

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

Mission

We endeavour to live out our Catholic faith based on the teachings of Jesus Christ. We strive to provide a learning environment where all children are encouraged to develop as independent, critical, reflective lifelong learners, as members of local and global communities.

Vision

At St Jude's we strive to provide excellent opportunities for our students to grow Spiritually, Academically, Emotionally, Physically and Socially.

Values

St. Jude's is a school that is committed to the values and principles of Australian Democracy, including:

- the rule of law;
- elected Government;
- equal rights for all before the law;
- freedom of religion;
- freedom of speech and association;
- the values of openness and tolerance.

Objectives

At St Jude's we aim to be present to all children allowing them to both learn from us and to teach us. To accomplish this aim we create an atmosphere that allows children to grow and develop, to make mistakes without the fear of failure, where they can be challenged to stretch their horizons and be empowered with the knowledge and skills to realise their dreams.

Philosophy enactment

At St Jude the Apostle Primary School we believe that we are all lifetime learners and that learning occurs in many different ways and forms. We learn from our interactions with the community that surrounds us. We believe that we have a responsibility to encourage children in our care to become responsible, contributing members of Australian and global societies.

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).