



Birregurra Primary School

Statement of Values & School Philosophy

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

Birregurra 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 Birregurra 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 and included in our staff handbook.

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

- display and promote our 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.

Vision

Birregurra Primary School's vision is to be an inclusive community that supports and encourages a love of learning and the skills and mindset to thrive.

Mission

In order for Birregurra Primary School to fulfil our vision, we nurture our students to:

- be independent lifelong learners who are well equipped to meet the challenges of an ever changing world
- think and learn through problem solving
- achieve personal success and excellence
- demonstrate ethical, social and environmental responsibility
- be active, happy, engaged and productive citizens.

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.

Values

At Birregurra Primary School we value:

- **Community** - growing positive partnerships between school, home and the broader community
- **Aspire** - setting goals and purposefully working towards their achievement
- **Respect** - for self, others, learning and our environment
- **Excellence** - striving for the highest personal achievement in all aspects of schooling.

We apply these values in our everyday dealings with each other and in the development of our programs and policies.

In our school community these values are demonstrated when:

- learners are at the centre of our teaching and learning
- teaching and learning programs encourage deep understanding and a sense of the importance of learning
- students have the opportunity to learn in a positive, caring environment and are encouraged to become self-motivated, life-long learners
- all students are encouraged to achieve their personal best in all that they do
- members of the school community show great confidence in one another and themselves
- students, teachers and parents feel that they are treated fairly at all times
- students are encouraged to work cooperatively and collaboratively with their peers and other members of the school community, and to be active and responsible citizens.

Behavioural Expectations

Birregurra 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](#).

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

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](#)

Birregurra Primary School policies:

- [Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy](#)
- [Inclusion and Diversity Policy](#)
- [Bullying Prevention Policy](#)
- [Parent Complaints Policy](#)

Policy Review and Approval

Policy last reviewed	23 rd March 2026
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	March 2029