



## STATEMENT OF VALUES AND SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY



Help for non-English speakers.

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Edenbrook Secondary College reception.

### 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. As a community we recognise the importance of the partnership between schools and parents to support student learning, engagement and wellbeing. We share a commitment to, and a responsibility for, ensuring inclusive, safe and orderly environments for children and young people.

### COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to the College community every year via a Compass post at Edenbrook Secondary College. Edenbrook Secondary College will publish the statement of our philosophy on the school website.

### POLICY

Edenbrook Secondary 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 Edenbrook 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, values and expectations of our school community. This policy is available on our school website, our staff induction handbook, student diary and enrolment/transition packs.

To celebrate and embed our Statement of Values and Philosophy in our school community, we refer to it in staff meetings, parent information nights and hold sessions for students where the values and vision are explicitly referred to.

- display posters and banners that promote values in our 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

Edenbrook Secondary College's vision is to provide an excellent education for all students within the school community in order for them to achieve the highest level of which they are capable.



## **MISSION**

Edenbrook Secondary College's mission is to provide an educational environment for all students within our community. This is to be undertaken through a range of experiences that enhances the learning opportunities for all students in order to enable them to achieve the best outcomes possible.

## **OBJECTIVE**

Edenbrook Secondary College's objective is committed to assisting young people to develop the skills, attributes, knowledge and personal qualities that they require to act as resilient, independent, lifelong learners.

## **VALUES**

Edenbrook Secondary College's values convey the beliefs that positively influence our behaviour and the way we interact with individuals, groups and communities. As a community we believe the following values exemplify our core beliefs. Together we support each other to achieve the following:

**RESPECT**  
**ENDEAVOUR**  
**ACHIEVEMENT**  
**COURAGE**  
**HUMANITY**

## **BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS**

Edenbrook Secondary College 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.

As principals and school leaders, we will:

- model positive behaviour, effective leadership and enthusiasm for learning and teaching
- communicate in a timely manner both politely and respectfully with all members of the school community
- work collaboratively to create a school environment where respectful and safe behaviour is required of everyone
- behave in a manner consistent with the standards of our profession and meet core responsibilities to provide safe and inclusive environments for both staff and students
- present ourselves to our community in a professional manner
- support our colleagues in the work that they undertake to deliver excellence in teaching and learning
- 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 child 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
- 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.
- present ourselves in a professional manner to the community both internal and external to the school
- undertake all duties and responsibilities to the best of our ability
- uphold the Department of Education and Training's value of integrity

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 and where possible support their learning
- ensure our child has all the equipment required for their subjects
- support our child to wear the school uniform as per the expectations of the uniform policy
- 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 the school values
- attend school every day in full school uniform adhering to the requirements of the school uniform policy
- 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.
- work together to ensure learning for all is maximised

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.
- support school decision making



## 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 the Edenbrook Secondary College's *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 both on and offsite.

Unreasonable behaviour includes:

- speaking or behaving in a rude, manipulative, aggressive or threatening way, either in person, via electronic communication or social media, over the telephone, or any other method of communication
- 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
- 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 under any circumstances 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. The Principal is responsible for determining what constitutes reasonable and unreasonable behaviour.

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
- an intervention order being sought
- 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 and will allow students to focus on their learning. 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

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/hrweb/workm/Pages/Public-Sector-Values.aspx>

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/hrweb/divequity/Pages/respect.aspx>

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/hrweb/safetyhw/Pages/employeeservices.aspx>

## EDENBROOK SECONDARY COLLEGE'S POLICES:

- [Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy](#)
- [Inclusion and Diversity Policy](#)
- [Bullying Prevention Policy](#)
- [Parent Complaints Policy](#)

## POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	March 2021
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	March 2025