

Gilgai Plains Primary School

STATEMENT OF VALUES & SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Gilgai Plains Primary School on 03 8779 0000 or gilgai.plains.ps@education.vic.gov.au.

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

Gilgai Plains 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 Gilgai Plains 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, our staff induction handbook and enrolment/transition packs.

To celebrate and embed our Statement of Values and School 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 our values
- discuss our values with students in the classroom, meetings and assemblies.

VISION

Gilgai Plains Primary School's vision is to develop confident, resilient and resourceful thinkers who strive to achieve their best and contribute to make the world a better place.

MISSION

Gilgai Plains Primary School's mission is to ensure that every child at Gilgai Plains PS

- Feels safe, happy and well
- Is literate and numerate and experiences continual growth and success
- Has diverse learning opportunities
- Is greeted with a smile and a hello and loves coming to school
- Works hard and allows others to be their best
- Has at least one good friend and knows how to make friends and keep friends
- Has someone to go to when needed
- Is kind to self, others and our environment

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.

MOTTO

Sparkling joy in learning and compassion in hearts.

VALUES

Gilgai Plains Primary School's values are **Kindness, Respect, Zest** and **Learning Together**.

- We model and demonstrate **kindness** to ourselves and to others. We understand that our words and our behaviours impact the people around us
- We show **respect** to others, ourselves and our environment
- We approach everything we do with **zest**. We understand the importance of being positive, choosing our attitude and trying our hardest
- We value **learning together** and understand the importance of collaboration to achieve success.

BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS

Gilgai Plains Primary 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.

Shared expectations of staff, parents, carers and students to support positive student behaviour are set out in the [Respectful, safe, engaged: shared expectations to support student behaviour statement](#).

Students are also 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.

Staff 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](#).

Parents and carers play a vital role in helping their child understand and meet shared behaviour expectations. Additionally, information about the expectations of 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. Schools can share these expectations through use of [posters](#) available in over [30 translated languages](#).

As principals and school leaders, we will:

- model Gilgai Plains Primary School values in our daily life
- demonstrate effective, kind and positive leadership
- work and learn collaboratively to create an inclusive school environment where trust, respectful and safe behaviour is expected of everyone
- ensure all parents/carers are aware of the expectations outlined in the Department's Respectful Behaviours within the School Community Policy
- 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 ongoing care, safety, security and wellbeing of all students is protected
- have processes in place to ensure students who are or may be at risk are identified and supported
- do our best to ensure every teacher can support students to achieve their personal and learning potential
- respond appropriately when safe and inclusive behaviour is not demonstrated and implement appropriate interventions, sanctions and learning opportunities 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 Gilgai Plains Primary school values in our everyday life
- communicate with kindness and respect to all members of the school community
- ensure every student in our homegroup feels safe, seen and heard whilst at school
- ensure students know how to be cybersafe
- 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, in line with the Department's Respectful Behaviours within the School Community Policy
- ensure our child attends Gilgai Plains Primary School on time, every day the school is open for instruction
- ensure my child has correct uniform and support Gilgai Plains Primary in maintaining pride in the student dress code
- support the learning opportunities offered and take an active interest in our child's school and learning
- ensure safety measures at home when my child has access to technology
- partner with and trust in 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:

- model positive behaviour to other students
- always demonstrate Gilgai Plains Primary school values
- communicate with kindness and respect to all members of the school community
- behave in a safe and responsible manner
- follow our school values to be cybersafe and use technology responsibly
- respect ourselves, other members of the school community and the school environment
- wear the correct uniform to school
- actively participate in school and try my best
- not disrupt the learning of others and make the most of our educational opportunities.

As community members, we will:

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

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 demonstrated by school staff, parents, carers, students or members of our school community is not 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, manipulative, 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 is not 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 is treated with fairness and respect. In turn, we strive to create a school that is inclusive and safe, where everyone is empowered to participate and learn.

COMMUNICATION

This policy is communicated to our school community in the following ways :

- Available publicly on our school's website and Compass platform
- Included in staff induction processes
- Included in enrolment packs
- 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](#)
- [Respectful, safe, engaged: shared expectations to support student behaviour](#)

Gilgai Plains Primary School policies:

- Bullying Prevention Policy
- Inclusion and Diversity Policy
- Parent Complaints Policy

- Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	3.08.2026
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	3.08.2030

This page to be returned to school.

I have read and understood the Statement of Values for Gilgai Plains Primary School.

I agree to adhere to the Statement of Values.

Signatures of parents & carers

Printed Name

Printed Name

Date:

Thank you.