

# 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 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 Anthony's Noble Park is a school which operates with the consent of the Catholic Archbishop of Melbourne and is owned, operated and governed by MACS.

St Anthony's is a Catholic primary school which has been established to provide quality education in the Catholic doctrine for families in the Noble Park area.

## Mission

### Faith

- We believe that through our faith community, Gospel values are taught and lived out.
- We believe that an awareness of and acting upon Social Justice issues form that cornerstone of our faith.
- We believe that stimulating teaching of the traditions and doctrine of the Catholic Faith will encourage lifelong understanding and commitment.
- We believe in encouraging dialogue and conversation around God and faith.

### Relationship

- We value respectful and genuine relationships with families and communities.
- We will encourage and develop self awareness, responsible decision making and relationship skills in all members of our community.
- We will develop nurturing relationships based on empathy that encourages all to be adaptive and to take risks in learning.

### Teaching and Learning

- We are committed to an engaged learning environment, with a differentiated curriculum that provides opportunities for all.
- We are committed to an evidence based, reflective and responsive curriculum which is rigorous for every student.
- We are committed to an individualised curriculum with high expectations so that each student will reach their full potential.
- We are committed to providing students with the inspiration and skills to embrace life long learning.

### Community

- We believe in an outward-facing school where collaborative relationships are built within and beyond the classroom.
- We will inspire students to understand that they have a place in the community and it is through their actions that the community is enhanced.
- We believe partnership and collaboration with each other enhance the community

## Vision

Our vision is to integrate life and the Catholic Faith through the inclusive and holistic development of students.

In partnership with the wider community, students will strive for excellence and acquire the knowledge, skills and attitudes that ensure lifelong learning, empowering them to contribute to the global community.

## Values

### High Expectations

- Respect Yourself
- Respect Others
- Respect Your School

## Philosophy enactment

We do whatever it takes, learning from experience to inform our future.

- A sharp and narrow focus on actions that make a difference.
- An inquiry based and growth coaching approach to underpin our curriculum and learner growth.
  - High impact teaching strategies.

The school's philosophy is published on our school website as well as in our key policies such as our enrolment policy.

## 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).