

STATEMENT OF VALUES AND SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY

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

Beaumaris 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 Beaumaris 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, objective, mission, values and expectations of our school community. This policy is available on our school website, our staff induction handbook and enrolment/transition packs.

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

Beaumaris Secondary College's vision is that all learners can flourish when the school environment provides the conditions that promote curiosity, challenge and community. A commitment to the pursuit of academic excellence across a diverse and engaging curriculum, both in and outside the classroom, which is inclusive and responsive to the diversity of learners. A significant focus will be on matching pedagogy to learning spaces and employing highly capable, collaborative and creative staff to ensure that the teaching and learning is of the highest calibre. The learning community will be:

- Research and evidence based with a mix of creative, practical and inquiry-based learning

- Project based learning experiences, reflecting the world around them
- Differentiated, personalised and challenging for all students
- Collaborative and develop independent learners

Beaumaris Secondary College will support students to make healthy choices and have opportunities throughout the curriculum programme and extra-curricular activities to participate and learn the importance of a healthy and active lifestyle. We value our unique local environment. Beaumaris Secondary College will foster and develop our sense of place in the world as global citizens who can contribute within the wider context of sustainability and environmental stewardship.

At Beaumaris Secondary School our students will be:

- Independent learners and free thinkers.
- curious, self-aware and confident when expressing their ideas.
- optimistic about the future, globally aware, enthusiastic about the experiences they share with their peers and risk takers in their own learning.
- have a sense of pride and responsibility to the school, each other and the wider community.
- respectful, empathetic and tolerant of others.

MISSION

Our mission is for our students to understand their personal agency and group capacity to contribute to our world in a positive, honest, and sustainable way with responsibility, pride and integrity. A school that has every student achieving personal success in their chosen pathway.

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 Values

Beaumaris Secondary College will be committed to:

- **Activity and Health** – our students emerge fit and healthy with a good understanding of the benefit physical activity and a healthy lifestyle. The school recognises the potential benefit that physical activity has on student's wellbeing and academic performance. It will utilise its unique location and potential partnerships with outside organisation to create opportunities for students and staff to excel. Provide state of the art facilities to inspire activity and develop a respect for the benefits of a healthy lifestyle including emotional and mental health.
- **Creativity and Enterprise** – our students understand the challenges of life and can develop and apply creative and critical thinking skills and behaviours to help us navigate change and challenge. Students will emerge equipped with skills to analyse and problem solve, understanding that challenges are part of the journey they will face. Enterprise and resilience will be cultivated within the schools culture and curriculum and students will build confidence through participation.

- **Connection with the local environment** – the school will promote environmental stewardship and meaningful connections to place. The school interacts with local schools, communities, families, resources and their environment to develop connections that support the social and emotional wellbeing of students and staff. Utilise the unique local environment in developing a culture of environmental care and proactive management. Instil the importance of sustainability
- **Community membership** - our students contribute in a meaningful way to the community and emerge from school as informed community members. The school is supportive and reactive to changing local needs; it will have a unique offering and will attract the best teaching staff. Our staff are supported and encouraged to pursue their own learning and are recognised for their expression of our values as members of our learning community
- **Global outlook** – our students understand their place in the world. The school will provide a local setting within a global stage. It will foster and establish connections that provide students the opportunity to understand the global community and how their decisions and actions have an impact locally and further afield. Develop a sense of place in the world and encourage an understanding of issues within a global context. Promoting participation as a key skill to meet the challenges of today's world

BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS

Beaumaris Secondary College 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.

Our College will implement a school wide positive behaviour program that is based on pro-social values, social competencies, incentives and positive peer relationships.

The key focus will be on prevention and early intervention strategies that:

- define and teach college-wide and classroom expectations
- establish consistent college-wide and classroom consequences for problem behaviour
- establish college-wide and classroom processes for early identification of students experiencing academic and/or behaviour difficulty
- provide college-wide and classroom processes for ongoing collection and use of data for decision-making
- empower students by creating multiple opportunities for them to take responsibility and be involved in decision-making
- provide a physical environment conducive to positive behaviours and effective engagement in learning
- utilise evidence-based interventions, monitored regularly for those students who face difficulty with learning and/or behaviour

The College's strategies to promote school wide positive behaviour and include close links with the curriculum. Victorian curriculum standards embrace the learning within the Interpersonal Development domain which supports students to initiate, maintain and manage positive social relationships with a range of people in a variety of contexts. It is through the development of positive social relationships that individuals become linked to society, develop a sense of belonging and learn to live and work with others. In a pluralistic, multicultural society such as Australia, with varying

interests, values and beliefs, it is essential that individuals learn to participate in groups whose members are from diverse backgrounds. In this domain there is a particular focus on developing students' capacity to work cooperatively as part of a team as this is widely acknowledged as being a core requirement for success in the workplace and in the community.

Beaumaris Secondary College will work closely with the school community to ensure there are shared expectations of respect, responsibility, fairness and equality. The expectations are intended to be positive in that they set out appropriate behaviours for our College community that are underpinned by our values. Our shared expectations are intended to support individual students and families that come to our community from a diversity of backgrounds and experiences.

Schools have a responsibility to provide an educational environment that ensures that all students are:

- valued and cared for,
- feel they are part of the school, and
- can engage effectively in their learning and experience success.
- Understanding, Tolerance and Inclusion-Be aware of others and their cultures, accept diversity within a democratic society, being included and including others
- Honesty and Trustworthiness-Be honest, sincere and seek the truth

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
- Included as an annual reference in school newsletter
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

Department of Education policies and resources:

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

Beaumaris Secondary College policies:

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

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	19/3/2024
Approved by	School Council 19/03/2024
Next scheduled review date	19/3/2028