

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

St Martin of Tours Rosanna is a Catholic primary school which has been established to provide quality education in the Catholic doctrine for families in the Macleod/ Rosanna area.

Mission

Jesus' message of love as expressed in the Catholic faith, doctrines, ideals and attitudes are valued, taught and practiced in the St. Martin's School Community.

Through Baptism we are sons and daughters of God, therefore we believe that all individuals have the right to grow spiritually, sacramentally, physically, intellectually, emotionally and socially in a collaborative environment where everyone can learn and achieve success.

Because Jesus taught us to love others as we love ourselves, St. Martin's provides an environment where individuals are valued unconditionally and have respect for self and others.

St Martin's offers an openness to religious questions and to a religious interpretation of the world.

St Martin's school provides an inclusive, differentiated curriculum empowering all members of the community to be curious, self motivated learners and critical thinkers in an ever changing world.

St. Martin's provides a challenging and safe environment where individuals work together as active members of the community, fostering respect, equity and empathy for all.

Vision

The death and resurrection of Jesus, and the outpouring of his Spirit empowers and challenges us to embrace life within the context of the Catholic faith. We are inspired by the St. Martin's school motto, Non Recuso Laborem (we shall not refuse the task), to be resilient and compassionate members of our community.

Values

At St Martin's we are inspired by the Gospels which finds its expression in Catholic Social Traditions. We value respect (Human Dignity), gratitude (Preferential Option for the Poor), resilience (participation), responsibility (The Common Good) and safety (Care for our Common Home). We use the golden rule of 'treating others the way we want to be treated'. It is just like Jesus taught us to 'Love one another'.

Objectives

Embracing our Catholic Identity we are called into a discipleship to live the Good News and to act for the common good. St. Martin's prides itself on the reputation of having a strong school community spirit. We continuously look for ways to gather together and reach out to the local community. The focus of the school is to ensure each child is supported and challenged in their learning. Students are inspired and enabled to flourish both as learners and in relationship with one another. Every effort is made to live our school motto of embracing life's challenges in all aspects of learning.

Philosophy enactment

At St Martin of Tours Rosanna, 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.

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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).