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|  | **Broadmeadows Special Developmental School** | |
| **Statement of Values and School Philosophy** | |

**Help for non-English speakers**

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Broadmeadows Special Developmental School on 03 9302 1244 or broadmeadows.sds@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

Broadmeadows Special Developmental 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 Broadmeadows Special Developmental 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 and upon request.

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

* display posters and banners that promote your values in our school
* celebrate our values in our school newsletter
* provide awards and recognition for students who actively demonstrate the values

## Vision

**“Learning Beyond Words”** is the school’s vision which is underpinned by the following:

Broadmeadows Special Developmental School firmly believes that every student has the ability and the right to learn in a positive, supportive and happy environment.

Broadmeadows SDS is a provider of education which values learning and learners in all the schools’ documents, in all practice by students and teachers, in work with the School Council and the community, in all teaching and learning programs, in all school initiatives, in all internal and external interactions, in all organisational structures and practices the vision of the school will sit at the centre and there will be expectations about all work aligning with the school vision. Regular evaluation processes will be in place to measure performance in all areas of the school with respect to the implementation of the vision and values of the school.

## Mission

Broadmeadows Special Developmental School is committed providing a safe and caring environment that promotes the education, personal growth and wellbeing of students that supports staff and assists, informs and involves parents.

**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**

Broadmeadows Special Developmental School’s values are **Respect, Communication, Opportunity, Engagement** and **Support.**

We educate our students to be valued, worthwhile and contributing members of the wider community by providing a diverse and age-appropriate curriculum focusing on Positive Behaviour Support and Social Skills, Communication Skills, Independent Living Skills and a comprehensive academic program. Broadmeadows SDS is a provider of education which values learning & learners and believes in high expectations and a commitment to hard work for all students. We aim to provide an innovative and exciting curriculum based on the individual needs of each student.

The school vision, values and beliefs will be a fundamental part of the practice and be reflected upon by all leaders in the school.

## 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 according 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:

* Available publicly on our school’s website
* Made available in hard copy from school administration 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](https://www.education.vic.gov.au/Pages/Respectful-Behaviours-within-the-School-Community-Policy.aspx)
* [Respectful Workplaces](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/respectful-workplaces/overview)
* [Parent Complaints](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/complaints/policy)
* [Work-Related Violence in Schools](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/work-related-violence-schools/policy)

# Policy REVIEW and Approval

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| Policy last reviewed | December 2022 |
| Approved by | School Council – 12/12/2022 |
| Next scheduled review date | Before December 2026 |