



Statement of Values and School Philosophy

POLICY



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Hoppers Crossing Secondary College 9974 7777.

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

Hoppers Crossing 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 Hoppers Crossing 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

- 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

Hoppers Crossing Secondary College's vision is to achieve the extra-ordinary. Hoppers Crossing Secondary 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, to recruiting new staff, to improving the facilities. We aim to achieve the extra, 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 this vibrant program.

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

Hoppers Crossing Secondary College's mission is to provide students with the best possible foundation in life.

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

Hoppers Crossing Secondary 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, Responsibility, Strong Work Ethic and Cooperation**, indicate an agreed set of values that is highly regarded amongst staff, students and parents and represents the ethos of the College.

1. All individuals are to be valued and treated with respect.
2. All individuals have a right to work in a secure and safe environment where they are able to fully achieve their absolute best.
3. Students have a right to learn in a co-operative environment free from disruption.
4. Parent/Carers have a right to expect that their children will be educated in an environment of care, courtesy and respect for the rights of others.

5. Parents/Carers have a responsibility to support the College in its efforts to maintain a positive learning environment.
6. Principals and staff have an obligation to reasonably, consistently and fairly implement the consequences of breaching the Code of Conduct.

BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS

Hoppers Crossing 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.

Shared expectations of staff, parents, carers and students to support positive student behaviour are set out in the [Respectful, safe, engaged: shared expectations to support student behaviour statement](#).

Students are supported by school staff to meet expected standards of behaviour as outlined in our Student Engagement Policy, Inclusion and Diversity Policy and Bullying Prevention Policy.

Staff 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's Code of Conduct](#).

Parents and carers play a vital role in helping their child understand and meet shared behaviour expectations. Additionally, information about the expectations of 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. Schools can share these expectations through use of [posters](#) available in over [30 translated languages](#).

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 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 and the Parent policy Section of Compass
- Included in staff handbook.
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

Department of Education and Training policies and resources:

- [Work-Related Violence in Schools Policy](#)
- [Respectful Behaviours within the School Community Policy](#)
- [Respectful, safe, engaged: shared expectations to support student behaviour](#)

Hoppers Crossing Secondary College policies:

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

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	November 2025
Approved by	Hoppers Crossing Secondary College School Council
Next scheduled review date	November 2028