

# 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.*

Mother Teresa Catholic Primary School is a school which operates with the consent of the Catholic Archbishop of Melbourne and is owned, operated and governed by MACS.

Mother Teresa Catholic Primary School is a Catholic primary school which has been established to provide quality education in the Catholic doctrine for families in the Craigieburn North catchment

## Mission

Our professional learning community (PLC) provides a wonderful opportunity for you to be involved in a learning community of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Through our innovative pedagogy accompanied by flexible learning spaces and outdoor learning spaces the physical environment provides opportunities for personalised and cooperative learning preparing children for a future of life long learning. As Principal I am committed to ensuring success in the key competencies of literacy and numeracy, as well as a knowledge and understanding of our ever-changing world. Through a Faith and Life Inquiry approach to religious learning. I hope to provide opportunities for our community to consider what it means to be a Catholic within a multi-faith and culturally enriched society; that is; to be a Recontextualising Dialogue school.

## Vision

Our vision is to continue to develop a modern, contemporary and innovative approach to learning that is purposeful and relevant to the lives of children and families today. It is our dream to continue to grow as a vibrant Catholic professional learning community that fosters reflective thinking and learning displaying this through authentic actions within the school and the wider community.

## Values and Objectives

We will embrace the values for which Mother Teresa herself was so famous:

- Caring and supporting every person, no matter who they are,
- Giving kindness and compassion at all times,
- Teaching and nurturing the Catholic faith with enthusiasm,
- Emphasizing strong moral and ethical values and personal discipline.

We will live out these values through:

- Excellence in all that we do,
- Developing a modern, contemporary and innovative approach to learning,
- A commitment to personalised learning, allowing every child to learn and develop in a manner and at a pace best suited to them,
- An environment that both challenges and supports each individual child

## Philosophy enactment

At Mother Teresa Catholic 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).