Collingwood College

Statement of Values and School Philosophy

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Review By: Sam Luck



Help for non-English speakers
If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact the school office.
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STATEMENT

Collingwood College is a child safe organisation that welcomes all children, young people and their families. We are committed to providing environments where our students are safe and feel safe, where their participation is valued, their views respected, and their voices are heard about decisions that affect their lives. The school adheres to the Ministerial Order 1359 which sets out how the Victorian Child Safe Standards apply in school environments. All staff, volunteers and council members at Collingwood College observe child safe principles as outlined in the school's Child Safe Code of Conduct. 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 protect children, empower them and provide a safe and inclusive learning environment for our students. We take appropriate actions when responding to allegations or concerns. We have **zero tolerance** of child abuse.

The programs and teaching at Collingwood 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, values and expectations of our school community. This policy is available on our school website, in our staff induction handbook, and our student engagement guidelines. To celebrate and embed our *Statement of Values and Philosophy* in our school community, we will:

- display posters and banners that promote our values in our school
- celebrate our values in our school newsletter

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- provide awards and recognition for students who actively demonstrate the values
- teach and discuss our school values with students in the classroom, meetings and assemblies.

VISION AND MISSION

Our **vision** at Collingwood College is to *inspire young people* who are well-balanced, strong and creative individuals who make a positive difference to our community. We strive to develop articulate, socially responsible and resilient individuals who are working towards achieving their full potential as global citizens. We provide a stimulating, creative and challenging learning environment where students achieve their personal best. We offer a robust educational experience for all students through effective communication, strong collaboration and research-based teaching and learning strategies.

Our **mission** is to inspire our students to become inspirational young people and reflects our belief that by creating an engaging environment our students will be motivated and enthused by learning. At Collingwood College we provide a stimulating curriculum that engages students and caters for a range of learning styles by:

- being open to all views and perspectives
- creating an open and trusting community that invites everyone to explore, create and learn.
- teaching the whole person
- cultivating a rich and diverse curriculum. This ensures our students can have the confidence to find joy in the world and to fully participate in society.
- continually learning.
- valuing the ongoing learning of our teachers, parents and students. We reflect upon what we do and always look for better ways to achieve our vision.

VALUES

Our values are clearly communicated to students through learning opportunities, and through our Respectful Relationships (RR) curriculum. These values are the compass for our learning community. They are reflected in our behaviour, our decisions and shape our interactions.

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Learning our values is based on acquiring knowledge, developing skills and adopting the attitude to allow each value to flourish in the person. The school takes into account the diversity of all children, including (but not limited to) the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, those from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, students with disabilities, those unable to live at home, children and young people who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and gender diverse, intersex and queer (LGBTIQ+) and other students experiencing risk or vulnerability. As a school, we make every reasonable effort to meet the needs of our entire community, we see diversity as our strength and are united by our values.

Our values are:

Diversity, Creativity, Innovation, Relationships and **Achievement**

Diversity

We respect and value the social, linguistic, religious, financial, academic and cultural diversity of our learning community. Our respect for diversity allows us to value uncertainty, subjectivity, participation, intuition, insight and imagination to develop and deliver a curriculum that can meet the needs of all students. We offer a place for everyone.

Creativity

We understand that creativity is a key method for exploring the world. We encourage young people to take the lead and embrace curiosity, questioning and challenging traditional ways of seeing and being. We create conditions for adventurous exploration of ideas and for constructive reflection.

Innovation

We embed innovation in the foundations of our learning community. We are open to new work structures, learning environments, collaborations, advanced technology, new pedagogies and integrated curriculum. We approach change and unforeseen circumstances in a positive and constructive way.

Relationships

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We believe that education, throughout our lives, involves developing a deep understanding of our relationships – with ourselves and others. While education must focus on the needs of the individual, it cannot be considered in isolation of the family, the College and the broader community.

Achievement

We expect all members of our learning community to strive to achieve their personal best and accordingly we create a climate that constantly articulates high expectations for all. We celebrate the individual and collective achievements of our students and other members of our community.

Communication

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

- Available publicly on our school's website and through COMPASS
- Included in staff induction processes
- Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Referenced at least annually in the school newsletter
- Discussed at student forums
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

Review and Approval

This statement will be reviewed every 3–4 years, or earlier as required following analysis of new research or school data._Proposed amendments to this policy will be discussed with students, staff and parents and at School Council.

Policy last reviewed	March 2023
Approval (Mandatory)	Principal and School Council
Next scheduled review date	August 2026

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