STATEMENT OF VALUES AND SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY POLICY

Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact the main office of Nelson Park school (03) 52783620.

1. 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. This policy applies to both the Libau and Illinois Campus and any difference between campuses is specified.

2. POLICY:

Nelson Park 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 Nelson Park 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 our school website, our Facebook page and through our staff induction program.

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.

3. VISION:

Nelson Park School is dedicated to the development of each student's intellectual, social and emotional growth. Our primary focus is to enable students to discover their strengths and develop the confidence and skills needed to fulfil their educational and personal potential, both now and into the future. This means engaging families and the wider community as learning partners in the provision of a diverse, evolving curriculum that inspires passion, supports personal growth and

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equips students with essential life skills. We empower students to become confident and adaptable life-long learners who are ready to build positive, purposeful futures.

4. MISSION:

Nelson Park School believes that all members of the school community can be Life-long Learners.

5. OBJECTIVE

Nelson Park School's objective is to ensure that all students discover their strengths and develop the confidence and skills needed to fulfil their educational and personal potential, both now and into the future.

6. SCHOOL VALUES

Learning and Effort
Co-operation
Community
Respect

7. BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS

Nelson Park 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 children and young people at our school.

As staff we are committed to demonstrating the following behaviours:

- Being proud and positive members of the school community.
- Respecting the learning environment.
- Using effective communication.
- Checking-in with colleagues and ensuring all interactions are genuine, positive and constructive.
- Collaborative planning and sharing professional learning and resources with colleagues
- Understanding and following school protocols.
- Commitment to open, professional and constructive conversations and to actively listen.
- Being punctual and actively participating in staff meetings and learning.
- Enthusiasm and commitment to creative, lateral thinking.
- Being reflective of practise and solution focused.
- Presenting as professional and approachable within the school community.
- Polite, positive and genuine interactions within the school community.
- Non-judgemental attitudes towards members of the school community.
- Active Listening.
- Acceptance of difference and diversity.

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- Creating an inclusive and supportive school environment.

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 making complaints.
- Treat all school leaders, staff, students, and other members of the school community with respect.

As students, we will try to follow the school rules aligned to our values:

- Respect - Respect yourself and others.
- Community - Care for the school.
- Co-operation - Make good choices.
- Learning and Effort - Try your best.

As community members, we:

- 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.

8. 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.

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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.

9. FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

This policy is to be read in conjunction with the following Nelson Park School policies:

- Bullying Prevention
- Student Engagement and Wellbeing

10. EVALUATION:

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.

Policy last reviewed	28/03/2024
Approved by	Principal / School Council
Next scheduled review date	MARCH 2027