

# **Wandong Primary School**

## **Philosophy**

*(Developed February 2016)*

**“We Make A Difference”** is the motto of Wandong Primary School. We aim to empower our students with the tools and skills, both practical and academic, to succeed in their future and contribute to the world.

We believe the way in which we interact with each other, both socially and emotionally, our physical presence and how we teach and learn together, is central to us achieving this goal.

Our students are encouraged to achieve their best across every aspect of their school life, through working with their peers, teachers and the broader school community, by embracing diversity, generosity of spirit and empathy for others.

We strive to cultivate a close partnership between our school, our families and the wider community; one based on mutual respect, understanding, trust and cooperation, where we are all co-learners in the educational journey.

### Vision Statement:

***“That all members of our school community work together to ensure a positive and motivating environment that encourages all students to maximise their educational opportunities in a world of constant change.”***

Our Vision recognises the need for all stakeholders to work together for the benefit of our students.

It prioritises the importance of students feeling safe and supported in their learning journey.

It highlights the ever changing face of education and of the world in which we live.

### It is supported by our Mission statements:

We believe that:

- all students want to learn and are capable of learning
- the curriculum provided at our school is comprehensive and extends and develops students
- students should receive regular feedback about their performance in order to improve their learning
- learning is best fostered in a socially supportive environment which encourages the development of self-esteem, confidence, personal excellence and individuality
- a student centred approach to learning is encouraged and enhanced by parent involvement within all areas of the curriculum

## Our School Values:

Value	Demonstrated through
Respect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Recognising and actively listening to others' ideas</i></li><li>• <i>Treating other people with dignity</i></li><li>• <i>Treating other people, belongings and places with consideration</i></li><li>• <i>Acknowledging and understanding others' beliefs</i></li><li>• <i>Participating in respectful conversations (not beginning or spreading rumours)</i></li></ul>
Responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Attending school when well</i></li><li>• <i>Engaging in learning opportunities</i></li><li>• <i>Managing distractions and allowing others to learn without undue interruption</i></li><li>• <i>Owning up to mistakes</i></li><li>• <i>Looking after personal belongings</i></li><li>• <i>Being a responsible role model to others</i></li><li>• <i>Carrying out your roles within the school (eg: leadership team/organising clubs)</i></li><li>• <i>Completing expected tasks around the school</i></li></ul>
Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Looking out for and taking care of others</i></li><li>• <i>Including others in games and activities</i></li><li>• <i>Helping others in need</i></li><li>• <i>Thinking before we act</i></li></ul>
Honesty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Telling the truth at all times, irrespective of the outcome</i></li><li>• <i>Encouraging others to tell the truth</i></li><li>• <i>Including all of the necessary details of an incident and not taking sides</i></li></ul>
Friendship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Treating other students kindly and with consideration</i></li><li>• <i>Encouraging others to achieve their best</i></li><li>• <i>Showing new students around the school and inviting them to join in</i></li><li>• <i>Displaying empathy when others are hurt or sad</i></li><li>• <i>Including others in activities</i></li></ul>
Doing Your Best	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Demonstrating a willingness to learn and take risks</i></li><li>• <i>Challenging themselves to achieve their best performance</i></li><li>• <i>Concentrating on learning</i></li><li>• <i>Rating their own learning and deciding if they can do better</i></li></ul>

The school Motto, Vision and Mission statements are key drivers when decision making occurs at the school. They assist us to ensure that any final decisions are for the benefit of our students as they give us a range of criteria upon which we can validate our options.

The school values determine how all stakeholders interact with each other and with the school itself.

### Enacting the philosophy: (DET blurb)

In all documents, in all practice by students teachers, in work with School Council and the community, in all teaching and learning programs, in all school initiatives, in all internal and external interactions, in all organisational structures and practices, the vision of the school will sit at the centre and there will be expectations about all work aligning with the school vision. 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.

The process at our school will be represented in this way. A detailed list of school policies and programs sit within this framework.

In all work in the school, the question is asked - "Is this work or process in line with the school vision, values and beliefs?" This question will be a fundamental part of the practice of all leaders in the school.