focused on your goal             |
| <b>Pride</b>        | Be your best                          | Take care in everything you do               | Celebrate when you achieve              |
| <b>Empathy</b>      | Understand differences in people      | Looking out for those around us              | Acceptance for others                   |
| <b>Respect</b>      | Treat people equally                  | Be considerate of others and our environment | Celebrate differences                   |

## 5. Behavioural Expectations:

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

Staff have a range of expectations around behaviour and must follow our school and Department of Education (DE) policies and the *Victorian Public Service Code of Conduct and Values*. Teaching staff also adhere to the *Victorian Teaching Profession Code of Conduct*.

Students are supported by school staff to meet expected standards of behaviour as outlined in our *Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy* and our *Bullying Prevention Policy*.

Information about the expectations on parents and carers to ensure schools remain respectful and inclusive places is outlined in the DE [Respectful Behaviours within the School Community Policy](#).

## 6. Unreasonable Behaviours:

Schools are not public places, and the Principal has the right to permit or deny entry to school grounds (for more information, please 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.

Unacceptable 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; or
- 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 Policy* 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 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; and/or
- Legal action.

Inappropriate student behaviour will be managed according to relevant school and DE policies.

Our *Statement of Values and School Philosophy Policy* 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.

## **COMMUNICATION:**

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

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Discussed at staff meetings
- Reminders in our school newsletter
- Hard copy available from our General Office upon request

**REVIEW CYCLE:**

This policy was last ratified by School Council on 5 June 2023 and is scheduled for review in June 2026.