

	Policy Name:	School Philosophy	Date of approval:	28/5/2018
	Responsible:	Leadership	Review date:	05/2022



## SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY

Rosebud Primary School is proud to be the Heart of the community.

*I firmly believe that the village educates the child, and everyone in our community is part of the education process.*

We are focused on *building staff capacity and constantly improving our innovative curriculum and teaching practice.*

Our school values revolve around building gratitude and empathy with the hope of increasing student resilience. We are the HEART of the community and we live by that acronym. **Honesty, Effort, Attitude, Respect, and Team Work.**

These values are further supported through explicit teaching of our school values throughout the year and the use of restorative practices when dealing with behavioral issues.

In recent years, we have experienced considerable growth with our student population now at 541. Enrolments also increase throughout the school year.

In 2018, there are 22 classes and all year levels work in teams. We embrace differentiated learning and have an innovative approach to achieve this. We operate with Junior and Senior Math's and English Specialists and two Literacy aides. Each year level has Math's and English timetabled for 100 minutes, 4 days per week, with extra teachers assigned to each year level. Groups are structured around both ability levels and multi-ability groups.

There are approximately 56 staff members across a range of fulltime and part-time positions and together offer a diversity of experience, expertise and gender balance. Our specialist curriculum areas include Music, Physical Education, ICT / Science (STEAM), Art, English and Math's.

Our lunchtime programs are engaging and include sport, ICT, drop-in center, quiet room, music, art, hands-on learning group who build things around the school, the Rosebud foreshore playground and lots more.

Parents are openly welcomed into our school and participation and support is excellent. Our Parents Association, School Council, Market Committee, Op Shop and Facilities Committee are essential parts of our school. Our fundraising arm provides valuable financial support for our school; this helps redress social disadvantage. Our newly purchased school bus is free for all students and 30 new state of the art laptops for grade 6 are great examples of the success of our fundraisers.

Parents attend outdoor education excursions and camps. Classroom support is strongly encouraged. This partnership is essential to our school's success.

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School Council is very active and enthusiastic and this helps create a sense of school pride, which is evident in the manner in which the school is presented.

The school offers a broad range of extra-curricular programs and activities to which our teachers are very committed.

Our outdoor education program is a highlight and a unique part of our school. We have a huge water safety trailer equipped with surfboards, paddleboards, snorkeling equipment, life jackets and wetsuits. In addition, our own camping trailer / kitchen caters to approximately 100 people. Children begin their camping experience in foundation with a breakfast and dinner dance; continue in grade one with a day at the Enchanted Maze and in grade 2 with a sleepover. Grade 3 and 4 participate in the McCrae foreshore camp. Grade 5 students attend City Camp and Grade 6, the Torquay adventure camp. In Grade 3 to 6 students, participate in the Water Safety program and optional Snow Camp at Mt Hotham. Our School Leaders are selected from Grade 5 students at the end of the year and undertake a Leadership Hike at Wilson’s Prom in preparation for the following year.

**Student Voice** is very important to our school and Junior School Council is a vital component. Our student leadership program is a major pillar of our school. Beginning in Grade 3 with our future leader program, and is embedded from Grades 4 to 6. Our Grade 6 children play a senior role in the day to day functioning of our school. Our leadership camp at Wilson’s Prom for our selected grade 5 leaders, sets the scene for our future grade 6 leaders.

We run our own **before and after school care and holiday program** that is also available for families.

We are extremely proud of, and continue to develop our school’s curriculum, and are always striving to improve our teaching practice. We are a lead school in Respectful Relationships and mindfulness is now becoming entrenched in all classrooms. Our strong focus on student wellbeing is further supported by a dedicated Student Wellbeing Officer and through Respectful Relationships. This approach enables us to provide early intervention strategies and nurture happy, well balanced students.

We have smart TV’s installed in each of the classrooms, all Prep to Year 3 classrooms have six iPads and notebooks. The iPad program for students in years 4, 5 and 6 have class sets. Our grade 5 and 6 students have school-supplied laptops. Our ICT program runs in conjunction with science right across the school.

Playground areas are located across the multi-level site and students have access to a range of areas including a well-maintained oval, several hard court areas, three sets of playground equipment, a central courtyard extensive gardens and a school farm. We also make extensive use of the Foreshore and its playground as a lunchtime activity and for sporting outdoor education and environmental sessions.

The classroom facilities are located in year level pods, all designed with break out facilities used in English and Math’s sessions. Specialist programs are all allocated learning spaces including physical education, which has access to the school’s multi-purpose hall, and big shed. Our Music room supports three soundproof instrumental teaching rooms and instrumental Music teachers. Our Art room is a modern purpose built facility and our ICT/Science room is fully equipped with the latest technological equipment. Our administration area, sickbay and staffroom has also been refurbished recently and we have qualified first aid staff on duty at lunchtime and recess.