



Mount Erin College Statement of Values and Philosophy

Child Safe Standards

Mount Erin College is a Child Safe School. Our College is committed to safety and wellbeing of all children and young people. We value all students as individuals and their diversity. This will be the primary focus of our care and decision making.

Mount Erin College is committed to providing a Child Safe environment where children and young people are valued and feel safe, and their voices are heard about decisions that affect their lives.

Our College takes a preventative, proactive and participatory approach to Child Safety to ensure that the safety of children is promoted, child abuse is prevented and allegations of child abuse are properly responded to. Mount Erin College has zero tolerance for child abuse.

Our Vision

Our Vision is that students will be able to thrive academically, socially, emotionally and to be able to fully develop their talents and leadership skills.

At Mount Erin College, our Vision is to promote a consistent and collaborative whole school approach to Teaching and Learning by developing and maintaining high quality Programs that ensure all members of our Learning Community maximise their growth potential.

Mount Erin College is committed to Democratic Principles where every person is respected and given every opportunity to attain their potential.

Purpose

Mount Erin College aims to use educational best practice and evidence based contextual research to provide a collaborative, supportive and respectful learning environment for all members of the Teaching and Learning Community.

Our whole school Instructional Model aims to facilitate high quality learning outcomes for students and provide a framework for staff to deliver excellence in teaching strategies.

We value developing a Growth Mindset and Personalised Learning. This enables students to progress along the Learning Continuum, using feedback to set their own Learning Goals.

Learning is our Priority

Mount Erin College is a Learning Community.

We believe that Learning is our Priority and that everyone in our Learning Community:

- Can learn and achieve their personal best
- Use feedback to improve
- Will take an active role in their learning
- Find value in their learning
- Can learn about themselves and the world, independently and collaboratively
- Understands that Learning should be a life long pursuit

Learning is most effective when the College and classrooms are safe and orderly environment based on Respectful Relationships.

Our aim is to foster a positive Learning Culture where all students are able to achieve their potential.

We are a school that sets high expectations for our students and our staff.

Our staff work hard to support every student to reach their potential; and to build those critical personal attributes of motivation, confidence, self belief and to develop a Growth Mindset. Our teachers strive to prepare students for the challenges of a rapidly changing world by building opportunities for collaborative work and problem solving while encouraging curiosity, independence and reflection.

A Positive Learning Environment

Our College rules are based on having an orderly school environment where all members of the school community are respected and valued and everyone has the capacity to achieve their learning potential.

Our College ASPIRE Values have been developed with the clear intention that they will assist all students to fulfil their potential and underpin all we do and create an inclusive learning environment, vital to maintaining this positive school Culture.

All students are actively encouraged to enact the ASPIRE Values of:

- Demonstrate **ADAPTABILITY**
- Show **SOCIAL AWARENESS**
- Achieve their **PERSONAL BEST**
- Act with **INTEGRITY**
- Demonstrate **RESPONSIBILITY** and
- seek **EXCELLENCE**.

The acrostic was created and selected by STUDENTS as a set of values they see as desirable in them.

Students who perform according to these values make the very most of themselves and can be seen as role models to others. Our College Values drive all our expectations of student behaviours.

Respectful Relationships Program

In line with our desire that students aim to be *socially aware* and *responsible* members of the College, and wider community, the College's Respectful Relationships Policy spells out the approach taken to foster a positive learning community.

Mount Erin College values diversity. Our goal is to meet the needs of every student.

To assist us in this endeavour we provide a wide range of Programs to cater for diverse student interests and passions. This includes a SEAL (Select Entry Accelerated Entry) Program; a Sports Academy for high achieving athletes as well as an Arts Academy for students who are passionate about the Performing and Visual Arts. The College has a dynamic Arts Program, offering Drama, Instrumental Music and Voice, and a College Choir plus a College Production each year. Mount Erin College provides individualised support for Deaf and Hearing Impaired students in mainstream classes across all Year Levels. We also have an Inclusion and Diversity Student Group.

Our College is actively working towards increasing student involvement in, and ownership of, their learning. We endeavor to develop our students as young adults and as leaders within the College and their local community.

We are proud of the strong links that we have established with our local community groups and tertiary providers as they enrich the lives of our students and provide opportunities for our students in terms of community service and increase their pathways options.

Bullying, in any form, is contrary to our College Values.

Cooperative Classrooms

Our Cooperative Classroom procedures are designed to ensure that our classrooms are productive and respectful places, and that all students have the opportunity to **ASPIRE**. Details are displayed in each room and all staff and students are expected to heed them.

These procedures involve a series of steps to guide students towards effective classroom performance.

Students who aren't working productively will be reminded of the expectation that they do so and asked if further assistance is required. *Mount Erin College firmly believes that no person has the right to interfere with the learning of another.*

Should any student ignore this opportunity they may be moved to another area of the classroom or learning space. Should they continue to be unproductive they will be sent out of class. Students may be sent out of class *immediately* if their behaviour is deemed highly inappropriate. This may include behaviours such as: *using unacceptable language, putting down others, acting disrespectfully, challenging the authority of a teacher or posing a threat to the wellbeing of others.*

College and Class Rules

Mount Erin College students will:

- Treat others with respect
- Act in a safe, orderly manner
- Allow others to learn without interference
- Follow staff instructions
- Actively engage in my learning

In return, students can expect to be:

- Treated in a respectful manner
- Able to feel safe and included

- Able to learn to their potential
- Develop their interests, talents and leadership skills

Getting It Sorted

Mount Erin College operates a Restorative Practices Process to resolving concerns. Our College staff will use a Repair and Rebuild Approach as we firmly believe that this is the most effective approach because it focusses on educating our students, increasing their empathy and social awareness and treating them as young adults who are able to learn from mistakes.

Students sent from class must complete a “*Getting It Sorted*” sheet. The “*Getting It Sorted*” enables them to reflect on their behaviour and who was affected. They must also indicate the steps they will take to remedy their behaviour. Parents and Form teachers are to sign the document and the student must return the sheet and discuss its content *prior* to the next class with that teacher.

The “*Getting It Sorted*” Sheet assists students to act *responsibly* and with *integrity*.

Attendance and Punctuality

Regular attendance at school is essential if students are to achieve their *Personal Best*. IT IS NOT OKAY TO BE AWAY.

Learning Time is paramount and for this reason, students and staff are expected to be prepared and on time for all their classes.

Lateness without reasonable cause (medical appointments, delayed transport and the like) is unacceptable.

Evaluation and Review

This Statement of College Values and Philosophy was approved by the College Board in February 2019 and is due for Review in February 2021.