



Burwood Heights Primary School and Kindergarten

Educating the whole child

Burwood Heights Primary School Statement of Values and Philosophy Statement

Mission

Burwood Heights Primary School is committed to providing high-quality education, care and safety to all students, to prepare them to become active, engaged and responsible citizens of the local and global community. The school aims to prepare students to contend with a world in which creativity, cooperative work, connectedness and adaptability are key features.

Vision

The Burwood Heights Primary School vision describes the objectives of our school community. Our school is committed to preparing our students to develop the knowledge and skills that will help them become life-long learners who are successful and happy individuals who participate fully in and contribute to our community and the world around us.

The Learner Profile

The Learner Profile represents ten attributes valued by Burwood Heights Primary School. We believe these attributes, and others like them, can help individuals and groups become responsible members of local, national and global communities helping to create a better and more peaceful world.

As learners, we strive to be:

- **Inquirers-** we nurture our curiosity. We learn with enthusiasm and sustain our love of learning.
- **Knowledgeable-** we develop and explore knowledge across a range of discipline.
- **Thinkers-** we use critical and creative thinking skills to analyse. We use initiative in making reasoned, ethical decisions.
- **Communicators-** we express ourselves confidently and creatively in many ways.
- **Principled-** we act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness and justice with respect and dignity.
- **Open-Minded-** we critically appreciate our own cultures as well as the values and traditions of others.
- **Caring-** we show empathy, compassion and respect.
- **Risk-takers-** we approach uncertainty with forethought and determination.
- **Balanced-** we understand the importance of balancing different aspects of our lives- intellectual, physical and emotional, to achieve well-being for ourselves.
- **Reflective-** we thoughtfully consider the world and our own ideas and experience.

DET Values

Burwood Heights Primary School acknowledges and supports the Department of Education and Training's (DET) values which guide the actions we take, the decisions we make and the interactions we have with each other, children, young people and families. The DET values are:

- **Responsiveness-** We respond in a timely way with our best work
- **Integrity-** We are honest, ethical and transparent
- **Impartiality-** We behave in the best interests of the public by making fair and objective decisions
- **Accountability-** We hold ourselves and others to account for the work that we do
- **Respect-** We value others and accept their differences
- **Leadership-** We are genuine, supportive and do the right thing
- **Human Rights-** We uphold and respect the rights of others

Child Safety

Burwood Heights Primary School is committed to child safety and establishing and maintaining child safe and child friendly environments, where all children feel valued and safe, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, children with disabilities and vulnerable children. We have zero tolerance of child abuse, and all allegations and safety concerns are treated very seriously and consistently through our strict policies and procedures. We support and respect all children, staff, volunteers and community members.

Education and Training Reform Act

In accordance with the principles outlined in the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*, as a Victorian government school, the programs of, and teaching at Burwood Heights Primary School will support and promote the principles and practices of Australian democracy including a commitment to:

- An 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

Also, in accordance with the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*, the school will provide a secular education and will not promote any particular religious practice, denomination or sect and open to adherents of any philosophy, religion or faith.

Implementation

This school philosophy will be central to all:

- School initiatives, policies and practices;
- Teaching and learning programs;
- Internal and external interactions;
- Organisational structures and practices; and
- Dealings with parents, the School Council and the community.

Regular evaluation processes will be in place to measure performance in all areas of the school with respect to the implementation of the vision and values of the school.