

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 John's Regional College is a school which operates with the consent of the Catholic Archbishop of Melbourne and is owned, operated and governed by MACS.

St John's Regional College is a Catholic secondary school which has been established to provide quality education in the Catholic doctrine for families in the Dandenong.

Mission

St John's Regional College is a Catholic co-educational secondary school established by local Parish Priests in collaboration with the De La Salle Brothers and, later, the Presentation Sisters.

Their vision and work in educating young people in the rich heritage of the Catholic Tradition are both enduring and inspiring.

At St John's, students are encouraged to:

- Develop self-worth and respect for others
- Act justly and with compassion
- Engage with social issues
- Contribute meaningfully to community life

As a faith community, we support one another in living the values taught by Jesus Christ.

Vision

We at St John's Regional College are a contemporary Catholic community placing at our heart our students and their learning outcomes, through personalised learning and a culture of performance and development

Values

Faith

We are a faith-filled community centred on Jesus Christ. Our motto, Reaching for the Stars, challenges us to be lights for one another and the wider world.

Learning

Our student-centred approach empowers young people to become well-rounded, emotionally intelligent and engaged learners, prepared for life beyond school.

Integrity and Service

Our students are called to act with integrity and serve others—both within the College and in the broader community—through their words and actions.

Community

We believe in the importance of belonging. At St John's, students are part of a supportive community that values authentic relationships and encourages them to pursue their goals.

Objectives

Our College is inspired by the vision of our founders, the De La Salle Brothers and the Presentation Sisters, whose commitment to young people was grounded in the belief in God's unconditional love. It is this belief, and our recognition of the dignity of every student, that drives our culture of high support and high expectations. At St John's, students are encouraged to pursue excellence and develop the resilience and determination needed to achieve their personal best.

Philosophy enactment

At St John's Regional College, our school philosophy, which includes the vision, mission, values and objective, will be central to 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).