

PHILOSOPHY



Diamond Creek Primary School sets a clear **vision** that places students at the centre and embraces high quality, effective learning and teaching as its core purpose.

All members of our school community share a collective responsibility towards maintaining a positive, inclusive social environment. We actively work to listen to and empower all children and are committed to promoting cultural safety for Aboriginal children, cultural safety for children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, and to providing a safe environment for children with a disability.

We actively embed student safety and wellbeing throughout all school practices. Diamond Creek Primary School has zero tolerance for child abuse. Having systems in place to protect children from abuse, we will take all allegations and concerns very seriously and respond to them consistently in line with our policies and procedures.

The right of all members of our community to learn is respected. We focus on developing positive, supportive relationships with the aim to create a cooperative, calm environment where issues are dealt with in a fair, reflective, emotionally intelligent and composed manner. We acknowledge one another's strengths and talents, taking time to listen and connect with each other and offer constructive feedback with respect and openness. We value cooperation, teamwork, effective communication, participative decision-making and community involvement. Individuals are supported in a culture that promotes persistence and striving to reach personal best, and where all community members have the opportunity to learn continuously and from one another.

Our **mission** is to provide a stimulating, safe, happy and caring community school delivering quality education that promotes personal growth and enthusiastic learners who will respond in an empathic and thoughtful manner to new ideas and technologies within a rapidly changing world. This will be enabled by creating an innovative, high performing learning environment where lifelong learning and continuous improvement is nurtured and individual excellence and responsible global citizenship and leadership are encouraged.

All students will be given the opportunity for individual development in a supportive learning environment that encourages positive self-esteem, resilience, personal excellence and uniqueness. We aim to optimize students' social, emotional, physical and academic outcomes. Students will be provided with opportunities to develop decision-making, problem solving and critical thinking skills as they develop social competencies as active citizens.

We celebrate the importance of learning and nurture student's curiosity by encouraging them to question, discover and create.

Diamond Creek Primary School operates on the premise that everyone has the right to feel safe and to learn. The school **values** are used to support our students in becoming positive citizens within their community. We acknowledge the basis to successful learning is confidence, organisation, getting along, resilience and perseverance.

To support this foundation, our agreed **values** are:

co-operation - working together

respect - for ourselves and each other

persistence - never giving up

excellence - striving to do our best

The Diamond Creek Primary School ethos is centred on the four school values of *Respect, Cooperation, Persistence and (Striving for) Excellence*. These values form the heart for all aspects of school 'life' and apply to and permeate all areas of the community, including students, parents, staff and the broader, extended community.

Evidence of the adherence to our school values throughout the school community would include:

A Whole School Community that:

- Works together to provide a happy, caring and stimulating environment for all
- Shows respect for each other and our environment at all times
- Is committed to each other in all that we do to achieve the best possible outcome for all

Staff who:

- Work and plan together
- Provide classroom learning environments that reflect agreed teaching and learning protocols, thereby supporting consistency of practice across the school
- Develop every child as a whole – socially, academically, emotionally, and physically
- Ensure students feel safe and supported in their quest to reach full potential
- Achieve the best possible outcomes for all
- Cater for the needs of all students through a differentiated approach
- Keep the community informed about school programs
- Continuously develop their capacity to deliver teaching and learning programs that challenge and extend all students

Students who:

- Aim to be the best they can be in everything they do
- Take responsibility for their own learning and behaviour
- Practise Respect, Cooperation, Persistence and Striving for Excellence

Parents who:

- Ensure their children attend school regularly
- Have high expectations of their children in terms of their learning and behaviour
- Engage supportively with the school to build a home school partnership
- Actively participate in their child's education
- Support the school in promoting and achieving expectations for their children, including the participation in extra-curricula activities and completion of home learning
- Model the school's values in and around the school

As a school community we commit to a **continuous improvement** process for devising, introducing, implementing, consolidating and evaluating instructional and school management practices. Regular evaluation processes will be in place to measure performance in all areas of the school with respect to the implementation of the school's vision and strategic improvement initiatives.

Our continuous improvement cycle incorporates a Collegiate Peer Observation practice which promotes a process of reciprocal observation and reflection on classroom practices. We use a comprehensive range of academic data to reflect on the effectiveness of our teaching and learning practices.

When designing our curriculum, Diamond Creek Primary School is strategic in identifying the specific skills and next steps each student requires in order to continually progress in the development of their literacy and numeracy skills, their social and emotional development and their learning and achievement in general. This provides for explicit learning and teaching at individual points of need to bring about the best possible learning outcomes for each and every student.

Our School Philosophy statement will be revised during the School Review cycle during the development of each Strategic Plan.