School Philosophy Statement

St Andrew's Primary School

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 Andrew'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 Andrew's Primary School is a Catholic primary school which has been established to provide quality education in the Catholic doctrine for families in the local area.

Vision

At St. Andrew’s School, we believe that we are a community centered in Christ, working in partnership in the education of each child.
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The school strives to develop within the child the fundamental beliefs and values of the Catholic Church in a Gospel based environment.
St. Andrew’s is a school of rich history immersed in the culture of the school, parish and wider community. The school endeavours to provide opportunities for the children to be part of this tradition, so they embrace it as part of their heritage.
We believe that the years in primary school should be happy, allowing each child to feel successful and develop skills and talents supported by the pastoral care of the staff and parish community.
We believe that primary school education helps prepare the child for challenges in life. This preparation will enrich the spiritual, intellectual, physical and emotional growth of each individual.

Philosophy enactment

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