

# School Philosophy Statement



## 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 fulfill 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 Michael'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 Michael's Primary School is a Catholic primary school which has been established to provide quality education in the Catholic doctrine for families in the North Melbourne area.

## Mission

St Michael's School is a Catholic Primary School in the Parish of St Michael's North Melbourne.

Our teaching is based on the beliefs of the Catholic Church and the Gospel values of Jesus.

St Michael's Primary School is a welcoming faith community which provides high quality, inclusive education and promotes enthusiasm for lifelong learning.

We are committed to educating the whole person to their individual potential.

We support and promote the principles of Australian Democracy.

We provide programs to develop skills enabling full participation in the local community and the global context.

St Michael's School provides information to the community about school performance, student achievement and wellbeing.

## Vision

*As a welcoming community at St. Michael's we will:*

***Unite as one family*** where all are valued and respected;

***Embrace*** life experiences as opportunities for growth;

***Foster*** self belief and the full potential of each person;

***Empower*** all to act with dignity and purpose;

***Engender*** a love for lifelong learning; and,

***Give witness*** to and ***celebrate*** the presence of Christ in our lives.

## Values

St Michael's in being a Mercy Heritage school is inspired by the Mercy Education values of Justice, Compassion, Hospitality, Courage, Respect and Service.

## Objectives

At St Michael's, we aim to empower our students to take their place in a contemporary, global society as valued individuals, alive with the wisdom of the gospel.

## Philosophy Enactment

At St Michael's, our school philosophy, which includes the vision, mission, values and objectives, 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).