Partnership projects are being conducted with principals, teachers, teacher educators and parents. Associations coordinating these projects are the Australian Principals Associations Professional Development Council (APAPDC) representing school principals, the Australian Joint Council of Professional Teacher Associations (AJCPTA) representing teachers, the Australian Council of Deans of Education (ACDE) representing teacher educators, the Australian Council of State School Organisations (ACSSO) representing state school parents and the Australian Parents Council (APC) representing non-government school parents. Each association is implementing projects that inform their members about values education. ACSSO and APC are keeping parents informed about values education through the publication of leaflets which have been distributed to schools.

National Partnership Projects

Partnership projects are being conducted with principals, teachers, teacher educators and parents. Associations coordinating these projects are the Australian Principals Associations Professional Development Council (APAPDC) representing school principals, the Australian Joint Council of Professional Teacher Associations (AJCPTA) representing teachers, the Australian Council of Deans of Education (ACDE) representing teacher educators, the Australian Council of State School Organisations (ACSSO) representing state school parents and the Australian Parents Council (APC) representing non-government school parents. Each association is implementing projects that inform their members about values education.

Some of these associations have web pages devoted to values education:

- APAPDC (for school principals)
  http://www.apapdc.edu.au/values/
- AJCPTA (for teachers)
  http://www.ajcpta.edu.au/
- ACSSO (for state school parents)
- APC (for non-government school parents)
  http://www.austparents.edu.au

Curriculum and Professional Development Resources

Curriculum and professional development resources are being developed over the four years of the programme. The Values for Australian Schooling Kit was distributed to schools in June 2006. This kit contains material to support schools in conducting their values education forums and information for the professional learning of teachers. It also includes a set of posters and a Talking Values DVD. Copies of these resources can be downloaded from the values education website. More resources are planned for the remaining three years of the programme to support the ongoing dialogue about values education in Australian schools.
Message from the Hon Julie Bishop MP, Minister of Education, Science and Training

The Australian Government is committed to making values a core part of schooling and has allocated $29.7 million over 2004–2008 for its Values Education programme initiatives.

These initiatives include values education forums in every school in Australia involving parents and the whole school community; clusters of schools showcasing good practice approaches; curriculum and professional learning resources for all schools to teach values; and national activities including partnership projects with national parent, teacher, school principal and teacher educator organisations and an annual national forum.

The purpose of education is, as it has always been, to inspire and educate the next generation to see their world through the eyes of others. We want children to become adults who are caring, tolerant, fair and compassionate. The Values Education programme is assisting Australian schools to achieve these goals.

The Australian Government’s Values Education programme

In the 2004 budget the Australian Government announced funding of $29.7 over four years (2004–2008) for values education.

This funding supports:

- a values education forum in every Australian school;
- the establishment of clusters of schools implementing good practice in values education;
- the development of curriculum and professional learning resources and a values education website;
- partnership projects with teachers, teacher educators, school principals and parents; and
- an annual national values education forum.

For more information about the Values Education programme visit the values education website at http://www.valueseducation.edu.au. It provides information about all aspects of the Values Education programme, including school projects, the latest research in values education and copies of values education resources.

The National Framework for Values Education in Australian Schools

The National Framework for Values Education in Australian Schools was endorsed by all State and Territory Education Ministers by early 2005. The framework recognises the values education policies and programmes already in place in education authorities and Australian schools. It also recognises that there is a significant history of values education in state and non-government schools, drawing on a range of philosophies, beliefs and traditions. Findings from the Values Education Study (2003) indicated that while many state and non-government schools were working well in this area, comprehensive values education across Australia was still at an early stage.

The Framework includes a context, an underpinning vision for improved values education in Australian schools, a set of nine Values for Australian Schooling, guiding principles to support schools in implementing values education and key elements and approaches providing practical guidance to schools in implementing values education.

A copy of the framework can be downloaded from the values education website.

The Values for Australian Schooling Poster

The National Framework for Values Education in Australian Schools and a poster depicting the nine Values for Australian Schooling were sent to all Australian schools in March 2005. The poster can be used to stimulate discussion about values with all school community members.

Values for Australian Schooling Poster

The Values for Australian Schooling

Honesty and Trustworthiness

- tell the truth;
- control, and stand up for the rights of others.

Care and Compassion

- show care and consideration for self and others;
- do things for others;
- support people.

Understanding, Tolerance and Inclusion

- understand and respect differences;
- contribute to society.

Freedom

- enjoy all the rights and privileges of Australian citizenship free from unnecessary interference or control.

Fair Go

- have a go for themselves and others.

Doing Your Best

- show abilities;
- deal with challenges;
- do your best;
- try not to give up.

Care for self and others

- show care and consideration for self and others.

Understanding, Tolerance and Inclusion

- understand and respect differences;
- contribute to society.

Character is destiny

- be aware of others and their cultures, accept diversity;
- be accountable for one’s own actions, resolve another person’s point of view;
- be capable of independent thought;
- show consideration and respect.

What is Values Education?

Values Education refers to any explicit and/or implicit school-based activity to promote student understanding and knowledge of values, and which develops the skills and dispositions of students so they can enact particular values as individuals and members of the wider community.

The Values Education Good Practice Schools Project

The Values Education Good Practice Schools Project is being implemented in two stages - Stage 1 from 2004–2006 and Stage 2 from 2006–2008.

Stage 1 of the project commenced in May 2005. Twenty-six clusters of schools received grants to implement good practice approaches to values education in their schools. Information about their projects will be disseminated to the wider education community through the values education website.

Applications for Stage 2 of the project were advertised in May 2006 on the values education website. These projects will be implemented from July 2006 to March 2008.

Values Education National Forums

A Values Education National Forum is conducted each year of the Values Education programme. The forums provide an opportunity for discussions about the implementation of the National Framework for Values Education in Australian School and future directions in values education. They provide an opportunity to showcase good practice approaches in values education. Forum programmes include workshops, student voice segments, keynote and international speakers. They are usually held in May each year and details are available on the values education website.