Connells Point Public School Values Education Policy

Ref: CPPS 01/08

Related Policies and Guidelines:
1 Values in NSW Public Schools (DET 2004)
2 The National Framework for Values Education in Australian Schools (DEST 2005)
3 Connells Point P.S. Student Wellbeing and Discipline Policy 2004

Rationale
At Connells Point Public School we strive to foster the development of children who are caring, tolerant, fair and compassionate. The Connells Point Public School community supports the implementation of Values Education which aims to enhance a positive school community.

Introduction
During 2008, representatives of stakeholders across the broader school community worked collaboratively to develop a set of core values that align with the NSW core state values. The nine core values adopted articulate specific qualities we wish to be promoted within the school community. The core values underpin interactions between members of our broader school community, aiming to guide our students in the development of positive and acceptable behaviours and attitudes. The Values Education program and is aligned with our whole school award system and guides the Student Wellbeing and Discipline Policy.

Implementation
This policy sets out the operational guidelines and a framework to implement Values Education within the broader school community from the start of the 2009 school year. Specific strategies have been developed to support the implementation phase.

The nine core school values are:

- Excellence
- Responsibility
- Integrity
- Respect
- Care
- Fairness
- Democracy
- Cooperation
- Participation

The core values have been grouped and colour-coded to help the students and wider school community members focus on three distinct values areas. When teachers reward demonstration of different values, the awards are also colour-coded and students will need a representation of all three areas in order to collect a school merit certificate. This encourages students to demonstrate positive behaviour and attitudes across a broad range of values.
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CPPS Core Values

Personal
(Purple)
Excellence

Social
(Green)
Respect

Community
(Orange)
Democracy

Responsibility

Care

Cooperation

Integrity

Fairness

Participation

Each value is accompanied by a plain English definition that relates to our school context. Four focus indicators of positive behaviour are listed to model how the each value can be demonstrated within the school setting.

Personal Values

Excellence
Aiming to achieve your personal best in all aspects of school and community life.

- Achieve and maintain high learning expectations
- Reach personal best performance
- Challenge yourself
- Persist through challenges and difficulties in learning

Responsibility
Being accountable for your individual attitude and actions, reflecting on the consequences for you, others and the environment.

- Learn all you can
- Follow school rules
- Look after property and the environment
- Demonstrate self discipline

Integrity
Being consistently honest and trustworthy, truthful in your words and sincere in your actions.

- Be truthful in what you say and do
- Tell the truth regardless of the consequences
- Deal with others’ money and property honestly
- Do your own work

Social Values

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Respect
Having regard for yourself and others, and accepting the right of others to hold different opinions.

- Display good manners
- Treat others in the way you wish to be treated
- Take care of others’ property and feelings
- Listen to the views and opinions of others

Care
Caring for the wellbeing of yourself and demonstrating empathy, consideration and thoughtfulness for others.

- Display concern for the feelings of others
- Treat people with courtesy and kindness
- Take care of the school and natural environment
- Be kind to people who are not your friends

Fairness
Being committed to the principles of fairness and opposing prejudice, dishonesty and injustice.

- Include others in your games
- Take turns and listen to others
- Display good sportsmanship at all times
- Accept other people and their differences

Community Values

Democratic
Accepting and promoting the rights, freedoms and responsibilities of being a school and community member.

- Respect the rights of others
- Be fair in decision making
- Listen to and encourage the opinions of others
- Accept group decisions

Cooperation
Working together to achieve common goals, providing support to others and resolving problems peacefully.

- Work with others to achieve goals and solve problems
- Accept group rules for learning and playing
- Be a team player
- Be considerate of the needs of others

Participation
Being a productive individual and group member, having pride in and contributing to the quality of school and community life.

- Contribute to class and school activities
- Have a go and don’t be afraid of mistakes
- Be supportive of the efforts of others
- Accept roles in group activities

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Implementation Strategies & Promotion of the core values

A number of strategies have been developed to promote the nine core values and encourage positive attitudes and behaviours of the students in the classroom, in the playground and within broader school context.

Value Education Promotional DVD
An audio visual package will support the implementation of Values Education in 2009. The DVD will be used as a resource at weekly assemblies and for promotional opportunities such as: Education Week, Kindergarten Orientation Day and other foyer presentations.

School Assemblies
One value will be introduced each week at both K-2 and 3-6 assemblies with a focus on one of the associated focus indicators. The value will be promoted throughout the following school week. Classes will take turns in presenting activities promoting and demonstrating the weekly value. Over the four terms, the nine core values will be revisited, but each time with a different focus indicator related to each value.

School Newsletter
An article will appear in each week’s school newsletter to coincide with the introduction of the following week’s value. Positive behaviours and attitudes that demonstrate the weekly core value will be discussed.

Implementation schedule for K-2 & 3-6 assemblies and weekly newsletter promotion:

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Classroom activities
Core Values lessons to be incorporated into the PD, H and PE curriculum. Teachers will hold class discussions related to each value and may use a range of suggested activities to consolidate ideas in class. Class rules and reward systems will be aligned to the nine core values. Teachers will encourage the use of ‘Values’ terminology with students. Activities such as role plays, visual arts, poster designing may use other strategies to consolidate the weekly value within the classroom.

Classroom and school displays
A series of Values Education posters/flip charts promoting each core value will be produced to be used in a variety of settings.

- classroom
- assembly areas
- school office foyer
- hall notice boards

**Playground Awards**
The current C.P.P.S. playground reward system will continue to operate and teachers will reward positive behaviours in the playground that demonstrate with the nine core values.

**Values Award System**
From the beginning of the 2009 school year there will be some modifications to the C.P.P.S. whole school award system. The new awards allow for broader recognition of specific behaviours and attitudes that exemplify the nine core values. These awards will be known as ‘Values in Action’ awards and will replace ‘Fabulous Effort’ awards in the existing whole school reward system. In order to simplify the school award system, some awards have been phased out by the end of 2008. A summary of the modifications to our school award system is below.

**Phased out by the end of 2008**
- Student of the week (K-2)
- Class certificates (3-6)
- Weekly class award winners printed in newsletter
- ‘Fabulous Effort’ awards

**Phased in at the beginning of 2009**
- Newly designed colour-coded ‘Values in Action’ awards will replace ‘Fabulous Effort’ awards.
- In order to receive a Merit certificate, students must have a variety of ‘Values in Action’ awards (3 different colours) within their ten awards.
- Teachers will award positive behaviours and attitudes that demonstrate the nine core values.
- A student’s name will appear in the weekly newsletter when he or she has earned a Principal’s award or a trophy.

**CPPS Values Award System**

10 mixed ‘Values in Action’ Awards = 1 Merit certificate

5 Merit ‘Values in Action’ Merit Certificates = 1 Principal’s Award (Certificate)

5 Principal’s Awards = 1 trophy