

STATEMENT OF VALUES AND SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY



Need an English interpreter?

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact Monash Children's Hospital School on 8572 3100.



Need an Auslan interpreter?

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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

Monash Children's Hospital School (MCHS) is committed and responsible to provide a safe, supportive and inclusive environment for all students, staff and community members. Our school recognises the importance of the partnership between our staff members and Monash Health staff, inclusive of Early in Life Mental Health Service (ELMHS) staff members, 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 Monash Children's Hospital 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, mission, objective, values and expectations of our school community. This policy is available on our school website, our staff induction handbook and MCHS brochure.

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
- discuss our values with students, parents/carers and colleagues

VISION

Monash Children's Hospital School's vision is to ensure our young people will have access to high quality teaching and learning that will ensure continuity of their education.

We aim to build a safe and supportive environment and culture, one that promotes positive relationships, values, diversity and inclusivity and supports the holistic development of our students.

MISSION

Monash Children's Hospital School's mission is to provide education for children who are inpatients and/or outpatients of Monash Children's Hospital inclusive of Early in Life Mental Health Services (ELMHS).

OBJECTIVE

Monash Children's Hospital School's objective is to provide continuity of a young person's education and assist them to stay connected to their base school/education provider.

Our schools' 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

Monash Children's Hospital School's values are Collaboration, Inclusion and Excellence.



BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS

Monash Children's Hospital School 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 policies and the Victorian Public Service Code of Conduct and Values. Teaching staff also adhere to the Victorian Teaching Profession's 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, Bullying Prevention Policy

We acknowledge a shared responsibility to create a positive learning environment for the children and young people at our school. *'Monash Children's Hospital School aims to build a safe and supportive environment and culture, one that promotes positive relationships, values diversity and inclusivity and supports the holistic development of our students.'*

As principals and school leaders, we will:

- model positive behaviour and effective leadership
- communicate politely and respectfully with all members of the school/hospital 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
- do our best to ensure every child achieves their personal and learning potential while acknowledging the impact of their health condition on their capacity to learn
- work with parents/guardians or carers to understand their child's needs and, where necessary, adapt the learning environment accordingly

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/hospital community
- proactively engage with parents/guardians and carers about student outcomes
- work with parents/guardians and carers to understand the needs of each student and, where necessary, adapt the learning environment accordingly
- work collaboratively with parents/guardians and carers to improve learning and wellbeing outcomes for students with additional needs/chronic health conditions



- communicate with the principal and school leaders in the event we anticipate or face any tension or challenging behaviours from parents/guardians and carers.
- treat all members of the school community with respect.

As parents/guardians and carers, we will:

- model positive behaviour to our child
- communicate politely and respectfully with all members of the school/hospital community
- take an interest in our child's school, learning and wellbeing
- 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
- treat all school leaders, staff, students, and other members of the school/hospital community with respect.

As students, we will:

- model positive behaviour to other students
- communicate politely and respectfully with all members of the school/hospital 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
- 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

UNREASONABLE BEHAVIOURS

Schools are not public places, and the Principal has the right to permit or deny entry to school spaces (for more information, see our *Visitors Policy*). Please note that this right to permit or deny entry to the school will involve joint consultation and discussion between Monash Children's Hospital School and Monash Children's Hospital.

Unreasonable behaviour that is demonstrated by school staff, parents, carers, students or members of our school/hospital community will not be tolerated at school, or during school activities.

Unreasonable behaviour includes:



- 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
- 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 in consultation with the Leadership team members of Monash Children's Hospital.

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 spaces or school activities
- exclusion from school spaces 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 way:

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Included in staff induction processes
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request



FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

This policy is aligned and relates to the following MCHS policies:

- Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Inclusion and Diversity Policy
- Bullying Prevention Policy
- Visitors Policy
- Child Safe Standards Policy
- Communication and Complaints Policy

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	23 rd June 2025
Approved by	School Council in August 2025
Next scheduled review date	August 2028 The recommended minimum review cycle for this policy is 3 to 4 years

