



values for life

Great Mates

being a better friend

Learning Focus

The **Great Mates** incursion & curriculum discusses the importance of a healthy community and, more specifically, friendships that contribute to this. This incursion is designed to equip students with tools required to initiate, create and maintain good friendships that are caring, empathic, trusting and enable students to be confident with who they are. Through a range of interactive games, personal stories, music, and multimedia, we explore what makes a good friendship and practical ways in which students can implement this in their school and everyday life.

In addition to this student incursion, a complimentary teacher resource manual & curriculum is provided that can be implemented & modified by the school to extend the learning outcomes in the classroom over several weeks.

Key concepts covered in the session:

The following are messages we want students to learn through the incursion:

- Everybody needs a group of people that accept them and help them feel like they belong and are valued
- I know what a good friendship is
- I know that a good friendship is a two-way relationship that requires empathy
- It's okay for me and others to think, look and act differently
- There are simple, practical things I can do to create and maintain healthy friendships
- I know my values are important because they determine how I treat others and myself

Essential Learning Standards

The Values for Life program presents a student learning program that intertwines elements of all three strands of VIC Curriculum with the key focus on the following dimensions:

- **Building social relationships and working in teams** (Interpersonal Development domain), plus
- **Listening, viewing and responding** (Communication)

The table below shows these dimensions addressed and the degree of emphasis provided:

Strand	Domain	Dimension	Included	Focus	Major Focus	Teacher Manual
Physical, Personal and Social Learning	Health and Physical Education	Movement and physical activity Health knowledge and promotion	✓			
	Interpersonal Development	Building social relationships Working in teams	✓ ✓	✓	✓	✓
	Personal Learning	The individual learner Managing personal learning	✓ ✓	✓		✓
	Civics and Citizenship	Civics knowledge and understanding Community engagement	✓			✓
Discipline-based Learning	The Arts, English, Humanities, LOTE, Mathematics, Science	Knowledge, understanding and skills gained through the various domains	This seminar will relate to a number of these discipline-based VELS domains depending on the duration and focus specifically developed for each session.			
Interdisciplinary Learning	Communication	Listening, viewing and responding Presenting	✓ ✓	✓		
	Thinking Processes	Reasoning, processing and inquiry Creativity Reflection, evaluation and metacognition	✓ ✓	✓		✓

Values for Life is an educational program that provides student incursion seminars and teaching resources. These enable young people to develop community building values, make wise choices and fulfil their potential.

We aim to engage, impact and empower primary and secondary school students, providing learning outcomes that engender pro-social values, empathy and resilience. We are committed to working with the school to identify the most effective program that suits the needs of the school community and recognise that prevention programs are highly successful when part of a community effort.



Values for Life is associated with Concern Australia

Values for Life

P: (03) 9470 2972

E: v4lss@concernaustralia.org.au

W: www.valuesforlife.net

primary level