



WHAT IS CHOOSE RESPECT?

Choose Respect is a **COMMON LANGUAGE AND FRAMEWORK** to foster a "Culture of Respect" in homes, schools, work places and communities.

Choose Respect provides a clear definition of Respect: "**RESPECT IS TO TREAT WITH CARE AND CONSIDERATION**". Everyone deserves to be treated with this type of Respect, because of our worth and value as human beings.

Choose Respect also provides a "**CODE OF BEHAVIOUR**" that provides an expression of what a "Culture of Respect" looks like. Every member of our community is encouraged to live by this code of behaviour. Many would regard the values expressed in this code as part of Australia's common democratic way of life.

CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

Every member of our community is encouraged to CHOOSE RESPECT.

To CHOOSE RESPECT is to make a conscious effort to:

- Treat others with Respect, no matter how they treat you.
- Treat yourself with Respect.
- Forgive others who do not treat you with Respect.
- Resist your natural desire to pay back or take revenge.
- Apologise when you do not treat others with Respect.
- Support others who are not being treated with Respect.
- Ask for support when others do not treat you with Respect.

THE CHOOSE RESPECT POLICY

RATIONALE:

This community is committed to providing a safe, supportive environment for all of our members.

FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES:

The following principles are fundamental to fostering a "Culture of Respect".

Principle No. 1

Every human being is unique, and has inherent worth and value, and therefore, should be treated with Respect. Respect means to be treated with care and consideration. This type of Respect is different from the Respect that is based on the fear of punishment which is different from the Respect that can be earned.

THE SHIRE OF TOODYAY IS A 'CHOOSE RESPECT' SHIRE

Principle No. 2

Respect is not only an attitude, but an observable behaviour. Respect is contextual.

Below are some examples of where Respect will be clearly demonstrated:

- 1) Respect for Others
- 2) Respect for Yourself
- 3) Respect for Property
- 4) Respect for Positions of Authority
- 5) Respect for the Environment
- 6) Respect for Learning

Principle No. 3

Every member of our community is capable of choosing Respect. However, Respect needs to be explicitly taught or demonstrated.

Principle No. 4

After Respect is taught or demonstrated in a particular context, if a member of our community is not demonstrating Respect, they are making a conscious choice NOT to do so.

Principle No. 5

Every member of our community is responsible for their own actions and choices. These actions and choices will always have consequences.

Principle No. 6

It is acknowledged that every member of our community will at some time fall short of the "Code of Behaviour". However, by providing an explicit standard or benchmark for what is right and acceptable behaviour, we are holding up a "standard of behaviour" to work towards.

"Fostering a Culture of Respect in our community"

Choose Respect in Schools

"Choose Respect" provides a fundamental shift from focusing on the negative behaviour of bullying to calling out not only students, but the whole school community to "Choose Respect".

Choose Respect in Sporting Organisations

"Choose Respect" fosters a safe and positive environment for players, coaches, parents, umpires and referees. Every member associated with your sporting organisation is encouraged to make a conscious effort to "Choose Respect".

Businesses and Choose Respect

"Choose Respect" fosters a safe and more productive workplace environment. Employers and employees are encouraged to make a conscious effort to "Choose Respect".

Communities and Choose Respect

"Choose Respect" is a COMMON LANGUAGE AND FRAMEWORK to foster a "Culture of Respect" in homes, schools, work places and communities. "Choose Respect" has become a catalyst to bring people together to work for a better and safer community.

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