



STATEMENT OF VALUES AND SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY

PURPOSE

The purpose of this statement is to outline the vision, philosophy and values of our school community.

STATEMENT

Euroa Secondary College is committed to providing a safe, supportive and inclusive environment for all students, staff and members of our community. We are a child safe school, our college takes a preventative, proactive and participatory approach to Child Safety to ensure the safety of students is promoted, child abuse is prevented and allegations of child abuse are responded to as required by mandatory reporting.

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 Euroa 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 and values of our school community. It is available:

- on the school website
- in enrolment/transition packs
- in the Staff induction Handbook
- in the Staff Handbook
- on Staff Compass Resources

To celebrate and embed our Statement of Values and Philosophy in our school community, we:

- display posters and banners that promote the values in the 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

Euroa Secondary College is a special place where we exemplify a school for our community, "A united community where everybody has responsibility in preparing youth for their future." Being the only State Secondary College in the Strathbogie Shire, we understand the importance of providing a high-quality education which caters to our students' needs. This includes providing diverse opportunities during our students' secondary education journey and ensuring they achieve their personal excellence.

"A united community where everybody has responsibility in preparing youth for their future."
CHALLENGE EMPOWERMENT RESILIENCE RESPECT



Euroa Secondary College strives to deliver excellence in education. Our staff are engaged in Professional Learning in research based approaches to apply in their classrooms. The staff are building consistency in practice across every classroom to ensure all students have a similar learning experience supplemented with authentic assessments which celebrates students' achievement.

We set high expectations for our students' learning in a supportive/caring environment with a focus on the social and emotional health and well-being of our students. Our emphasis on the benefits of positive psychology is complimented by the work over the last few years in implementation of a School Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS) program.

As a Strength Base School, we work together with our community in celebrating individual strengths of the students with our families. Our aim is for our students to be literate, numerate and curious. We endeavour to ensure our students are prepared for the technologically rich world and they are equipped with 21st century skills including collaboration, creativity, communication and critical thinking.

This is enacted through the use of a range of evidence based pedagogies and curriculum used by teachers in the classroom. Formative and summative assessment and feedback are provided to students, centred around their learning to set goals for future growth.

MISSION

Euroa Secondary College's mission is to recognise and build a culture of high expectations and excellence in education enabling students to achieve their desired pathway into further study, work or apprenticeship. Students at Euroa Secondary College become independent, creative, resilient and positive individuals; equipped with the personal, social, academic and 21st Century skills necessary in a changing world.

OBJECTIVE

Using data, evidence and high impact teaching strategies, we identify student learning strengths and build on areas for improvement in order to allow students to grow and develop academically and successfully pursue future pathways.

We enact our Mission and Objective through:

- use of a range of evidence based pedagogies used by teachers in our classrooms
- collaboratively designed and innovative curriculum delivered in our classrooms
- feedback provided to students about their learning and where to go to develop next steps
- extra-curricular programs, such as House Sports and Music,
- programs developed for student voice where opportunities are provided for students to show initiative
- the work within Euroa Secondary College's inclusive and diverse school community.

VALUES

Our core values are:

- **Challenge:** Striving to do the very best individually and collectively.

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CHALLENGE EMPOWERMENT RESILIENCE RESPECT



- **Empowerment:** Developing the knowledge and skills to make responsible and sound decisions as an individual or as a team member and having the discipline and courage to take the necessary action.
- **Resilience:** Persisting with the task, re-evaluating strategies and making progress.
- **Respect:** Respecting the rights and contribution of every individual and acknowledging responsibilities to support one another.

Our programs and practices are designed to reflect these values.

We are a school where relationships are highly valued, allowing all to feel engaged and connected as a community of learners. Restorative practices are used to acknowledge conflict and to repair relationships. We are a community committed to respectful relationships that achieve successful outcomes for all students in a safe, challenged and supportive school culture.

Euroa Secondary College is a thriving, well-resourced school, proudly supported by its local community providing excellence in education.

BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS

Euroa Secondary College acknowledges a shared responsibility to create a positive learning environment for the students at our school.

As principals and school leaders, we will:

- model positive behaviour and effective leadership
- communicate politely and respectfully with all members of the school community
- work collaboratively to create a school environment where respectful and safe behaviour is expected of everyone
- 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 care, safety, security and general wellbeing of all students at school
- identify and support students who are or may be at risk
- do our best to ensure every student achieves their personal and learning potential
- work with parents to understand their child's needs and, where necessary, adapt the learning environment accordingly
- respond appropriately when safe and inclusive behaviour is not demonstrated and implement appropriate interventions and sanctions 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 positive behaviour to students consistent with the standards of our profession
- communicate politely and respectfully with all members of the school community
- 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

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- 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
- 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:

- model positive behaviour to other students
- communicate politely and respectfully with all members of the school community
- comply with and model school values
- behave in a safe and responsible manner
- respect ourselves, other members of the school community and the school environment
- actively participate in school
- not disrupt the learning of others and make the most of our educational opportunities.

As community members, we will:

- 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.

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

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- 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 *Vision, Philosophy and Values Statement* 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 restorative practice, 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*.

This *Vision, Philosophy and Values Statement* 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.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy, Communication with School Staff Policy, Complaints Policy.

REVIEW CYCLE

This statement was updated and approved by School Council in March 2022.

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