

FOSTER PRIMARY SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY



Your Children, Our Future



Foster Primary School is a warm, caring and welcoming school with students at the centre of every decision we make. We aim to develop students who are confident, capable, creative lifelong learners.

We believe that everyone can learn to learn. Resilience, reciprocity, resourcefulness and reflectiveness (Guy Claxton) are promoted and we always try our best!

Our school is a Be You school. We build positive relationships and social responsibility in a safe and

caring environment, using school wide positive behaviours to support our students in making good choices. We have strong pastoral care. We foster independence, promote inclusivity and embrace individuality.

Our school values, based upon, 'Our Best Always' were developed in consultation with staff, students and families and are:-

- Be Respectful
- Be Caring
- Be Safe
- Be a Learner

Staff at our school work collaboratively with one another through Professional Learning Communities and also with staff from other schools in our Corner Inlet Learning Alliance in order to continually strive to be the best we can be, striving for excellence in teaching and learning by developing teacher capacity in order to improve student outcomes.

Student voice, through a wide variety of leadership roles is encouraged and promoted throughout the school. Student agency, where students have an active role in shaping and assessing the learning is a goal at our school.

We have high expectations of our students. English and Mathematics are central to the curriculum, underpinned by an emphasis on developing a Growth Mindset (**Carol Dweck**). We offer a rich variety of opportunities and experiences. Our curriculum and pedagogical practice is based on educational research and evidence. Our school recognises the individuality of student approaches to learning and cognitive styles across all areas of the curriculum both within the classroom and specialist programs. Foster Primary School is committed to developing student abilities and interests and providing learning experiences that cater for individual differences. Sport, Music, Art, Dance and Drama are popular in the wider school community and students are encouraged to participate. Participation in government initiatives has raised the profile of student health and wellbeing; and sustainability of the environment. The school became a **Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden School** in 2007 and this program continues to thrive and flourish in our school with the support of volunteers. This program is

a timetabled part of the curriculum accessed by all students from Grades 3-6. Foster Primary School values its strong links with the wider community with Volunteers supporting school programs in areas such as **LAP**, classroom helpers, Camps & Excursions and the Kitchen Garden.

Our school is a Child Safe School. We promote diversity and tolerance and have a zero tolerance of any forms of child abuse. The programs of, and teaching in, the school 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.

Statements which affirm the school's principles are found in curriculum material, school policies and in documents such as prospectus, handbooks and the school strategic plan.

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 sits at the centre and there is an expectation about all work aligning with the school vision, that **everyone** can learn to learn. Regular evaluation processes are in place to measure performance in all areas of the school with respect to the implementation of the vision and values of the school.

In all work in the school, the question "Is this work or process in line with the school vision, values and beliefs and does this work place the student at the centre of this work?" This question will be a fundamental part of the practice of everyone in the school. Essential Learning/Guaranteed and viable curriculum

Footnote: Further information about the research that underpins our teaching and learning practices is provided in the school website (See ['What informs our practices'](#)).