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 school office on 51271512 or moe.ps.south@education.vic.gov.au.

Purpose

Moe (South Street) 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 Moe (South Street) 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 http://www.moe-southst-ps.vic.edu.au/ , our staff induction handbook, 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.

VISION

At Moe (South Street) Primary School , we grow people who:

- Are creative, curious and independent learners.
- Are resilient and problem solve when faced with challenges
- Respect and care about themselves, each other and the world in which we live.

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MISSION

Moe (South Street) Primary School 's mission is-

Students, Teachers and Parents develop a strong partnership which displays mutual respect and trust to provide a stimulating learning environment that meets the academic, social, and emotional needs of all students.

Parents, Children and Teachers Working Together

TO ACHIEVE OUR MISSION

Our Students:

- Are encouraged to become independent learners by: being persistent, confident and resilient, accepting challenges and taking risks.
- Will develop skills which allow them to work effectively with others.
- Will be encouraged to be positive members of society who show empathy and care for others.
- Will be encouraged to take responsibility for their actions and choices.
- Will be happy, friendly and respectful.

Our Staff

- Have high expectations, are motivated and enthusiastic to ensure students grow in their learning.
- Believe that all students can learn.
- Build positive relationships and communicate with students, parents and colleagues to create a safe and nurturing environment.
- Are lifelong learners who work collaboratively to develop and implement best practice.

Our Parent Community:

- Develop positive and respectful relationships with the school to support their child's education and social and emotional development.
- Supporting their child by actively being involved in their child's education and making sure they attend school every day.

VALUES

Moe (South Street) Primary School 's whole school expectations of Be SAFE, Be RESPECTFUL and Be a LEARNER encompass the key behaviours we expect to see across all areas of the school. Our whole school matrix explicitly highlight these areas and the behaviour expectations.

- All stakeholders have the right to **Be SAFE** at South Street. To do this we all have a part to play in ensuring physical, emotional and psychological safety. This might look as simple as walking instead of running through a corridor, keeping our hand, feet and other objects to ourselves or turning off the taps after we have washed our hands. Safety is the foundation of everything we do.

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- We believe all people should interact and behave in a **RESPECTFUL** manner. This includes listening to those who are talking, respecting others' differences and abilities and interacting with kindness and care. Everyone is also expected to treat school property appropriately For example, only toilet paper is only to be placed in the toilet and we must ask politely and have permission before touching other people's belongings. Respect is taught frequently, every day, at our school.

- To be a **LEARNER** at South Street we understand that there are a variety of behaviours we need to optimise our own and others experiences to learn new information. We encourage all people to try their best, be persistent and ask for help when needed. We also understand that basic skills such as staying in our seat, asking questions and raising our hand to participate are all part of what good learners do.

BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS

Moe (South Street) 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 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, Inclusion and Diversity Policy, and Bullying Prevention Policy.

Information about the expectations on 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.

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:

- 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 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:

- Included in staff induction processes and staff training
- Available publicly on our school's website http://www.moe-southst-ps.vic.edu.au/
- Available through the Parent Portal on Sentral
- Discussed at parent information sessions
- Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
- Reminders in our school newsletter
- Hard copy available from office upon request

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

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

Statement of Values and School Philosophy Policy

- Respectful Behaviours within the School Community
- Respectful Workplaces
- Parent Complaints

REVIEW CYCLE

Date Implemented	21/2/2023
Approval Authority (Signature and date)	17/10/2022
School Council	School Council Meeting 21/2/2023
Consultation	Staff Meeting 18/10/22 School Council Meeting 21/2/2023
Dates Reviewed	14th of September 2021, 17/10/2022
Responsible for Review	Policy Coordinator
Next Review Date	10/2026