



# Maribyrnong College

## Statement of Values and School Philosophy



### Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Maribyrnong College on 03 9091 8100 or [maribyrnong.sc@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:maribyrnong.sc@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

Maribyrnong 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 Maribyrnong 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 mission and values and the expectations of our school community. This policy is available on our school website and in our parent information handbook.

To celebrate and embed our values in our school community, we

- display posters and banners that promote our values in our school
- provide awards and recognition for students who actively demonstrate the values
- discuss our values with students in the classroom, meetings and assemblies.

### Vision

Through our extensive academic and extra-curricular programs and world-class sporting facilities and opportunities, we aim to foster and inspire a new generation of aspirational and resilient young people ready to embrace the opportunities of a rapidly-changing world.

## **Mission**

At Maribyrnong College we aim to develop:

### **Students who are:**

- Capable and conscientious
- Engaged, connected and successful
- Co-operative and respectful
- Well-presented and well-behaved
- Proud of their achievements and school

### **Programs which:**

- Are challenging, rigorous and innovative
- Are engaging and creative
- Provide individual support and improved outcomes
- Provide diverse pathways to meet students' needs
- Are recognised as best practice

### **Staff who are:**

- Dedicated, innovative and collaborative
- Energetic, outward looking and positive
- Caring, sensitive and supportive
- Role models
- Proud of their work and workplace

### **An environment with:**

- Attractive facilities, inside and outside
- High quality recreation and relaxation areas
- Prominent gallery and notice board displays
- A security fence and quality canteen
- Specialist sporting facilities
- Priority given to continuous improvement

## **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**

Maribyrnong College's values are:

### **Pride in Performance**

Our college motto is "Pride in performance" and this defines our purpose. At Maribyrnong College we promote a high-performance culture in which staff, students and parents have high expectations of themselves and others. We want all members of our school community to be proud of their performance and proud of their achievement.

### **Respect**

"As we grow as unique persons, we learn to respect the uniqueness of others." (Robert Schuller) At Maribyrnong College the notion of respect is an underlying core value and students are taught to respect the uniqueness of others and to respect themselves.

### **Relationships**

The foundation of a successful learning environment is strengthened by the positive relationships formed by its

members. Our school culture emphasises cooperative relationships based on mutual respect. A safe and secure environment with supportive structures allows for individuality, inclusivity and diversity.

### **Balance**

The balance scale on our school logo is an integral part of our school history and one that depicts our belief in the need to provide students with a balanced school life. Students need to balance their academic, sporting, creative and social aspirations in order to achieve high personal outcomes and leave the College well prepared for the next stage of their lives.

### **Expectations**

At Maribyrnong College we set high standards for our students. We expect them to be conscientious, well-presented and well-behaved. Students are expected to wear the College uniform with pride and to respect their environment. We expect that students will always strive to achieve their personal best.

### **Behavioural expectations**

Maribyrnong College 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, and Bullying Prevention Policy.

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](#).

### **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 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 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:

- Provided to staff at induction and included in staff handbook/manual
- Discussed at staff meetings/briefings as required
- Made available publicly on our school website
- Made available in hard copy from Reception upon request

## FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies on the Department's Policy and Advisory Library (PAL):

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

## POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	October 2023
Approved by	School Council 22/11/2023
Next scheduled review date	Before October 2027