

# Stawell Secondary College

[ PO Box 202 ] 79-97 Patrick Street, Stawell, Victoria 3380 | T (03) 5358 1700 | W [stawellsc.vic.edu.au](http://stawellsc.vic.edu.au)



ASPIRATION



RESPECT



INCLUSION



RESILIENCE



PARTICIPATION

*We acknowledge the Djab Warrung and Jardwadjall people as the traditional owners of this land.*

## STATEMENT OF VALUES AND SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY

### Help for non-English speakers.



If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Stawell Secondary College on 03 5358 1700 or [stawell.sc@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:stawell.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

Stawell 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 Stawell Secondary College support and promote the principles and practice of Australian democracy, including a commitment to:

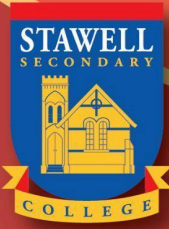
- elected government
- the rule of law
- equal rights for all before the law
- freedom of religion
- freedom of speech and association
- the values of openness and tolerance.

This policy outlines our school's vision, mission, objective, values and expectations of our school community. This policy is available on our school website and our staff induction handbook.

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

- display posters and banners 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.

### VISION



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Stawell Secondary College's vision is to aspire to be the best version of ourselves through positive relationships, feedback and maintaining a positive growth mindset.'

## MISSION

Stawell Secondary College's mission is to create aspirational young people who are respectful and resilient, who flourish in an inclusive environment that promotes participation and determination. We encourage all to follow their desired pathway to happiness and life fulfilment. Stawell Secondary College provides a safe and supportive learning environment in which all students can develop relationships and make meaningful connections.

The Stawell Community looks to Stawell Secondary College to:

- Create happy, fulfilled individuals.
- Realise individual's potential
- Build a better future for our community.
- Develop opportunities for all through participation, aspiration and inclusion
- Build resilience and the ability to develop positive relationships through participation and support for each other.

## 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

Stawell Secondary College's values are Participation, Aspiration, Inclusion, Resilience and Respect.

### INCLUSION

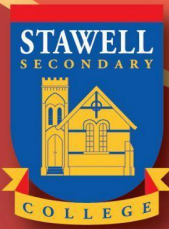
- Everyone is given a fair opportunity.
- Encourage everyone to feel like they are a valued and an important member of Stawell Secondary College.
- Recognise and embrace diversity.
- Encourage people to participate by supporting them and making them feel comfortable when they step-out of their comfort zone.
- Develop positive relationships with all.

### ASPIRATION

- Challenge yourself to improve.
- Aspire to be the best you can.
  
- To be better each day, enjoy the moment and aim for a better future.
- Set goals and motivate yourself and others to achieve them.
- Encourage people to participate by supporting them and making them feel comfortable when they step out of their comfort zone.

### RESILIENCE

- Learn from failure and bounce back with enthusiasm and positivity.



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- Encourage others to have a go.
- If, at first, you don't succeed, try again
- Focus on the positives in life

## PARTICIPATION

- Everyone is given the opportunity to participate in a range of activities to develop as a whole person.
- See challenge as an opportunity.
- Encourage all to 'have a go' and try their best, be involved, be positive.
- Understand that everyone's attempt is an opportunity to receive feedback and experience growth.

## RESPECT

- Respect the fact that everyone is different.
- Allow everyone, regardless of their differences, to feel welcome at our school.
- Treat the learning environment with respect, keeping in mind your peers, teachers, and school facilities.
- Set goals for yourself and motivate yourself and others to achieve them.
- Be respectful of our relationships with our community.

## 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:

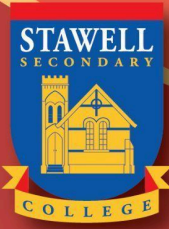
- being violent or threatening violence of any kind, including physically intimidating behaviour such as aggressive hand gestures or invading another person's personal space
- speaking or behaving in a rude, aggressive or threatening way, either in person, via email, social media, or over the telephone
- 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



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- 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 accordance 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
- Included in staff induction processes
- Included in staff handbook/manual
- Included as annual reference in school newsletter
- 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](#)

Stawell Secondary College policies:

- [Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy](#)
- [Inclusion and Diversity Policy](#)
- [Bullying Prevention Policy](#)
- [Complaints Policy](#)

### **POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL**

Policy last reviewed	Feb 2024
Approved by	School Council May 2024
Next scheduled review date	Feb 2027