



## **POLICY: SCHOOL PURPOSE, VALUES AND BELIEFS**

### **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.

### **AIM:**

Brentwood Park 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 Brentwood Park 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.

### **IMPLEMENTATION:**

This policy outlines our school's purpose statement values and expectations of our school community. This policy is available on our school website and in our Learning and Teaching Folder.

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

- display posters that promote our 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.

### **PURPOSE STATEMENT**

To develop socially well-adjusted children by providing a safe, supportive and enriched learning environment where self-esteem and attainment of personal best is promoted and enhanced through differentiated, high quality and parent involved educational programs.

### **BELIEFS ABOUT LEARNING**

- All students can learn.
- Teachers make a difference.
- Parents, teachers and students work together to assist learning.
- Assessment is essential for directing our student learning.

### **VALUES**

The values which Brentwood Park are committed to and form the basis of our actions within the community are:

- Responsibility-A responsible person is someone who can be counted on by others to do the right thing at all times.

- Respect-A respectful person treats others in a caring and valued way.
- Excellence-A person who shows excellence is someone who tries to be the best they can in everything they do.
- Teamwork-A person who displays good teamwork, works positively with others to achieve a goal.

### BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS

Brentwood Park has developed shared expectations to ensure that the learning, safety and rights of all are respected. The expectations are intended to be positive in that they set out the behaviours that are expected and appropriate for our community.

#### All members of Brentwood Park Primary School community have the right to-

- fully participate in an environment free of discriminatory behavior including racist, sexist, religious, ability based harassment, bullying, including cyber-bullying (e-Smart), vilification, violence, intimidation, abuse and exclusion
- be treated with respect and dignity
- feel valued, safe and supported in an environment that encourages freedom of thought and expression

#### All members of Brentwood Park Primary School community have a responsibility to-

- acknowledge their obligations under the Equal Opportunity Act 1995, Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 and communicate these obligations to all members of the school community
- participate and contribute to a learning environment which supports the learning of self and others
- ensure their actions and views do not impact on the health and wellbeing of other community members

All students have the right to-	All staff have the right to-	All parents have the right to-
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• learn and socialise without interference and intimidation in a safe and secure environment</li> <li>• be treated with respect and fairness as individuals</li> <li>• expect a learning program that meets their individual needs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• expect to be able to work in an atmosphere of order and cooperation</li> <li>• use discretion in the application of rules and consequences</li> <li>• receive respect and support from the school community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• know that their children are in a safe, happy learning environment where they are treated fairly and with respect</li> <li>• expect a positive and supportive approach to their child's learning</li> <li>• expect communication and participation in their child's education and learning</li> </ul>
All students have the responsibility to-	All staff have the responsibility to-	All parents have the responsibility to-

- be prepared to learn
- explore their full potential
- respect the rights of others

- build positive relationships with students as basis for engagement and learning
- use and manage the resources of the school to create a stimulating, safe and meaningful learning environment
- Treat all members of the school community with respect, fairness and dignity

- build positive relationships with members of the school community
- ensure students attend school regularly and punctually, and have the appropriate learning materials
- promote respectful relationships

### **Supporting positive behaviour and relationships**

The school seeks to foster a cooperative approach with parents through informal discussions and formal parent-teacher interviews, meetings and phone calls. In encouraging and building this cooperative approach it is acknowledged there will be behaviours and incidents that compromise this ideal. When this occurs the behaviour and incident are investigated and the school uses a restorative approach to repair damaged relationships. Consequences for inappropriate behaviour are outlined in the Student Code of Conduct.

Corporal punishment is prohibited at Brentwood Park Primary. Behavioural expectations of students, staff and families are grounded in our school's values. Student bullying behaviour will be responded to, consistent with our Bullying Prevention policy.

The school informs the parents of serious issues and will encourage parents to participate in a meeting. The Student Code of Conduct details the Classroom Expected Behaviour and Incentives negotiated with the students, and Consequences that are consistent across the whole school.

### **Appropriate Behaviour**

Brentwood Park acknowledges students who meet the shared expectations through recognition by:

- positive feedback
- class incentives as outlined in the Code of Conduct
- certificates, such as Star of the Week awarded at assembly
- "Catch Them Being Good" award
- leadership opportunities

### **Inappropriate Behaviour**

- discussing appropriate behaviours in the classroom through Learning and Growing Together and You Can Do It! programs

- talking to the students and referring them to the school's values and shared expectations
- using restorative practices when mediating both parties
- withdrawal from playground/ classroom
- withdrawal of rights i.e. excursions, camp
- suspension
- expulsion
- corporal punishment is prohibited and will not be used in any circumstance

Suspension and expulsion -see DET Engaging Schools are Effective Schools: Student Engagement Policy Guidelines Suspension and expulsion are measures of last resort and may only be used in particular situations consistent with DET policy.

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/participation/pages/engagement.aspx>

### **Ongoing Behaviour Issues**

- Behaviour Contract is when a contract is completed outlining expected behaviours with parent awareness/involvement
- Explicit teaching of appropriate behaviours
- Monitoring and providing feedback
- Withdrawal of the student from the playground or restricted to a designated play area or withdrawal from activities, such as excursions or camp, if behaviour demonstrates risk to others or themselves
- Counselling from DET or outside agencies personnel
- Student Support Group meetings- involving parents/carers and DET or outside agencies personnel

### **REVIEW:**

This policy will be reviewed in 2024

**APPROVED BY COUNCIL:** 30/03/2021