

# STATEMENT OF VALUES AND SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY



## HELP FOR NON-ENGLISH SPEAKERS

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Selby Primary School on 03 9754 2675 or [selby.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:selby.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

Selby 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 Selby 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, student diary and enrolment/transition packs.

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.

### 1. Vision

At Selby Primary School, we provide a caring, inclusive, and supportive learning environment where student voice is valued and encouraged. We live through our values of Respect, Personal Best, Resilience and Confidence in all

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that we do. Our school motto of 'A place to belong' reflects how our school plays an integral part in the community and that at Selby Primary School, everyone is welcome.

## 2. Mission

Selby Primary School aims to provide a broad-based education, balancing academic and social growth and fostering the development of each student as a growing, learning person, able to embrace change while retaining fundamental values. Selby Primary School aims to improve the learning outcomes of all students.

## 3. Objective

At Selby Primary School we endeavour to create and maintain a nurturing learning environment which fosters positive student participation through our values of Confidence, Resilience, Respect and Personal Best.

## 4. Values

Selby Primary School's teaching and learning philosophy is based around our school values. They are:

Respect	caring about ourselves, others and the environment in which we live and work.
Personal Best	developing a sound work ethic, being a team player and contributing to the best of one's ability
Resilience	bouncing back from setbacks, keeping things in proportion and learning from mistakes
Confidence	developing self-esteem, an open-minded attitude and a positive outlook on life.



## 5. Behavioural expectations

Selby 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, Bullying Prevention Policy

**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](#), and our Respect for School Staff Policy. Schools can share these expectations through use of [posters](#) available in over [30 translated languages](#).

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## 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, 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:

- 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 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
- legal action

Inappropriate student behaviour will be managed in according 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.

## COMMUNICATION

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

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Included in staff induction processes
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

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## FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies on the Department's Policy and Advisory Library (PAL):

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

Selby Primary School policies:

- Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Inclusion and Diversity Policy
- Bullying Prevention Policy
- Parent Complaints Policy
- Respect for School Staff Policy

## POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	March 2026
Approved by	School Council – 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2026
Next scheduled review date	Before March 2030

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