

STATEMENT OF SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY

RATIONALE

At Amsleigh Park Primary School our purpose statement and core values guide our School Philosophy. Our purpose and values are used to support and guide strategic planning and as a reference point in discussion and formulation of school policy. All members of the school community are expected to abide by our school values at all times. We are also strongly committed to the Principles and Practice of Australian Democracy, which is enacted through School Governance, and the Child Safety Standards, which are designed to protect children from child abuse.



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact the school general office on 9544 1553 or via email: amsleigh.park.ps@education.vic.gov.au

GOALS

- ❖ To ensure that the school purpose and values are understood and upheld by all members of the school community and reflected in all teaching and learning programs, policy documentation and implementation.
- ❖ To affirm our commitment to the Principles and Practice of Australian Democracy.
- ❖ To meet the requirements of the Child Safety Standards.

GUIDELINES

- ❖ Our core purpose is central to all teaching and learning programs, in all documents, in all practice by students and teachers and in work with the School Council and the community.

Our Purpose:

To provide a safe and inclusive community that fosters resilience, innovation, connection and life-long learning.

- ❖ Our school purpose and values are dynamic and can be reviewed as the school needs and context change. They will also be formally reviewed to coincide with the school self-evaluation, school review and strategic plan development. Our values will be promoted and reinforced regularly at school assemblies, through the school newsletter, through student awards and at community events.

Amsleigh Park PS School Values:

- *Respect*
 - *Integrity*
 - *Motivation*
 - *Inclusion*
 - *Resilience*
- ❖ The school will review our commitment to the Child Safety Standards annually and ensure we continue to provide a high quality, safe and caring school environment.

Our school philosophy includes a firm commitment to ensuring child safety and wellbeing and ensuring that our school meets all the requirements of the Child Safety Standards inclusive of the following:

- **Standard 1: Culturally safe environments** – Establish a culturally safe environment in which the diverse and unique identities and experiences of Aboriginal children and young people are respected and valued.
- **Standard 2: Leadership, governance and culture** – Ensure that child safety and wellbeing are embedded in school leadership, governance and culture.

- **Standard 3: Child and student empowerment** – Children and young people are empowered about their rights, participate in decisions affecting them and are taken seriously.
 - **Standard 4: Family engagement** – Families and communities are informed and involved in promoting child safety and wellbeing.
 - **Standard 5: Diversity and equity** – Equity is upheld and diverse needs are respected in policy and practice.
 - **Standard 6: Suitable staff and volunteers** – People working with children and young people are suitable and supported to reflect child safety and wellbeing values in practice.
 - **Standard 7: Child-focused complaints processes** – Ensure that processes for complaints and concerns are child focused.
 - **Standard 8: Child safety knowledge, skills and awareness** – Staff and volunteers are equipped with the knowledge, skills and awareness to keep children and young people safe through ongoing education and training.
 - **Standard 9: Physical and online environments** – Physical and online environments promote safety and wellbeing while minimising the opportunity for children and young people to be harmed.
 - **Standard 10: Review of child safety practices** - Implementation of the Child Safe Standards is regularly reviewed and improved.
 - **Standard 11: Implementation of child safety practices** – Policies and procedures that document how schools are safe for children, young people and students.
- ❖ We support the principles and practice of Australian Democracy including a commitment to:
- Elected government
 - Rule of law
 - Equal rights for all before the law
 - Freedom of religion
 - Freedom of speech and association
 - The values of openness and tolerance

COMMUNICATION

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

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
- Referenced annually in the School Newsletter
- Made available in hard copy format from the General Office

ACHIEVEMENT MEASURES

- ❖ Parent Feedback as provided through the Parent Opinion Survey.
- ❖ Community feedback
- ❖ Compliance with VRQA requirements related to the Child Safety Standards.

STATUS:

Reviewed: February 2023

Approved by: School Council – 20th Feb 2023

Next Review: February 2027