



# STATEMENT OF VALUES AND SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY



## Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Wyndham Central College on 03 8744 8900 or [wyndham.central.sc@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:wyndham.central.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

Wyndham Central 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 Wyndham Central 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

- 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
- discuss our values with students in the classroom, meetings and assemblies.

## VISION

**Creating a Community of High Expectations. We hold all students and teachers accountable to the highest standards, provide academic and social support so they will rise to this challenge.**

Wyndham Central College's vision is a clear, concise statement of the type of school we wish to see. It is both a reflection of what we have already achieved and a statement of how we would like to develop the college in the future. Overall, it is the common aim for everything we do from preparing

lessons, to working with our students, recruiting new staff, improving the facilities, and providing a safe environment.

We aim to achieve the extra-ordinary by providing an education which can transform lives and communities. Our focus is on each individual, acknowledging both rights and responsibilities.

A strong pastoral care structure underpins a curriculum that seeks to develop the potential of every student. Academic rigour is valued at all stages and the classroom focus is on challenge, engagement and achievement. Learning is celebrated in all its forms with a huge range of extension activities enhancing the formal curriculum. Our students thrive within our vibrant programs.

The College has a well-qualified and highly committed staff, both teaching and non-teaching. They too are valued as individuals and their learning celebrated.

## MISSION

Wyndham Central College's mission is to foster a love of learning. We respect diversity and Indigenous heritage. We aim for continuous improvement in all our students as they grow into adulthood. Our objective is to nurture empathetic, creative and confident young people who embrace opportunities and accept the challenges of a complex and globalised world.

Wyndham Central College provides the environment that creates the high expectations for all members of our community and inspires each individual to achieve their potential by developing their skills for post-secondary education or to be work-ready.

The action of 'creating a community of high expectations' holds all members of the community accountable to the highest standards, providing both academic and social standards and setting the expectation for strong respectful professional relationships, so that all students emerge as resilient, productive and cooperative members of a contemporary world.

## OBJECTIVE

Wyndham Central College's objective is to ensure all students leave our school with a practical understanding of the curriculum and the skills required to be active participants in their community and as productive members of a global community.

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 (AIP) to operationalise the goals and key improvement strategies contained in our SSP.

## VALUES

Wyndham Central College aims to provide a safe and supportive environment that promotes quality teaching and learning that empowers the college community to value academic success, an individual's needs, social development and a passion for lifelong learning.

The College community values of **Respect, Cooperation and Excellence** indicate an agreed set of values that is highly regarded amongst staff, students and parents/carers and represents the ethos of the College.

**RESPECT (R):** '*Respect each other and our environment*'. Respect involves taking responsibility for each other. Respect is speaking to and interacting with others in a courteous manner. It is about being honest, reliable and trustworthy.

At Wyndham Central College, we demonstrate respect and fairness and represent Wyndham Central College with pride. We are polite and considerate towards each other and ourselves. We respect our own and others property. We do this by:

- We value opinions, thoughts, feelings, and views, treating people fairly
- We foster trust, safety and wellbeing for all and are sensitive to the needs of others
- We guard human rights and social justice
- We are ethically motivated, possess pride, integrity and humility
- We play a positive role in our community
- We value the physical environment and the property of others
- We demonstrate self- respect
- We positively adapt to change
- We treat others with dignity and consideration
- We speak with appropriate language and communicate constructively
- We take responsibility for decisions and outcomes

**COOPERATION (CO):** *'Sharing and learning together'*. Cooperation is working together in a team and as a valued member of a community, contributing and sharing in a helpful way.

At Wyndham Central College we demonstrate cooperation by taking personal responsibility for all of our actions. When we collaborate, we work in partnership, are inclusive and helpful, working towards common goals, holding each other to account. We do this by:

- We live and learn collaboratively
- We appreciate and accept diversity
- We value a sense of community
- We are problem solvers
- We encourage the voice of others, demonstrate active listening and listen with an open mind
- We care for the local and global environment, contributing to society
- We show compassion, empathy, honesty and generosity
- We work collectively to achieve school goals
- We seek and value input from and support all members of the community

**EXCELLENCE (E):** *'Persist and do your best'*. Striving to attain your personal goals, persisting and giving your best effort, and embracing all opportunities and support to reach your full potential.

At Wyndham Central College, we take pride in our achievements and strive for academic and personal excellence, taking the opportunities to reach our full potential. We do this by:

- We are all learners that continue to learn and strive to achieve
- We will be enquiring, curious, reflective, creative and critical thinkers
- We build on our inspiring, dynamic and rigorous school environment
- We celebrate our value by honoring different ways of knowing, teaching and learning
- We expect greatness, fostering aspiration and positive risk taking
- We build and maintain the right mindset
- We fully develop our talents through effort and persistence
- We exercise autonomy and value initiative and resourcefulness
- We foster a culture of performance and service
- We reflect and act on feedback for improvement

## BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS

Wyndham Central 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 of Education 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 of Education's [Respectful Behaviours within the School Community Policy](#) and our *Respect for School Staff Policy*.

Wyndham Central 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 and effective leadership
- communicate politely and respectfully with all members of the school community
- work collaboratively to create a school environment where respectful and safe behaviour is expected of everyone
- ensure all parents/carers are aware of the expectations outlined in the Department of Education's [Respectful Behaviours within the School Community Policy](#)
- behave in a manner consistent with the standards of our profession and meet core responsibilities to provide safe and inclusive environments
- 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/carers 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/carers 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/carers about student outcomes
- work with parents/carers to understand the needs of each student and, where necessary, adapt the learning environment accordingly
- work collaboratively with parents/carers 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/carers
- treat all members of the school community with respect.

As parents and carers, we will:

- model positive behaviour to our child
- communicate politely and respectfully with all members of the school community, in line with the Department of Education's [Respectful Behaviours within the School Community Policy](#)
- 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
- 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 school values
- 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.

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.

## 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 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 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 via Compass and is located within the Policies & Handbooks folder (available using parent/carer login details): <https://wyndhamcentralsc-vic.compass.education/Communicate/SchoolResources.aspx>

## RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

Department of Education policies and resources:

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

Wyndham Central College policies:

- Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Inclusion and Diversity Policy
- Bullying Prevention Policy
- Complaints Policy
- Respect for School Staff Policy

## POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	4 September 2024
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	December 2025