

Statement of Values and School Philosophy

December 2022



**VIRTUAL
SCHOOL VICTORIA**



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact Virtual School Victoria on 8480 0000 or feedback@vsv.vic.edu.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

Virtual School Victoria (VSV) 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, parents, carers and enrolling schools 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 VSV 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.

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

- display posters and banners that promote our school values
- celebrate our values in our school newsletter
- provide awards and recognition for students who actively demonstrate the values
- discuss our values with students in online and physical classrooms, meetings and assemblies.

Vision

VSV aims to provide contemporary, evidence-based virtual learning opportunities for a diverse student community, with a strong focus on enabling every student to achieve their own personal learning goals and an opportunity to learn about future pathways.

Mission

VSVs mission is to successfully provide flexible access to innovative, quality virtual education in a safe and welcoming environment to a diverse cohort of children and young people who cannot access the specific subjects and/or an education program in their local school setting for a period of time. The virtual educational environment developed and delivered by VSV provides eligible Victorian children and young people with the opportunity to engage and re-engage with education and experience success on their own terms.

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

The VSV community worked together to define the values which underpin the way the school operates.

The VSV values are:

Respect: Treating the feelings, opinions, wishes and rights of others with, as much consideration as we would have them treat our own.

Empathy: The ability to understand and share the experiences and feelings of another.

Collaboration: The act or working together with someone to produce or achieve something.

Growth: The ongoing process of development and improvement.

Behavioural expectations

VSV 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, Inclusion and Engagement Policy](#), [Safe and Inclusive Learning 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](#)

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 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, Inclusion and Engagement Policy](#), [Safe and Inclusive Learning 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:

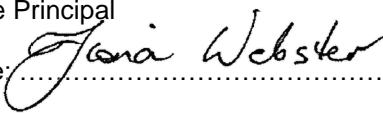

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

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](#)

Policy renewal and approval

Created date	December 2022
Consultation	School Council – Date: 18 th October 2022 – 13 th December 2022 School Community – Date: 18 th October – 28 th October 2022
Endorsed by	Fiona Webster Executive Principal Signature:  Pat Brophy Advisory Board Chair Signature: ..  ..
Endorsed on	Date: 13 th December 2022
Next review date	December 2024



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