

East Loddon P-12 College

Statement of Values and School Philosophy



HELP FOR NON-ENGLISH SPEAKERS

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact East Loddon P-12 College on 03 5436 8300 or east.loddon.p12@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

East Loddon P-12 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 East Loddon P-12 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 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.

College Background

The College was originally established as a Consolidated School (P-8 in 1951 and P-9 in 1954). East Loddon High School was established in 1973 as a separate institution, but both Consolidated School and the High School operated as a P-12 from 1977. The school was recognised as a single P-12 unit in 1987, but has only recently been formally recognised as a P-12 College.

The district has suffered from drought and more recently floods. This has put financial pressure on a large proportion of parents whose incomes are derived from primary production and associated employment. The College is sensitive to these issues and is conscious of this in short and long term planning.

The College acts as a hub for the community who are relatively isolated from large townships. While the College attempts to cater for a diverse set of needs, there is an emphasis on literacy and numeracy as a basic foundation to cater for future learning needs. Reading has been emphasised across the entire college with all staff and students

participating in whole-school reading for the first 15 minutes of the day from Monday to Thursday.

As a P-12 College the strength of the school is that it offers a 'seamless' education from Prep to Year 12. The College caters for a range of learning needs and career options in the senior school by offering VCE, VET and VCAL. The College also offers numerous extra curricula activities such as career planning, student exchanges, cultural, sporting and social events.

The College offers a comprehensive P-12 curriculum across the eight Key Learning Areas and appointed a Curriculum Learning Specialist to initiate and guide staff in implementing the new Victorian Curriculum at the beginning of 2017, as well as the implementation and embedding of the college's Teaching and Learning model known as 'iLearn'. The College currently offers the Victorian Curriculum from P -10. LOTE is German. The technology and elective program in the Senior years offers a range of areas such as Wood, Food Technology, Outdoor Education, Photography, Drama, Computers, VET Building and Construction, Graphics, Textiles and Metal. The College also offers extensive curriculum support and enrichment programs. Programs include: Cultural and Artistic; Educational Enhancement; Leadership and Decision Making; Careers and Work Experience; Camps and Excursions; Social Service; Primary Welfare, Chaplaincy and Counselling. The arts include an instrumental program which currently consists of piano and guitar, P-6 Performing Arts and a school dramatic performance every 2nd year which alternates with a College fete.

The learning program is structured into three sub schools: Years P-4 - led by Ms Tamika Colville; Years 5-8 – led by Ms Kelly Pay; and Years 9 –12 – led by Mrs Sarah Krahe. The management structure is Principal (Steven Leed), Assistant Principal (Scott Wilkinson) and three leading teachers (Tamika Colville, Kelly Pay and Sarah Krahe). The college also has two Learning Specialists with Sally Fleming (Literacy) and Rebecca Johns (Curriculum), filling these roles. Positions of responsibility include domain leaders, student wellbeing, Careers Leader, ICT Leader, Sports Co-ordination, ADVANCE Co-ordination, COMPASS Reporting, SRC, OHS and Home Room teachers. The College operates a House System for all sports days with four houses known as Long, Evans, Laird and Shaw.

The College buildings and facilities provide for a sound learning environment. The grounds are extensive with a central lawn area, Tiger Turf area, 2 playgrounds and spacious ovals. The College began a rebuilding and refurbishing project in 2003 which saw many of the old buildings replaced and classrooms modernised. The college undertook a Capital Works project in 2020, which saw the demolition of 'block B' and the rebuilding of a Library, Multi-Purpose Room, Canteen, Staff Work Room and associated office/meeting spaces. The college has also just begun a Capital Works Project which will see most of the Senior Classrooms and Specialist Areas built, with a completion date set for early 2025.

Vision

To help prepare students for their future, by fostering skills and knowledge with cultural capital that equips students to be active contributors within their community.

Mission

To produce lifelong learners and upstanding citizens.

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

East Loddon P-12 College's values are The 4R's, Respect, Responsibility, Resilience and Relationships.

-East Loddon P-12 College values the 4R's-

Respect

'Treating others with kindness and understanding'

'Taking care of the school environment'

Responsibility

'Arriving at class on-time and ready to learn'

'Taking ownership of your choices and actions'

Resilience

'Bouncing back and moving forward when things don't go your way'

'Accepting and understanding that failures are part of learning'

Relationships

'Supporting positive relationships with your teachers, peers and school community'

'Being accepting and inclusive of all'

Behavioural expectations

East Loddon P-12 College 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 Code of Conduct](#).

Students are supported by school staff to meet expected standards of behaviour as outlined in our Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy and Bullying Prevention Policy.

Information about the expectations on parents and carers to ensure schools remain respectful and inclusive places is outlined in the Department's [Respectful Behaviours within the School Community Policy](#).

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 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 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
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies on the Department's Policy and Advisory Library (PAL):

- [Respectful Behaviours within the School Community](#)
- [Respectful Workplaces](#)
- [Parent Complaints](#)
- [Work-Related Violence in Schools](#)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	April 2025
Approved by	School Council – 24 th April 2025
Next scheduled review date	Before April 2029