



Aurora School

STATEMENT OF VALUES & SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY

A DET POLICY TEMPLATE (LAST UPDATED BY DET APRIL 2018)

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

Aurora School is committed to providing a safe, supportive and inclusive environment for all children, staff and members of our community. Our school recognises the importance of the partnership between our school and parents and carers to support child learning, engagement and wellbeing. We share a commitment to, and a responsibility for, creating an inclusive and safe school environment for our children.

The programs and teaching at Aurora 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 parent enrolment/information packs.

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

- display posters and banners that promote our values
- celebrate our values in our school documentation
- discuss our values with children in the classroom, and with staff at meetings.

VISION

Aurora School's vision is the provision of 'excellence in early childhood education for deaf children and their families and to support children's communication for lifelong learning.

VALUES

Aurora School's values are the things we believe in and strive for. We value:

Community, Curiosity, Perseverance and Respect.

Community – connection with and contribution to our community

Curiosity – to explore as the developmental building blocks for learning

Perseverance – to overcome all challenges

Respect – for each other and our environment



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BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS

Aurora School acknowledges that the behaviour of staff, parents, carers and children 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.

As principals and school leaders, we will:

- model positive behaviour and effective leadership
- communicate politely and respectfully with all members of the school community
- work collaboratively to create a school environment where respectful and safe behaviour is expected of everyone
- behave in a manner consistent with the standards of our profession and meet core responsibilities to provide safe and inclusive environments
- plan, implement and review our work to ensure the care, safety, security and general wellbeing of all children within our school
- identify and support children who are or may be at risk
- do our best to ensure every child achieves their personal and learning potential
- work with parents to understand their child's needs and, where necessary, adapt the learning environment accordingly
- respond appropriately when safe and inclusive behaviour is not demonstrated and implement appropriate interventions when required
- inform parents of the school's communication and complaints procedures
- ask any person who is acting in an offensive, intimidating or otherwise inappropriate way to leave the school grounds.

As teachers and non-teaching school staff, we will:

- model positive behaviour to children consistent with the standards of our profession
- communicate politely and respectfully with all members of the school community
- proactively engage with parents about child outcomes
- work with parents to understand the needs of each child and, where necessary, adapt the learning environment accordingly
- work collaboratively with parents to improve learning and wellbeing outcomes for children with additional needs
- communicate with the principal and school leaders in the event we anticipate or face any tension or challenging behaviours from parents
- treat all members of the school community with respect.

As parents and carers, we will:

- model positive behaviour to our child
- communicate politely and respectfully with all members of the school community
- ensure our child attends school on time, every day the school is open for instruction
- take an interest in our child's school and learning
- work with the school to achieve the best outcomes for our child
- communicate constructively with the school and use expected processes and protocols when raising concerns
- support school staff to maintain a safe learning environment for all children
- follow the school's processes for communication with staff and making complaints
- treat all school leaders, staff, children, and other members of the school community with respect.



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Children will be supported to:

- model positive behaviour to other children
- communicate politely and respectfully with all members of the school community.
- comply with and model school values
- behave in a safe and responsible manner
- respect ourselves, other members of the school community and the school environment.
- actively participate in school
- not disrupt the learning of others and make the most of our educational opportunities.

As community members, we 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 children
- utilise the school's processes for communication with staff and submitting complaints.

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, children 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 children.

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 child behaviour will be managed in accordance with our school's *Child Wellbeing and Engagement Policy* and *Bullying Prevention Policy*.



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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

Child Wellbeing and Engagement policy
Bullying Prevention policy
Complaints policy
Visitor's policy
Volunteer's policy

COMMUNICATION :

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

- Available publicly on our schools website
- Included in enrolment /parent information packs
- Included in staff induction processes

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL :

Policy last reviewed	June 2021 based on most recent DET Template April 2018
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	Three Years – 2024 (or earlier if significant changes to DET Template)