

STATEMENT OF VALUES AND SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY



HELP FOR NON-ENGLISH SPEAKERS

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Braybrook College on 9312 2900 or braybrook.sc@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

Braybrook College 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.

In accordance with the principles outlined in the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006* (Vic), as a Victorian government school, the programs of, and teaching at Braybrook College support and promote the principles and practices 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.

Also, in accordance with the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006* (Vic), the school will provide a secular education and will not promote any particular religious practice, denomination or sect and is open to adherents of any philosophy, religion or faith.

This policy outlines our school's vision, mission, objectives/philosophy, values and expectations of our school community and is available on our school website and our Vision and Mission statement are also included in the student diary.

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

- display posters that promote our 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 the classroom, Year Level and whole-school assemblies.

1. VISION

At Braybrook College, we strive for excellence within a safe, inclusive and supportive environment. Diversity and equality are valued and students can develop the academic and social skills necessary to contribute to local and global communities as informed and active citizens.

2. MISSION STATEMENT

The core purpose of the College is to:

- Provide a challenging, engaging and inclusive curriculum that is locally and globally relevant
- Maximise literacy, numeracy and digital technology skills
- Provide academic and co-curricula opportunities which widen the breadth of experience and extend the range of knowledge and skills in each student
- Provide the learning opportunities and employability skills that enable students to access a variety of pathways locally, nationally and globally
- Encourage students to become independent learners by fostering a strong work ethic
- Prepare students for the future by developing resilience, physical and emotional wellbeing, initiative, self-confidence, communication and decision-making skills
- Develop cooperative, respectful relationships that foster a sense of belonging and promote understanding and acceptance of others
- Ensure students demonstrate intercultural sensitivity
- Ensure students develop environmental respect and responsibility
- Develop knowledge and an appreciation of First Nations people and cultures

3. OBJECTIVE/PHILOSOPHY

Our school's objectives are considered as part of the four yearly strategic planning process and reflected in the goals listed in our current School Strategic Plan. We also develop an Annual Implementation Plan to operationalise the goals and key improvement strategies contained in our School Strategic Plan.

As it is the college's responsibility to provide a high quality teaching and learning program, we adhere to the *Victorian Teaching and Learning Model 2.0* with the following vision for learning:

'All students are empowered to learn and achieve, experiencing high quality teaching practice and the best conditions for learning which equip them with the knowledge, skills and dispositions for lifelong learning and shaping the world around them.'

Our college also recognises the benefits of Global Citizenship as it nurtures personal respect, respect for others and our environment. It recognises that our choices and actions may have repercussions for people and communities in our own neighbourhoods and around the world. Additionally, it encourages individuals to take action regarding what is equitable and just and recognises that the world is complex and interdependent.

Implementation of school philosophy

This school philosophy will be central to all:

- school initiatives, policies and practices
- teaching and learning programs
- internal and external interactions
- organisational structures and practices and
- dealings with parents/carers, the School Council and the community

4. VALUES

Braybrook College's values are: **Respect** and **Excellence**.

Respect:

We:

- treat everyone in our school community with fairness and respect and understand that our attitudes and behaviours have an impact on the people around us. For example, we respect ourselves, others, our uniform, rules, school, environment and community
- demonstrate acceptable attitudes/behaviours. For example, model and demonstrate kindness, communicate with others politely and respectfully and take every opportunity to help others that may be in need
- accept differences and listen to others' point of view
- say 'NO' to aggressive behaviour, bullying, discrimination and racism
- foster a respectful learning environment

Excellence:

We:

- strive for excellence, which means trying our hardest and doing our best at school (in and outside of the classroom and in the community so that everyone is empowered to participate and learn to the best of their ability)
- strive for excellent attendance and punctuality
- model positive attitudes/behaviours
- endeavor to have a high work ethic and show commitment to our **R.O.A.D to Success**. For example, try our hardest to achieve our personal best; aim to improve upon all that we do, individually and collectively
- work collaboratively to improve learning and wellbeing outcomes for all students
- celebrate effort, participation and achievement with others in the areas of curriculum, co-curriculum and leadership



The introduction of the **R.O.A.D to Success** signs (Respect, Organisation, Application and Determination) in each classroom in 2017 also acts as a reminder of what we expect of our learners at Braybrook College i.e. that they take responsibility for their learning in order to achieve excellence (their personal best).

5. **BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS (Underpinning Vision/Core Purpose)**

We believe that in order for students to experience success it is necessary to have a partnership where students, parents/carers, the staff and the wider community all make meaningful contributions to the College and grow together. Furthermore, Braybrook College 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 Code of Conduct, Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy, Inclusion and Diversity Policy, Anti-Racism Policy and Bullying and Harassment 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.

Together, the members of the Braybrook College community strive:

i. To learn to their full potential by:

- Actively engaging in, appreciating and enjoying learning
- Valuing learning as a life-long habit
- Developing strong work habits
- Recognising that everyone has something to offer and is capable of experiencing success
- Seeking, encouraging and valuing alternative perspectives
- Developing creativity, critical thinking and problem solving skills
- Sharing knowledge, expertise and resources to continuously improve performance
- Embracing active collaboration through all facets of learning

ii. To contribute to a nurturing environment by:

- Behaving responsibly and fairly, and treating all with mutual respect
- Demonstrating a sense of pride and commitment to the College
- Developing an inclusive culture by accepting and celebrating diversity
- Role modelling respectful, cooperative and positive relationships and being supportive towards each other
- Displaying responsible global citizenship across all aspects of life
- Encouraging others to reach their full potential

iii. To learn to become successful members of society by:

- Recognising and understanding the rights and responsibilities involved in living in a community
- Developing a healthy lifestyle and a fulfilling life
- Developing self-confidence and learning to adapt to changing situations
- Building leadership and civic engagement skills and becoming active contributors
- Treating people respectfully, with sensitivity and compassion

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 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
- Provided to all staff in hard copy at the start of each year
- Available on Compass (In School Documentation Folder)
- Included in staff induction processes
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Included in student diaries so that it is easily accessible to students, parents/carers
- Made available in hard copy from the General Office 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	13 th May 2025 (To be reviewed every four years)
Approved by	School Council – 13 th May 2025
Next scheduled review date	Before May 2029