

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

## Mission

St Dominic's Melton Primary School's mission is to provide a caring and nurturing environment where all children can develop their full potential, spiritually, emotionally, academically, socially, and physically. We strive to ensure every child has the right to a quality education and to develop a sense of self-respect, respect for others, and respect for the environment. Inspired by the teachings of St Dominic de Guzmán, the school aims to help students develop a sense of courage, truth, and compassion, and to inspire a passion for learning and a desire to be the best they can be.

## Vision

As a Christ centred community and in the tradition of St Dominic we nurture and inspire courage, truth and compassion. We value where we have come from and embrace the future. We soar like the eagle and rise to the challenge.

## Values

Our school values Safety by ensuring a secure and caring environment for all students and staff. We also value Optimism, Acceptance, and Respect, promoting a positive attitude, inclusivity, and kindness in all interactions.

## Objectives

To support the school's mission, the objectives are to ensure safety by maintaining a secure and well-supervised environment where everyone feels protected. The school aims to promote optimism by fostering a positive outlook through encouragement, recognition of effort, and emotional support. It strives to foster acceptance by embracing diversity, teaching inclusion, and addressing any form of discrimination. Lastly, the school is committed to modeling and teaching respect through consistent expectations, respectful communication, and building positive relationships among all members of the school community.

## Philosophy enactment

At St Dominic'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).