The School for Student Leadership

Statement of Values and School Philosophy

HELP FOR NON-ENGLISH SPEAKERS

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact The School for Student Leadership on 03 5154 8552 or alpine.school.snowy.river@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

The School for Student Leadership 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 The School for Student Leadership 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.

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

- display posters and banners that promote your values in our school
- discuss our values with students in the classroom, meetings and assemblies.

Vision

To provide experiential education that supports the personal growth, aspirations, and transformation of all students as global citizens.

Mission

To provide an immersive State-wide residential program for Year 9 Government school students which enables them to grow into better citizens and leaders through increased self-awareness, social engagement, community connection and environmental stewardship.

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 School for Student Leadership's values are self-belief, relationships, connectedness.

We value **Self-belief**:

- Self-talk, aspiration, drive and passion.
- A lifelong approach to physical and mental health and well-being.

- Resilience to take on challenges, opportunities, goals and experiences.
- Individual rights and responsibilities.

We value **Relationships**:

- that encourage inclusiveness, diversity and support of self and others.
- that are positive, respectful and empathetic.
- that connect us with our environments.

We value **Connectedness**:

- in communities, the School, families; locally and globally.
- the natural environment, sustainable practices, beauty, awe and wonder.
- and a sense of belonging; to family, to culture, knowledge of place and spirituality.

Behavioural expectations

The School for Student Leadership 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 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 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.
- Included in staff induction processes.
- 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	Term 4, 2023
Approved by	School Council – 24 November 2023
Next scheduled review date	Before term 4, 2027