



Statement of Values/School Rules and School Philosophy Policy

Barwon Valley School is committed to safety and wellbeing of all children and young people and has zero tolerance for child abuse.
(Child Safe Standards)



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact Anne Hume on 52431813

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:

Barwon Valley 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 Barwon Valley 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, motto, objectives, values/rules and expectations of our school community. This policy is available on our school website, on our shared drive, and socialised through briefing every time it is updated.

We celebrate and embed our Statement of Values and Philosophy in our school community, by doing such things as:

- displaying posters and banners that promote our values/rules in our school
- provide awards and recognition for students who actively demonstrate the values/rules
- discuss our values/rules with students in the classroom, meetings and assemblies.
- Singing school song
- Using values on official documentation

Vision:

Barwon Valley School's vision is to be an inclusive community centred on student achievement, wellbeing and engagement

Motto:

Be the Best you can be

BVS Values: TEAMWORK RESPECT FUN DIGNITY SUPPORT

Objectives:

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/Rules:

Barwon Valley School's values are teamwork, respect, fun, dignity and support

Barwon Valley School's rules are

Be Respectful

Be Safe

Be a Learner

Behavioural Expectations:

Barwon Valley 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, Bullying Prevention Policy and implementation of School Wide Positive Behaviour Supports

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 (To be developed).

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 *WWC 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/Rules 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

BVS Values: TEAMWORK RESPECT FUN DIGNITY SUPPORT

- 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/rules 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
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

Department of Education and Training policies and resources:

- [Work-Related Violence in Schools Policy](#)
- [Respectful Behaviours within the School Community Policy](#)

School polices:

- Student Engagement, Inclusion and Wellbeing Policy
- Diversity Policy
- Bullying Prevention Policy
- Parent Disputes Policy

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	September 2022
Approved by	School Council – 13.09.2022
Next scheduled review date	September 2026