



INCLUSION & DIVERSITY POLICY

RATIONALE

Malvern Valley Primary School is committed to creating a school community where all members of our school community are welcomed, accepted and treated equitably and with respect regardless of their backgrounds or personal attributes such as race, language, religious beliefs, gender identity, disability or sexual orientation so that they can participate, achieve and thrive at school.

Malvern Valley Primary School also understands that it has a special obligation to make reasonable adjustments to accommodate students with disabilities.

AIMS

To explain Malvern Valley Primary School's commitment to making sure every member of our school community, regardless of their background or personal attributes, is treated with respect and dignity. Malvern Valley Primary School strives to provide a safe, inclusive and supportive school environment for all students and members of our school community.

DEFINITIONS

Personal attribute: a feature of a person's background or personal characteristics that is protected by State or Commonwealth anti-discrimination legislation. For example: race, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion etc.

Reasonable adjustment: a measure or action taken to assist all students to participate in their education on the same basis as their peers.

IMPLEMENTATION

Malvern Valley Primary School acknowledges and celebrates the diversity of backgrounds and experiences in our school community and in line with our Wellbeing and Engagement and Bullying and Prevention policies, we will not tolerate behaviours, language or practices that label, stereotype or demean others.

Malvern Valley Primary School will:

- ensure that all students and members of our school community are treated with respect and dignity
- ensure that students are not discriminated against and where necessary, are accommodated to participate in education and all school activities (eg camps, school sports, concerts, excursions), on the same basis as their peers
- acknowledge and respond to the diverse needs, identities and strengths of all students
- encourage empathy and fairness towards others

- challenge stereotypes that promote prejudicial and biased behaviours and practices
- contribute to positive learning, engagement and wellbeing outcomes for students.
- Students who may have experienced or witnessed bullying, harassment and other forms of inappropriate behaviour are encouraged to speak up and to let their teachers, parents or carers know about those behaviours to ensure that inappropriate behaviour can be addressed.
- Malvern Valley Primary School will take appropriate measures, consistent with its *Student Wellbeing and Engagement* and *Bullying Prevention* policies to respond to discriminatory behaviour or harassment at our school.
- Reasonable adjustments will be made for students with disabilities through our Student Support Group processes in consultation with parents or carers, teachers and if appropriate, their treating practitioners.

REFERENCES

- For more information about support available for students with disabilities, please refer to our school's *Student Wellbeing and Engagement* policy or contact the Principal for further information.
- School Policy and Advisory Guide:
 - [Inclusive Education](#)
 - [Koorie Education](#)
 - [Teaching Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Culture](#)
 - [Safe Schools](#)
 - [Supports and Services](#)

[Program for Students with Disabilities](#)

RELATED SCHOOL POLICIES

- Student Wellbeing and Engagement
- Statement of Values and Bullying Prevention

REVIEW CYCLE AND EVALUATION

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

RATIFIED BY SCHOOL COUNCIL: 2021

TO BE REVIEWED: 2024