



Philosophy Statement

At Mount Barker High School, we aim to develop in students the knowledge, attitude and skills that they need to participate actively and responsibly in a changing and interrelated world. We aim to provide an education for life with a strong emphasis on intercultural awareness, international understanding and responsible citizenship in the local and global community.

We aim to help students develop personally, socially, physically and intellectually. We aim to ensure students become independent learners.

We aim to help students develop:

- lively inquiring minds, a love of learning, and a willingness to apply effort to worthwhile tasks
- the ability to think rationally
- the use of the imagination
- powers of creative self expression
- powers of judgement
- physical and mental health
- self confidence, a sense of worth, and respect and consideration for others
- a coherent set of personal and social values and a commitment to them
- decision making and problem solving skills
- an understanding of themselves and their world
- competence in intellectual, social and physical skills
- knowledge of skills relevant to adult life and employment
- the ability to think reflectively, critically and creatively
- the ability to analyse and solve problems
- an understanding of the relationship between school subjects and the world outside of school

To achieve this we will:

- provide an ordered and structured environment so that learning is facilitated
- provide a supportive environment
- encourage all students to work towards their full potential
- encourage all students to strive for excellence (eg. in academics, sport and cultural activities)
- offer a wide range of courses to suit the varied interests, needs and abilities of students
- give priority to:
 - basic skills of numeracy and literacy
 - communication skills
 - skills for social living (preparation for effective participation in society)
 - problem solving skills
- develop an awareness of the physical and social character of the local area and encourage school/community interaction
- encourage cooperation in worthwhile tasks and provide opportunities for group participation and for leadership
- guide students towards the situation where they accept responsibility for their learning
- develop international and intercultural awareness and provide opportunities for responsible citizenship in the local and global communities.