



Swinburne Senior Secondary College

Statement of School Values and Philosophy

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

Swinburne Senior Secondary 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 Swinburne Senior Secondary 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 the school's website www.sssc.vic.edu.au

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

- display posters and banners around the school
- celebrate our values in our school newsletter
- discuss our values with students in the classroom, meetings and assemblies.
- Empower student voice and promote inclusivity through student leadership, including Student Representative Council, School Captains, Social Justice and the Rainbow Connection groups.

Vision

Swinburne Senior Secondary College's vision is to enable independent, critical thinking that challenges and enriches learners' lives, creating citizens who contribute positively to the global community through intellectual endeavour, cultural acceptance and action. Students are encouraged to develop their individual identities through the pursuit of their learning goals and future career ambitions. The college fosters students' creative, analytical and critical thinking

through delivery of the VCE, VET and VCAL programs, offering a broad range subjects for senior students to make appropriate choices regarding their areas of interest and expertise.

Mission

Swinburne Senior Secondary College's mission is to develop lifelong learners with enquiring minds and a keen sense of curiosity. We encourage young adults to take risks, be responsible for their actions, and value the importance of respect, responsibility and commitment. As a senior-only college, the teachers at Swinburne Senior work to empower students to make their own decisions about their learning. Supporting students' individual needs is a key focus of the college, which is engendered through the teachers' respectful interactions with the students, embracing individual differences and encouraging them to adapt a growth-mindset approach to their studies.

Objective

Swinburne Senior Secondary College's objective is to:

- provide relevant VCE, VET and VCAL senior secondary programs in response to the needs identified by the college and wider community
- take into account the individual differences that exists among students and to help each student achieve growth academically and on a personal level
- ensure that all students, irrespective of gender, ethnicity, sexual preference, socio-economic background and personal circumstances are provided with a curriculum that is challenging, comprehensive and purposeful
- provide post-secondary pathways advice and support.

Values

The following values are central to the life of the college. We strive to apply these values in our everyday dealings with each other and in the development of our programs and policies. At Swinburne Senior Secondary College we value and enact:

- Respect
- Responsibility
- Commitment

Respect means:

- Respecting ourselves, others and our relationships
- Respecting ourselves and others in all we think, say and do
- Respecting our learning, community and environment.

Responsibility means:

Personal accountability is promoted for learning and conduct, encouraging all to make a positive contribution to the local and global community and the environment.

Commitment means:

All members of the college community strive for growth in all aspects of their education that will foster a love of learning and lead them to become independent learners.

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.

Review Cycle

Every four years, prior to school review.

Certification

This policy was adopted at the School Council meeting held at Hawthorn on the

_____ day of _____

Signed: _____
Principal

Signed: _____
School Council President

Endorsed by School Council and effective as of: (insert date)