



School Philosophy and Statement of Commitment to Child Safety

Vision

Eltham East Primary School is committed to the safety and well-being of all children and young people including providing a nurturing and respectful environment which supports and inspires our children to be actively involved in their learning, to grow in self-awareness, resilience, and social responsibility and to contribute in a positive way to the world around them.

School Motto

- Learning and Growing Together

School Values

- Enjoyment: thinking positively, choosing to act in a safe and friendly way.
- Teamwork: team members share the work, include everyone, take turns and act patiently.
- Respect: treat others with consideration; caring towards yourself, others and the environment.
- Resilience: being able to bounce back and recover quickly from everyday difficulties and challenges; thinking optimistically and being able to build positive relationships and social-emotional skills.
- Learning: trying hard and doing your best, using their time productively and set goals for future progress.

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.

Commitment to child safety

In its planning, decision making and operations Eltham East Primary School will:

- Take a preventative, proactive and participatory approach to child safety;
- Value and empower children to participate in decisions which affect their lives;
- Foster a culture of openness that supports all persons to safely disclose risks of harm to children;
- Respect diversity of cultures and child rearing practices while keeping child safety paramount;
- Provide written guidance on appropriate conduct and behaviour towards children;
- Engage only the most suitable people to work with children and have high quality staff and volunteer supervision and professional development;
- Ensure children know who to talk with if they are worried or are feeling unsafe, and that they are comfortable and encouraged to raise such issues;
- Report suspected abuse, neglect or mistreatment promptly to the appropriate authorities;
- Share information appropriately and lawfully with other organisations where the safety and wellbeing of children is at risk; and

- Value the input of and communicate regularly with families and carers.

Enactment of school philosophy.

In all documents, in all practice 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 that the school values will be adhered to by all.

Revision dates	Version number	Summary of changes
2014	0.1	Ratified by School Council
August 2016	0.2	Included Statement of Commitment to Child Safety Change to updated 2016 Vision Approved by School Council