

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 Martin de Porres School is a school which operates with the consent of the Catholic Archbishop of Melbourne and is owned, operated and governed by MACS.

St Martin de Porres School is a Catholic primary school which has been established to provide quality education in the Catholic doctrine for families in the Avondale Heights area.

Vision

St. Martin de Porres parish school community comprises a welcoming partnership of students, their families & school staff seeking to faithfully live the teachings of Jesus Christ in the catholic tradition.

We encourage each member to strive for excellence, celebrate the diversity of background, develop attitudes of life long learning & become active citizens responsive to the emerging challenges of our community, our nation & our planet.

Values

St. Martin de Porres School also affirms its commitment to the following values :

- Care and Compassion, Doing Your Best, Fair Go, Freedom, Integrity, Respect, Responsibility and Understanding, Tolerance and Inclusion.

Philosophy enactment

At St Martin de Porres School, our school philosophy, which includes the vision and values, 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).