



## **Camberwell High School Statement of Values and School Philosophy**

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to outline the values of our school community and explain the vision and objective of our school. It will align with the school's Strategic Plan and be reviewed every four years.

### **POLICY**

Camberwell High 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 Camberwell High 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, objective, values and expectations of our school community. This policy is available on our school COMPASS and within our staff induction handbook 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.

### **MISSION**

The school's motto *Disco Consulere Aliis* (Learning to be considerate of others) underpins all that we do. Combined with our school values of achievement, creativity, respect and responsibility we focus on developing learners who excel, have high expectations of themselves in all they do and are ready to make an impact within the global community as active and engaged citizens.

At Camberwell High School we support our students in all dimensions of their learning as they grow into young adults ready to make their mark on the world. Today's students need to master a broad range of skills to equip them for a changing world with complex personal, interpersonal and intellectual demands. At Camberwell High School the learning journey is one where students test their abilities in a range of endeavours. Students develop the capacity to manage their learning, to solve problems, think critically and to participate in the wider community.

Our school offers a broad curriculum, which provides students with a strong foundation for further learning.



Review 2025

## VISION

Camberwell High School's vision is to empower students to reach their personal best.

## OBJECTIVE

Camberwell High School's objective is to provide students with a well- rounded education and the best possible opportunities to become self- managed lifelong learners.

## VALUES

Camberwell High School's values are Achievement, Creativity, Respect and Responsibility.

## BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS

Camberwell High School 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.

Camberwell High School adheres to the Ministerial Order 1125 that took effect on 16 July 2018, setting out the suspension, expulsion and appeal processes for government schools. The order highlights the importance of procedural fairness when making decisions that affect the lives of young people through suspension or expulsion.

Staff or any person undertaking child-connected work will not undertake any form of corporal punishment as a method of student discipline / student behavioural management (or for any other rationale). Camberwell High School in line with DET requirements and morality explicitly prohibits such.

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
- 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 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



#### Review 2025

- 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.

#### 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
- 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's values
- behave in a safe and responsible manner
- respect ourselves, other members of the school community and the school environment
- actively participate in all aspects of learning provided by the school
- make the most of our educational opportunities and ensure we do not disrupt the learning of others.

#### 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 when 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 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 but is not limited to:

- speaking or behaving in a rude, manipulative, aggressive or threatening way, either in person, via electronic communication or social media, or over the telephone
- 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



Review 2025

- 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 and Response 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.

## FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following Camberwell High School Policies which can be found on the school's COMPASS directory and DET's Policy and Advisory Library: [Policy and Advisory Library | education.vic.gov.au](#)

### Website & Compass

- Bullying Prevention and Response policy
- Student Wellbeing and Engagement policy
- Child Safety policy (Appendix B: Child Safety Strategies)
- Anti-harassment policy
- Complaint's policy
- Student Code of Conduct
- Staff, Parents, Visitors & Volunteers code of conduct (Appendix C & D: Child Safety policy)

## REVIEW CYCLE

This policy was last updated in October 2021 and is scheduled for review in 2025 prior to the evaluation and setting of the School's next Strategic Plan.

Katrina Whelen

School Council President 28/20/21

Jill Laughlin

Principal 28/10/21