

Statement of Values & School Philosophy

@ 20 February 2023

This statement outlines the values and philosophy of our school community and explains the democratic principles, logo, motto, vision, and expectations of our school, Mullauna College.

Mullauna is an Aboriginal word meaning 'together'. Our college stands on the land we share with the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation. We acknowledge these Traditional Custodians of this land, and we pay our respects to their continuing culture, to Elders past & present, and acknowledge their sovereignty was never ceded. We extend that respect to all Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander people and welcome them to our school, where we gather to learn & teach, to share in a future of achieving 'success through learning together'. Wominjeka!

The programs and teaching at Mullauna 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.

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

- make them available on our school website, in our staff induction handbook and in enrolment/transition packs;
- refer to them regularly in college community activities;
- display posters and banners that promote our motto and values in our school;
- celebrate our values in our school newsletter, on the website and in other publications;
- provide awards and recognition for students who actively demonstrate the motto and values;
- discuss our values with students in the classroom, meetings and assemblies.

Our Statement of Values & 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.

THE MC VALUES – *CURIOSITY, COURAGE, COMMUNITY*

- **CURIOSITY**
 - Be creative: think, ask and explore
 - Look for new interests and different perspectives
- **COURAGE**
 - Commit: persevere and strive to achieve your personal best
 - Create opportunities from uncertainty and complexity
- **COMMUNITY**
 - Be courteous, kind and compassionate
 - Be accountable: contribute to a safe and sustainable environment

PHILOSOPHY & VISION

Mullauna College is committed to providing a safe, supportive and inclusive learning 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 and wellbeing. We share a commitment to, and a responsibility for, creating an engaging, inclusive and safe school environment for our students. Mullauna College is committed to child safety; all members of the Mullauna College community observe the Child Safe Standards and expectations for appropriate behaviour towards, and in the company of, children.

Our vision for our students is that they will model our college values and thus grow to be courageous and engaged young people who value and respect curiosity and learning. We value the pursuit of excellence and strive to provide authentic and contextual opportunities for all students to experience success and contribute positively to their community.

The college's mission is to create reflective and independent learners for life through a learning community that provides a challenging and secure environment responsive to individual learning needs. We believe that effective learning occurs when outstanding and innovative teachers provide a variety of tasks that actively engage students who are encouraged to take responsibility for their own learning. The expectation is that students will be successful and enthusiastic learners capable of building positive relationships.

Mullauna College has a strong tradition of academic excellence, active student leadership and participation, as well as outstanding music, sporting and debating programs. The college programs offer breadth of pathways and Year 10 students can access VCE subjects. Mullauna also delivers an International Student Program.

Sitting at the centre of its work, the college believes in high expectations in all students and a commitment to hard work. Our aim is to prepare young people to become active, engaged and responsible citizens of the local and global community. A major focus is to prepare students to contend with a very dynamic world in which creativity, cooperative work, connectedness and adaptability are key features. The school aspires to provide a contemporary approach to learning and teaching in its purposeful educational environment.

THE MC LOGO

The spheres of our college logo represent (from left to right):

- **Community** – Mullauna's links with the community and their importance to the college.
- **Primary Schools** – Mullauna's strong links with primary schools.
- **Mullauna College** itself
- **The world beyond Mullauna College** – the aspirations, hopes and challenges of our students.
- **The Student** – the student graduates from Mullauna as a young adult, educated and prepared for life.

THE MC MOTTO - *SUCCESS THROUGH LEARNING TOGETHER*

Our college motto, *Success through learning together*, provides the vision of our college community and reflects our belief that personal success is best achieved when students, teachers and parents / families work together in partnership, through interactions that are positive, respectful and purposeful.

We are reflective and open to change, optimistic in our endeavours, and focussed on the improvement of wellbeing, engagement and learning outcomes. Together, we are building the capacity of our community to engage meaningfully and contribute positively in an increasingly complex world.

THE MC VISION FOR LEARNING & TEACHING:

We achieve personal success by collaborating and actively engaging in supportive, challenging and diverse learning opportunities.

Our Vision for Learning & Teaching will be achieved through the implementation of the MC Instructional Model, which underpins our pedagogical practice, and sets clear expectations for learning and teaching practices for our staff, students and parents. It guides staff in implementing more consistent, responsive, high quality and innovative curriculum and programs.

COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Available to college families via Compass
- Included in staff induction processes
- Referred to in staff handbook/manual
- Displayed in the staff centre
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Included as an annual reference in school newsletter
- Made available in hard copy from school reception 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](#)

MC school policies:

- Student Wellbeing & Engagement policy
- Inclusion & Diversity policy
- Bullying Prevention policy
- Parent Complaints policy
- Student Expectations ('ready to learn') policy

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	20 February 2023
Approved by	School Council – Tuesday 21 February 2023
Next scheduled review date	February 2026