HUNTINGDALE 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 Huntingdale Primary School on 03 9544 2318 or huntingdale.ps@education.vic.gov.au.

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

Huntingdale 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 Huntingdale 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, objective, values and expectations of our school community. This policy is available on our school website, our staff induction handbook and enrolment/transition packs.

To celebrate and embed our Statement of Values and School 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 our values
- discuss our values with students in the classroom, meetings and assemblies.

VISION

Huntingdale Primary School's vision is to be a lighthouse school for language acquisition through providing a quality Japanese - English bilingual 50-50 education for Primary School aged children in Victoria- ***Engaging Minds Together***.

'Engaging' children each and every day in a safe and secure environment is a key focus. We know that without children feeling safe they are unable to engage fully with their learning. The key to engagement is curiosity and creativity and these are key elements in the children's explorations and learnings each day at school.

'Minds' are what benefit from our unique bilingual program. The academic rigor and the power of how we work at Huntingdale is in the careful curriculum planning that underpins the program as one whole. The neuroscience that lies behind our wellbeing and academic programs and the benefits of our bilingual program bring together the 'mind' element.

'Together' we achieve more. The children in isolation will explore but require guidance and scaffolding to excel. The children with a teacher achieve more through a gradual release of responsibility stemming from modelling through to independent application in a real-life setting. The children, teacher, parents and families however are what truly achieve the greatest outcomes.



When these three powerful words come together, we have a way of working whilst also explaining why we all call Huntingdale 'our school'.

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MISSION

Huntingdale Primary School's mission is to guide students in an intelligent and orderly fashion to reach their potential. A forward thinking and global school for aspirational families where new horizons are presented and explored and where students are provided with an early education built on solid foundations for future excellence. Bold, brave and inquisitive, the cohesive community of Huntingdale Primary School encourages students to think outside the box, to challenge the status quo and explore new ideas.

Huntingdale Primary School is a vibrant place that encourages learning, laughter and play in a friendly and warm environment. We understand the importance of providing a safe environment for everyone and have a zero-tolerance approach to child abuse and bullying.

OBJECTIVE

Huntingdale Primary School's objective is to ensure all students leave our school with a practical understanding of the Victorian Curriculum 2.0 and to provide the solid foundations to continue their school education.

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.

VALUES

Our core School Values encompass the learning at Huntingdale Primary School. It is central to the life at our school and students, teachers and parents are asked to demonstrate these:

Kindness - The quality of being warm-hearted, considerate, humane and sympathetic. The notion of 'treating others as you would like them to treat you'.

Courage - The quality of spirit that enables you to be brave and face challenging situations without showing fear.

Personal Best - The quality of putting in your best personal effort into all that you do and not having the focus on 'beating others'.

Creativity -The quality of showing creativity attributes and thinking in a range of contexts.

BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS

Huntingdale 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.

Shared expectations of staff, parents, carers and students to support positive student behaviour are set out in the Respectful, safe, engaged: shared expectations to support student behaviour statement.

Students are also supported by school staff to meet expected standards of behaviour as outlined in our Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy, Inclusion and Diversity Policy, and Bullying Prevention Policy. Students are expected to follow our school norms based on 'Play is the Way' being:

Our 'Play is the Way' norms state our **behaviour** expectations:

- It takes great strength to be sensible.
- Be brave- participate to progress.
- Pursue your personal best no matter who you work with.
- Have reasons for the things you say and do.
- Treat others as you would like them to treat you.

Staff 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's Code of Conduct.

Parents and carers play a vital role in helping their child understand and meet shared behaviour expectations. Additionally, information about the expectations of parents and carers to ensure schools remain respectful and inclusive places is outlined in the department's Respectful Behaviours within the School Community Policy.

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 demonstrated by school staff, parents, carers, students or members of our school community is not 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 is not 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:

- 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 and Bullying Prevention Policy.

Our Statement of Values and School Philosophy ensures that everyone in our school community is treated with fairness and respect. In turn, we strive to create a school that is inclusive and safe, where everyone is empowered to participate and learn.

COMMUNICATION

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

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Included in staff induction processes
- Included in staff handbook/manual

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

Department of Education policies and resources:

- Work-Related Violence in Schools Policy
- Respectful Behaviours within the School Community Policy
- Respectful, safe, engaged: shared expectations to support student behaviour

Huntingdale Primary School polices:

- Bullying Prevention Policy
- Inclusion and Diversity Policy
- Parent Complaints Policy
- Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	16/6/2026
Approved by	School Council on 27/10/2026
Next scheduled review date	27/10/2030