

# SCHOOL NO. 4401 – KATANDRA WEST PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Policy Statement: MANAGEMENT

890 – Statement of Values and School Philosophy

Responsibility: **Principal**

This policy was last ratified by School Council in October 2024



### Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact the Principal

## 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

Katandra West Primary 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 Katandra West Primary 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 and as a hard copy in the office.

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
- 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 AND VALUES

At Katandra West Primary School, we treat each other with respect and take responsibility for our learning and behaviour. We strive for a safe and positive school for all. The work we do and the daily interactions with all members of the school community is underpinned by our school values:

- Be Safe,
- Be Respectful,
- Be Strong and
- Be Your Best.

Our goal at Katandra West Primary School is that we weave our core values into the fabric of school life. We want our students to use our values to make decisions and to make deliberate choices to focus on what is important to us as a school community.

## MISSION

- Value added learning through quality teaching
- Learning for everyone
- Communication through connection
- Individual and community wellbeing

To realise our vision and achieve our mission we will:

- provide a warm, welcoming and structured environment in which students feel safe, happy and motivated to learn
- within an inclusive environment, foster a sense of self-belief and confidence in students to be the best they can be
- have high expectations that challenge all learners and a belief that everyone can succeed
- plan for, and deliver, high quality teaching and learning experiences based on high impact, evidence-based research
- place students at the centre of the learning experience; valuing student voice and promoting independence in action and thought
- provide a broad and enriching curriculum
- look for opportunities to work in partnership with families and the community to assist one another in supporting our students
- through our school values, assist students in developing their leadership, dispositions, traits and values that enable them to be happy, healthy, resilient and successful individuals when they transition to High School and beyond, now and into the future.

## 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.

## BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS

Katandra West Primary School 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, Inclusion and Diversity Policy, Bullying Prevention Policy and School-Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS) matrices.

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.

## 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 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 in staff handbook/manual
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

## RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

Department of Education and Training policies and resources:

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

Katandra West Primary School policies:

- Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Inclusion and Diversity Policy
- Bullying Prevention Policy
- Parent Complaints Policy

## POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	School Council Consultation September 2024
Approved by	School Council October 2024
Next scheduled review date	September 2027