



Princes Hill Secondary College

Statement of Values and School Philosophy Policy

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

Princes Hill Secondary 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.

The programs and teaching at Princes Hill Secondary College 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 and is publicly available through our school website.

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
- 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, meetings and assemblies.

Vision

We believe that education has a fundamental role to play in fostering a deeper and more harmonious form of human personal and social development. Therefore, it is an indispensable asset in the attempt to attain the ideals of peace, freedom and social justice, and to reduce poverty, exclusion, ignorance, oppression and war.

Mission

Princes Hill Secondary College's mission is to provide a safe and inclusive educational environment for the 21st Century that provides learning opportunities that are relevant, integrative and authentic.

This is underpinned by the UNESCO four pillars of education:

1. Learning to **Know** – the development of skills and knowledge needed to function in this world e.g. formal acquisition of literacy, numeracy, critical thinking and general knowledge.
2. Learning to **Do** – the acquisition of applied skills linked to professional success.
3. Learning to **Live Together** – the development of social skills and values such as respect and concern for others, and the appreciation of cultural diversity.
4. Learning to **Be** – the learning that contributes to a person's mind, body, and spirit. Skills include creativity and personal discovery, acquired through reading, the Internet, and activities such as sports and arts.

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

Our educational philosophy outlines our core beliefs and supports the values of the Department of Education: **Integrity, Responsiveness, Impartiality, Accountability, Respect, Leadership** and a commitment to **Human Rights**. The school values have been collaboratively created to foster the high expectations we have of becoming lifelong learners as well as our dedication to ensuring our school is a positive and respectful environment for our students, our staff and the whole school community.

Princes Hill Secondary College is a community united by a shared understanding in the importance of the following values:

Princes Hill Secondary College <i>School Values</i>	
RESPECT	<i>We value and respect others.</i>
CREATIVITY	<i>We nurture a spirit of innovative inquiry and expression.</i>
INCLUSION	<i>We embrace inclusive practices in our community that value equity and diversity.</i>
RESILIENCE	<i>We demonstrate resilience by encouraging persistence, courage and determination.</i>
ACHIEVEMENT	<i>We strive to make the most of our opportunities to challenge ourselves and meet our learning goals.</i>

To celebrate and embed our Vision, Mission, Philosophy and Values in our school community, we promote our values in our school newsletter, on [our website](#), through posters and banners and other publications. We award and recognise our students who actively demonstrate these values and engage in discussion about the importance of our values with students in the classroom, meetings and assemblies. Values clarification activities are scoped and sequenced into our Social and Emotional Learning program.

Behavioural expectations

Princes Hill Secondary 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's 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](#).

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 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 transition and enrolment packs
- Included as an annual reference in the school newsletter

Related policies and resources

Department of Education policies and resources:

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

Princes Hill Secondary College policies:

- [Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy](#)
- [Inclusion and Diversity Policy](#)
- [Bullying Prevention Policy](#)
- [Complaints Policy](#)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	September 2025
Approved by	School Council, September 2025
Next scheduled review date	September 2029