



Truganina South Primary School

Statement of Values and School Philosophy



HELP FOR NON-ENGLISH SPEAKERS

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Truganina South Primary School on 03 9296 1800 or truganina.south.ps@education.vic.gov.au.

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

Truganina South 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 Truganina South 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 enrolment packs.

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

- display our Vision and REACH Values in the school yard and gymnasium
- explicitly teach our Vision and REACH Values at the beginning of each school year and display these in learning communities
- celebrate our REACH Values in our curriculum newsletters
- provide awards and recognition for students who actively demonstrate the values
- embed our values with students in the classroom, meetings and assemblies.

1. Vision

At Truganina South Primary School the child is at the centre of all that we do. We collaborate to support student wellbeing and learning, preparing our students for happy and successful futures.

2. Mission

It is the mission of Truganina South Primary School to provide our students with excellence in Teaching and Learning and to ensure that all students experience success. Through community connectedness, students develop a love of learning allowing them to become self motivated, curious and tolerant citizens.

3. 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.

4. Values

Truganina South Primary School's REACH values are **R**elationships, **E**xcellence, **A**cceptance, **C**ollaboration and **H**onesty.

Relationships: Developing strong relationships with all community members.

Behaviours:

- I will speak positively to others.
- I will listen to others and accept what they have to say.
- I will support others in need.
- I will include others and embrace their contributions.

Excellence: Striving to achieve excellence in all that we do.

Behaviours:

- I will work hard to achieve my goals.
- I will always do my best.
- I will strive to continually improve.

Acceptance: Valuing others, accepting the differences and the diversities of others.

Behaviours

- I will show compassion towards others.
- I will have a positive attitude towards everyone.

Collaboration: Working together to achieve our goals, vision and mission.

Behaviours:

- I will work cooperatively with all members of the community.
- I will value the contributions of others.
- I will provide constructive feedback to other people within our community.

Honesty: Being honest with the people within our community.

Behaviours:

- I will always tell the truth.
- I will encourage others to tell the truth.
- I will provide constructive feedback to other people within our community.

5. Behavioural expectations

Truganina South 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.

Truganina South 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.

As staff, we will

- Create positive interactions with students, colleagues and the community
- Build and maintain trusting respectful relationships with students, colleagues and the community
- Be 'curious before furious', seeking to understand
- Be encouraging, supportive and show empathy
- Celebrate the success of others, big and small
- Utilise the FISH philosophy
- Have high and realistic expectations and goals for ourselves, our colleagues and students.
- Have a growth mindset, embrace challenges and encourage lifelong learning
- Be reflective - always strive to improve and seek to do our personal best
- Be open to giving and receiving feedback for continuous improvement
- Model best practice in learning, our work and our school
- Create a safe and welcoming environment
- Champion cultural diversity
- Value each individual, celebrate their strengths and encourage their success
- Be inclusive - acknowledging and supporting individual's needs
- Seek to understand different perspectives
- Model empathy and patience
- Actively collaborate and reflect with colleagues to support student learning and wellbeing
- Work together towards a shared goal, sharing the accountability for our students
- Be open to learning and respectfully challenge ideas to find the best possible outcome for our students
- Effectively communicate with students, colleagues and the community
- Learn with/from our students and give our students agency in their learning
- Communicate honestly in a respectful manner
- Model learning from our mistakes
- Create a safe space for honesty, encouraging others to tell the truth
- Provide timely, constructive feedback to students, colleagues and the community

As students, we will:

- Show care, respect and generosity towards others, ensuring everyone feels safe and secure
- Listen to others and make compromises which will be suitable for all
- Build healthy relationships by communicating respectfully and keep an open mind when finding solutions or understanding the perspective of others
- Be open to prospective friendships and engage with others to build a healthy relationship
- Treat everyone how they want to be treated
- Act and speak positively to others to strengthen the connection/relationship
- Strive to bring out the best in themselves, everyone around them, and achieve their own goals and challenge themselves to improve
- Provide respectful and constructive feedback
- Be kind to themselves, showing pride in all that they do
- Make responsible and mature decisions
- Approach new challenges with a growth mindset and show persistence and resilience
- Be a role model and inspire others around them
- Accept others and be non-judgemental
- Make everyone feel welcome regardless of their culture, race, religion, disability, personal history, gender, financial status or appearance
- Welcome the diversity of their community and help create a welcoming environment
- Understand the differences between people's cultures
- Treat people equally, no matter who they are
- Not only include others, but show compassion and help others in need of assistance
- Be cooperative and make compromises for the benefit of all
- Respectfully listen to others opinions and ideas, ensuring their voice is also heard within the team
- Be a responsible member of their team, working together respectfully and ensuring everyone is included and all voices are heard
- Be flexible, helpful, open to opinions and accepting even if they don't agree with everyone
- Give others support and feedback to improve and be the best they can be
- Bring together individuals with different skills and perspectives to help one another complete a project and/or achieve a common goal
- Give truthful and constructive feedback which will help others improve
- Create a calm and safe atmosphere for all, where constructive feedback can be both received and provided
- Remain honest and open minded, not being afraid to speak their mind and express their opinion freely
- State their honest opinion, even when their beliefs are against the majority, whilst remaining respectful
- Not be afraid to own up to their mistakes so that they can learn from them and avoid similar situations in the future
- Always be honest in their words and actions to build trust with others

As community members, we will:

- Have respectful conversations with members of the school
- Support our children's learning by accessing and reading their reports, reading Curriculum Newsletters and engaging with Compass.
- Support home learning
- Talk to our children about their learning
- Share our goals for our children with the school

- Treat everyone with respect
- Seek to understand and ask questions / clarify when we don't
- Celebrate the diversity of the school
- Work with the school to support our children
- Attend parent meetings to discuss your child's learning
- Share information and strategies which work at home for the child with the school
- Be honest when communicating my child's needs to the school
- Give feedback (positive and constructive) to the schools in a respectful manner

6. 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 accordance 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
- Included in staff handbook/manual
- Included in enrolment packs
- Communicated to all families yearly via Compass
- Made available in hard copy from school administration 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):

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

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	June 19th, 2024
Approved by	School Council – June, 2024
Next scheduled review date	Before June, 2028