School Philosophy Statement

MELBOURNE ARCHDIOCESE CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Introduction

The constitution of Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools Ltd (MACS) contains a Statement of Mission, which provides the expectations of the sole member of MACS, the Archbishop of the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne (Member), for Catholic schooling and the identity and work of a Catholic school. The Statement of Mission positions MACS firmly in the reality of the Eucharistic character of the Catholic school, affirming that its enterprise is one that builds community and provides opportunity for personal transformation.

With parents and parishes, Catholic schooling seeks to fulfil this mission by providing an environment in which students are enabled to:

- *encounter God in Christ and deepen their relationship with him*
- *pursue wisdom and truth encouraged by a supportive academic culture*
- *grow in the practice of virtue, responsible freedom and serving the common good.*

A Catholic school:

- *is actively embedded in the life of the faith communities of the local Church, which in turn is tangibly manifested in the life of each school*
- *is an essential place for the evangelising of children and young people*
- *exists to assist students, and their families, to integrate faith, reason, life and culture*
- *is conspicuously Christian in outlook, explicitly Catholic in faith and practice, and intentionally missionary in orientation*
- *cultivates spiritual, social and emotional growth in a safe and protective environment*
- *provides a learning environment in which the whole educational community is formed to embrace life in all its fullness (Jn 10.10)*
- *offers a human formation that has the intellectual, practical and moral excellence of learners at its heart*
- *forms consciences, fosters peace and develops respectful dialogue, at the service of intellectual charity*
- *encourages the discovery of Catholic cultural heritage, especially in art, music, literature and architecture.*

St Catherine's Primary School is a school which operates with the consent of the Catholic Archbishop of Melbourne and is owned, operated and governed by MACS.

St Catherine's Primary School is a Catholic Primary school which has been established to provide quality education in the Catholic doctrine for families in the Moorabbin area.

Mission

Our mission is inspired by Saint Catherine Labouré, patron saint of the elderly, infirmed people and the Miraculous Medal. We are committed to developing learners who are curious, creative and critical thinkers able to confidently communicate, collaborate and respond within local and global communities.

Vision

At St Catherine's School we are:

"Inspired by our faith in Jesus Christ to hope, love, learn and respond"

Values

Our school Values encourage all in our school community to make a difference by demonstrating:

RESPECT for all

We respect people, belongings and the environment.

RESPONSIBLE behaviour

We are inclusive, empathetic, collaborative and problem solvers.

RESTORING relationships

We forgive and look at mistakes as an opportunity to learn and change.

Objectives

At St Catherine's Primary School we aim to empower young men and women to take their place in a contemporary, global society as valued individuals, alive with the wisdom of the gospel.

Philosophy enactment

At St Catherine's Primary School our philosophy, which includes the vision, mission, values and objective, will be central to all our policies, practices and teaching and learning programs.

Reporting

The MACS Board will ensure schools have implemented a contextualised school philosophy using this template through the annual report to the school community and regular school review processes (at least once every four years).