



MT MACEDON PRIMARY SCHOOL MISSION AND PHILOSOPHY

Mount Macedon Primary School vision is to develop positive, independent, resilient and inquiring students who are ready for the future.

We aim to help students develop:

- lively, inquiring minds, a love of learning, and a willingness to learn
- students who understand and enact positive purpose, engagement, relationships and emotions
- an understanding of the school ethos of Care, Create, Collaborate
- the use of the imagination and creative self-expression
- the ability to think independently and logically
- physical and mental health and wellbeing
- self-confidence, a sense of worth, and respect and consideration for others
- a set of personal and social values
- decision making and problem solving skills
- an understanding of themselves and their world; international mindedness
- the ability to think reflectively, critically and creatively
- the ability to analyse and solve problems

To achieve this we will:

- ✓ provide an ordered and structured environment so that learning is facilitated
- ✓ provide a supportive environment
- ✓ Use a range of rigorous assessment strategies and data analysis to know our students and teach them at their point of need
- ✓ encourage all students to work towards their full potential by knowing our students and differentiating approaches to suit their needs
- ✓ encourage all students to strive for excellence and recognise success
- ✓ use an inquiry approach that will allow students the opportunity to explore areas of interest and take action to synthesise their knowledge
- ✓ adopt the Positive Schools model for behaviour management in the school

- ✓ offer a wide range of extracurricular activities to suit the varied interests, needs and abilities of students
- ✓ have an embedded Values Education program where values are discussed, analysed, modelled and recognised to support students to become respectful, inclusive learners
- ✓ give priority to:
 1. **the skills of numeracy and literacy** by timetabling for a regular literacy and numeracy block, appointing staff to lead these areas, providing up to date resources, developing skills in staff to gather and analyse relevant data to guide teaching and ensuring regular PD and support for teachers
 2. **wellbeing** by actively promoting and teaching skills to enhance wellbeing, by having regular Wellbeing days and by becoming a KidsMatter and eSmart school
 3. **communication skills** by having a regular newsletter, welcoming parents into the school to help and to share their skills, principal having a supportive, open door approach, developing strong lines of communication between all of the sub committees and SC, sourcing a range of different methods, such as smartphone app to maintain regular contact with parents, creating a whole school curriculum that is displayed in the school
 4. **problem solving skills** by using an Inquiry approach that presents students with questions to solve and allows them to take action on their knowledge
- ✓ develop an awareness of the local area and encourage school and wider community interaction
- ✓ develop an understanding of sustainability and create patterns of resource-saving behaviour that will be lifelong by achieving accreditation in all modules of the ResourceSmart Program
- ✓ encourage cooperation in worthwhile tasks and provide opportunities for group participation and for leadership by having a Junior School Council that plays an active role in the school and by ensuring that all senior students undertake leadership training and then assume a whole school responsibility
- ✓ guide students towards independent thinking and learning by using the Gradual Release of Responsibility model

In accordance with The Education and Training Reform Act 2006, we acknowledge;

The rule of law; equal rights for all before the law; freedom of religion; freedom of speech and association; and the values of openness and tolerance.

We enact our PYP mission by ensuring that our staff and students are:-

1. **Inquiring** – Mt Macedon Primary School is an Inquiry Learning school with a focus on encouraging our students to identify what they already know and then move on to explore challenging, new ideas. Our Mission statement reflects this philosophy. Our philosophy statement also says that we will use – “**problem solving skills** by using an Inquiry approach that presents students with questions to solve and allows them to take action on their knowledge.”

2. **Knowledgeable** – This area is addressed in our philosophy, where our first statement is – “lively, inquiring minds, a love of learning, and a willingness to learn”
3. **Caring** – Our school motto is **Care, Create, Collaborate**, and these values form a key role in the daily life and routine of our school.
4. **Create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.** By adopting the international mindedness approach of the IB and learning to be a part of a global community, we believe that we are supporting our students to be inclusive and open minded.

5. **Aware of their strengths and areas for improvement** – Students are encouraged to know their assessment results and to set goals to further improve. Staff analyse data and then identify the point of need for each student. This requires them to know the curriculum extensively, into the secondary school levels.
6. **Active, compassionate and lifelong learners** – this is embedded in our POI documents and action remains a core focus in the school.
7. **Understanding that other people, with their differences, can also be right.** Our Learner Profiles actively support these values.

This Mission and Philosophy statement will be updated every three years and will be published on the school website.