



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

Gaayip-Yagila 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 Gaayip-Yagila 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, enrolment/transition packs and will be shared with the community each year in the school newsletter in Term 1.

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

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

VISION

Gaayip-Yagila Primary School's commitment to excellence will empower students to become connected, engaged and collaborative learners. Students will participate in high quality teaching throughout every lesson, taking an active role in identifying their learning needs and co-constructing experiences aimed at their point of need. They will thrive academically, socially and emotionally and value diversity through showing respect for self, others and the community (locally and globally).

MISSION

Gaayip-Yagila Primary School's mission is to ensure our students are confident learners who are literate, numerate and demonstrate resilience, creativity, critical thinking and problems solving skills to succeed in an ever-changing world.

OBJECTIVE

Gaayip-Yagila Primary School's objective is to provide students with an engaging school experience, which is inclusive of all, so that they have every opportunity to succeed academically, socially and emotionally.

SCHOOL EXPECTATIONS (VALUES)

Gaayip-Yagila Primary School believes in high expectations for all. These expectations underpin the Positive Behaviour framework and will guide a common and consistent approach when communicating and interacting with our school community. The whole school community will see each day as an opportunity to extend themselves, reach their goals and seek new learning by asking questions and not being afraid of making mistakes. These should be considered learning opportunities. To maintain a high level of excellence the expected behaviours will be promoted regularly and we will seek and accept feedback from others.

At Gaayip-Yagila Primary School we have four key focuses:

<i>We strive for excellence</i>	We exhibit personal, team and school pride, believe in ourselves and others and always do our personal best
<i>We collaborate</i>	We share ideas, listen with open minds and work together to help each other succeed
<i>We are respectful</i>	We value and celebrate diversity and respect the safety and learning of everyone in our community
<i>We are kind</i>	We are kind to ourselves, others and the environment

BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS

Gaayip-Yagila 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 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 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 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 OF THIS POLICY

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

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Included as annual reference in school newsletter
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

In the future this policy will link to: *Student Wellbeing and Engagement, Communication with School Staff, Respect for School Staff, Visitors, Bullying prevention.*

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	September 2023
Approved by	School Council
Presented to School Council	September 13th 2023
Next scheduled review date	Term 3 2025