

# School Philosophy

At Rockbank Primary School our mission is to provide a learning environment that supports the educational, social and emotional development of every child across all aspects of their primary school lives and beyond, so that they are better equipped to:

- make informed responsible choices throughout their lives
- make valuable and positive contributions to their community, and
- achieve their very best

At Rockbank Primary School our vision is that:

- Our **students** are happy, resilient students who are active and successful lifelong learners
- Our **curriculum** is challenging, engaging and relevant and supports each student in achieving their full potential
- Our **staff** are positive and caring, embracing the rewards and challenges of teaching and learning
- Our **environment** is a welcoming, social, safe, positive and stimulating and encourage our students and staff to learn, develop and achieve success
- Our **school community** is committed to an ever developing, positive, supportive and collaborative partnership between home, school and the community

The school is aligned with the Framework for Improving Student Outcomes (FISO) and centres the core work on high expectations for all students and a commitment to improvement. Underpinning this philosophy is the school motto: Nurture. Believe. Achieve. The school is committed to a highly successful School Wide Positive Behaviour Support Program that focusses on the specific values of Respect, Learning, Togetherness and Safety. Weekly sessions using the You Can Do It! program and a curriculum supported through Respectful Relationships are completed in class to highlight and teach these values explicitly.

Rockbank Primary School fosters an environment in which each individual is challenged to grow emotionally, intellectually and socially to achieve their personal best. The belief that every child can learn is inherent in every decision the school makes. Teachers develop programs based on the specific needs of every student by analysing data and providing individualised programs for success. Each student is provided with an Individual Learning Plan to enable clear goals to be set and achieved.

The building of supportive, caring relationships is the school's core building block and central to every aspect of school life. Students are taught to work cooperatively with others, to think laterally, make their own decisions and be responsible for their own learning and behaviour.

Our richly diverse multicultural community works together to create a well-resourced, safe and orderly learning environment which caters for the needs of each individual and acknowledges and celebrates achievements. Cultural diversity is present in all school programs and provides a background for teaching tolerance and respect.

The programs of, and teaching in, the school will support and promote the principles and practices of Australian democracy including a commitment to:

- An 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.

# School Philosophy

Rockbank Primary School strives to foster potential talents of our students by enriching their bodies, minds and creativity through a diverse range of activities that enhance the formal curriculum and challenge students to achieve excellence in a wide range of cultural and sporting activities both within the school and the wider community. Our Specialist program includes weekly Physical Education, The Arts, STEM and AUSLAN.

The School recognises the importance of the home/school relationship and encourages parent participation at a range of different levels. We have a very active social media presence on our school webpage, Instagram, Facebook and Twitter to provide parents with quick access to school events and promotion of positive community connections. A Wellbeing Coordinator has been appointed to liaise with families and provide support for children in need of extra assistance. A Wellbeing Assistant Principal has been added to further enhance Wellbeing programs in the school. A new Wellbeing Centre has been opened to enable this work to continue in a nurturing environment. In 2020 the school introduced SeeSaw, which enables parents to connect more closely to their child's progress at school and enables greater levels of two-way communication. In cooperation with parents and community, staff members establish high expectations for all students as the standard and provide a safe, supportive environment where students have the opportunity to become productive, knowledgeable and responsible citizens. Interpreters are used when necessary to maximise participation from all stakeholders.

Rockbank Primary School ensures that all requirements pertaining to the Child Safety Standards are implemented effectively.

## Enactment of school philosophy.

In all documents, in all practices by students and teachers, in work with the 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. Rockbank Primary School will reference the Framework for Improving Student Outcomes to ensure there is a researched framework for success. We will also commit to all current network initiatives and participate in Communities of Practice to strengthen the practice of teachers.

Rockbank Primary School is guided by the Framework for Improving Student Outcomes by ensuring that all planning, processes, reviews and documentation are aligned with this model as it is the current Victorian Government Initiative guiding education. This model is referenced regularly and is displayed in prominent areas of the school to ensure a common language.

Statements which affirm the school's principles are located in documents including the school handbook and on the website for public access.

## Reconciliation Statement

Rockbank Primary School's vision for Reconciliation is for all students to understand and celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history and culture.

We will do this through:

- Valuing and acknowledging Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and history
- Participating in and promoting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures

# School Philosophy

- Developing relationships with local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
- Integrating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives into key learning areas and integrated units of work
- The involvement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians in the school's education decision making
- Having all teaching staff trained in Cultural Understanding and Safety Training.
- Acknowledging the Traditional Owners of our Land during every public gathering held by the school

Rockbank Primary School recognises it is important to understand the past in order to build a reconciled future. All Australians should engage in a shared process of healing, on a personal and national level.