



Montmorency Primary School

STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

Preamble

Montmorency Primary School is a unique, small school set near the heart of Montmorency Shopping Village. Our mission is to provide a safe, supportive and positive environment embodying quality learning opportunities in order to maximise academic, social and community potential. Our core values of 'Learning, Friendship, Safety and Respect' underpin our goal of 'Preparation for Life'. Our Strategic Plan promotes the teaching of skills and values which are aligned with the emerging requirements of the third millennium.

Montmorency Primary School has an excellent staff:student ratio. Teaching and support staff are experienced and enthusiastic and are backed up by an energised and supportive community. We have earned a reputation for connectedness, caring for others, developing individuals and linking learning to hands-on, engaging experiences. The core curriculum is complemented by specialist classes in Visual and Performing Arts, Physical Education and a pilot Japanese program at Foundation level. Japanese was chosen as our Language other than English and will be introduced in Foundation classes in 2015. We are also fortunate to offer the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program in purpose-built facilities. Montmorency Primary School has forged links with local growers and environmental groups in order to create a welcoming, open environment reflective of sustainable practices. Regular open events such as our Farmers Market complement our inclusive environment.

Our school is currently being rebuilt as part of a \$4 million dollar upgrade. Children moved in to their new classrooms at the commencement of Term 3, 2014. Our new spaces have been designed to provide a home-room feel and to allow our highly competent staff to impart their skills explicitly. Operable walls allow the classrooms to open up to the central area for co-operative work allowing for interchange between staff and children and modelling the connectedness of our unique school. A new Administration and Multipurpose block will be completed by February 2015. Montmorency Primary is looking forward to an even brighter future!

Mission

Montmorency Primary School aims to provide a safe, supportive and positive environment that provides quality learning opportunities that maximise academic, social and community potential. Through the delivery of a child-centred curriculum we foster individual, independent, collaborative and cooperative learning and acknowledge and celebrate the achievements of every student.

Vision

Our *Vision* states the overarching approach we as a school will use in conjunction with our *Values* to accomplish the goals of our *Mission Statement*.

Montmorency Primary School aims for excellence in Learning, Friendship, Safety and Respect. These four values underpin our teaching and learning. Our Strategic Plan promotes the teaching of skills and values within a quality-driven institution in tune with the emerging requirements of the third millennium.

Values

We promote the following values through a whole school approach:

- Learning - we aim for excellence and have fun whilst learning
- Respect - for ourselves, for each other and the environment
- Friendship - we care about others and show compassion and consideration
- Safety - we all have the right to be in a safe, working environment

These four core values underpin 'Preparation for Life'.

The school's programs, as enacted by our staff, 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.

Enactment of School Philosophy

The Montmorency Primary School vision will be central to all operations. It is an expectation that all work will be informed by and aligned with the school vision and values. This includes all:

- documents
- practice by students and teachers
- work with the School Council and the community
- teaching and learning programs
- school initiatives
- internal and external interactions
- organisational structures and practices

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. A comprehensive list of school policies will sit within this framework, and will be subject to systematic appraisal and review.

A fundamental part of the practice of all members of the school community will be the question, "Is this work or process in line with the school vision, values and beliefs?"