

SPRING GULLY PRIMARY SCHOOL

SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY

POLICY

Statement of Philosophy

At Spring Gully Primary School we foster optimistic and resilient students who are motivated to learn. Staff are positive, professional and committed to providing curriculum which is stimulating, relevant and diverse; building strong foundations for all learners. Learning opportunities enable students to become active citizens in the global community. Our school strives to promote environmental awareness and values inclusiveness and diversity.

At SGPS we place significant value on the collective efficacy of our staff and understand that to achieve the best possible learning outcomes for students, we need to cultivate an environment that prioritises ongoing professional learning, reflection and collaboration for all of our educators. Our staff form professional learning communities which are driven by collaboration, continuously striving to improve outcomes via evidence-based strategies and student-data-informed practice.

The *Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships* program has an important place in our school culture in fostering social and emotional learning for students. The program outlines a standard of expectation for all stakeholders in establishing and maintaining relationships which are respectful, regardless of race, gender, ethnicity or sexuality. A safe and respectful learning environment for our whole community is underpinned by:

- the School Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS) framework,
- principles of Restorative Practice
- an emphasis on student voice, agency and leadership
- a collective responsibility and ongoing focus on student wellbeing, which includes leaders, teachers, Education Support staff and allied health professionals.

Our School Values of Respect, Responsibility and Resilience underpin our actions, how we treat each other and how we engage with the wider community. Spring Gully Primary School is a safe and nurturing learning environment that actively develops and values the partnership between home, school and the community.

Our Motto

‘Be Awesome’ – our school encourages all students to be the best version of themselves that they can be. Our school motto was inspired by Mark ‘Stevo’ Stevens; a much loved teacher and colleague of SGPS who sadly passed away in 2019.

Our Mission

To foster a community of learners where everyone is valued and has opportunities to reach their personal best.

We strive to achieve this in the following ways:

- Creating a challenging learning environment that encourages high expectations for success and personal achievement.

- Promoting a supportive, caring and safe environment. Each student's self-esteem is fostered through positive relationships with students and staff.
- Striving to engage parents, teachers and community members actively in our students' learning.
- Prompting the importance of upholding our School Values across the whole school community.
- Ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people. This will be the primary focus of our care and decision-making. All staff at our school take a collective responsibility for the safety and wellbeing of our students.

Commitment to Democratic Principles

The Education Reform Act 2006 requires all education providers to operate in a manner consistent with the Australian democratic principles. The programs and teaching at Spring Gully Primary School support and promote these 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.

How is the Schools Philosophy enacted?

The school's philosophy is enacted in everything we do at the school. It forms part of the Strategic Plan, Annual Implementation Plan and Wellbeing Programs of the school. It is enacted through the use of shared language across the community and is underpinned by our School Values. Our School Policies reflect our Philosophy. Students confidently articulate our values of Respect, Responsibility and Resilience.

Where can this policy be accessed?

The SGPS Philosophy policy can be found on the school website and on the Staff Shared drive.

Evaluation:

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.

This policy was last ratified by School Council in....	August 2023
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