

BARINGA STATEMENT OF VALUES AND SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Baringa School on (03) 51271744.

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

Baringa 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 Baringa 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 the Baringa School website at <https://www.baringass.vic.edu.au/>.

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

- display posters and banners that promote our values in our school
- embed respectful relationships curriculum into classroom learning and staff development
- celebrate our values in our school newsletter

- provide awards and recognition for students who actively demonstrate the values
- align staff expectation to school values (meeting protocols)
- deliver classroom lessons and activities to teach our students about the school values
- implementation of a whole-school approach to Positive Behaviours Intervention and Support for student engagement and learning (PBIS)
- discuss our values with students in the classroom, meetings and assemblies.

VISION

At Baringa School we share a commitment to create a safe, respectful and inclusive environment that supports students to reach their full potential.

MISSION

Baringa School's mission is to create resilient and independent lifelong learners.

To facilitate the achievement of all learners, we provide:

- A quality inclusive learning environment that is responsive to student voice and agency
- Differentiated, in-depth and individualised learning plans, aligned to the Victorian Curriculum
- Highly effective teaching, focussed on improving student outcomes.
- Enriching, engaging resources that support student's physical, social and emotional development
- Strong community partnerships to assist students in their engagement in work and future pathways
- Opportunities for parents to participate in learning and decision-making partnerships
- Networks that promote and support student achievement, wellbeing and engagement

OBJECTIVE

Baringa School's objective is to ensure all students leave our school having achieved their individual potential.

VALUES

Baringa School's values are Be Safe, Be Respectful and Be a Learner. Our matrix below provides an explanation of how these values are implemented throughout the school.

BARINGA STUDENT BEHAVIOUR MATRIX

	Always, Everywhere	Inside	Outside	Toilets	Buses	Community	Technology
Be Safe	Show I am listening Follow instructions Keep hands, feet and objects to myself	Walk inside Have permission to leave the classroom	Use equipment in the right way Stay in my area	Wash my hands with soap and water	Wear my seatbelt Stay in my seat	Follow the road rules Be on time	Keep my personal information to myself Tell an adult if there is a problem
Be Respectful	Use Right Words, Right Place Walk away from trouble Look after people, property and equipment	Use an inside voice Let others learn	Go straight to class when the music starts Be a good sport	Keep the toilets clean One toilet - One person	Keep the bus clean Use a quiet voice	Be aware of what is around me	Hand in my device in the morning Treat others online how I would like to be treated
Be a Learner	Be honest Ask for help Let others have their space Wear my uniform	Have a go at classroom activities Keep trying	Take turns Support and encourage others	Tell teachers if there is a problem in the toilets	Line up quietly Wait my turn	Ask questions Learn new things	Use technology for learning Wear headphones

BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS

Baringa 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 students at our school.

As principals and school leaders, we will:

- model positive behaviour and effective leadership
- communicate politely and respectfully with all members of the school community
- work collaboratively to create a school environment where respectful and safe behaviour is expected of everyone
- behave in a manner consistent with the standards of our profession and meet core responsibilities to provide safe and inclusive environments
- plan, implement and review our work to ensure the care, safety, security and general wellbeing of all students at school
- identify and support students who are or may be at risk
- do our best to ensure every child achieves their personal and learning potential
- work with parents to understand their child's needs and, where necessary, adapt the learning environment accordingly
- respond appropriately when safe and inclusive behaviour is not demonstrated and implement appropriate interventions and sanctions when required
- inform parents of the school's communication and complaints procedures
- ask any person who is acting in an offensive, intimidating or otherwise inappropriate way to leave the school grounds.

As teachers and non-teaching school staff, we will:

- model positive behaviour to students consistent with the standards of our profession
- communicate politely and respectfully with all members of the school community
- proactively engage with parents about student outcomes
- work with parents to understand the needs of each student and, where necessary, adapt the learning environment accordingly
- work collaboratively with parents to improve learning and wellbeing outcomes for students with additional needs
- communicate with the principal and school leaders in the event we anticipate or face any tension or challenging behaviours from parents
- treat all members of the school community with respect.

As parents and carers, we will:

- model positive behaviour to our child
- communicate politely and respectfully with all members of the school community
- ensure our child attends school on time, every day the school is open for instruction
- take an interest in our child's school and learning
- work with the school to achieve the best outcomes for our child
- communicate constructively with the school and use expected processes and protocols when raising concerns
- support school staff to maintain a safe learning environment for all students
- follow the school's processes for communication with staff and when making complaints
- treat all school leaders, staff, students, and other members of the school community with respect.

As students, we will:

- model positive behaviour to other students
- communicate politely and respectfully with all members of the school community
- comply with and model school values
- behave in a safe and responsible manner
- respect ourselves, other members of the school community and the school environment
- actively participate in school
- not disrupt the learning of others and make the most of our educational opportunities

As community members, we will:

- model positive behaviour to the school community
- treat other members of the school community with respect
- support school staff to maintain a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students
- utilise the school's processes for communication with staff and submitting complaints.

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:

- speaking or behaving in a rude, manipulative, aggressive or threatening way, either in person, via electronic communication or social media, or over the telephone
- the use or threat of violence of any kind, including physically intimidating behaviour such as aggressive hand gestures or invading another person's personal space
- sending demanding, rude, confronting or threatening letters, emails or text messages
- sexist, racist, homophobic, transphobic 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 as annual reference in school newsletter
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following school policies:

- [Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy](#)
- [Child Safe Code of Conduct](#)
- [Complaints Policy](#)
- [Bullying Prevention Policy](#)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	30/11/2021
Approved by	Principal in Consultation with School Council
Next scheduled review date	August 2024