

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.*

Caroline Chisholm Catholic College is a school which operates with the consent of the Catholic Archbishop of Melbourne and is owned, operated and governed by MACS.

Caroline Chisholm Catholic College is a Catholic Secondary Co-ed school which has been established to provide quality education in the Catholic doctrine for families in the Maribyrnong and Brimbank areas.

Mission

Our mission is to educate and prepare our students to be the best they are called to be within a faith-filled and inclusive environment.

Vision

Our vision is to be the leader in learning excellence in our community.

Values

At Caroline Chisholm Catholic College, we strive to educate and prepare our students to be the best they are called to be within a faith-filled and inclusive environment through the following values:

Faith – we live faith filled lives and give thanks daily
Acceptance – we respect and embrace the community
Compassion – we care and do what is right and just
Excellence – we strive for and celebrate every success

Objectives

Along with Our DNA which includes statements of our Vision, Mission, Values our College upholds the following philosophy.

We are committed to offering our students the best education possible and allowing each student to realise their full potential.

We are committed to offering the best academic environment possible. To do this, we support each student's learning and ensure that each student can learn in an environment free from bullying, harassment, and undue distraction.

We are committed to caring for each student's emotional and pastoral needs. To do this, we have a pastoral care framework and provide support such as counselling services and education on resilience and mental health.

We are committed to allowing each student to achieve in areas of their own interest. To do this, we accommodate each student's interests, allowing them to balance curricular and cocurricular activities, and encourage them to pursue their interests.

We are committed to fostering leadership in all of our students. To achieve this, we have programs and activities which encourage each student to lead among their peers.

We are committed to allowing each student to live a healthy and active lifestyle. To do this, we provide education on a healthy lifestyle, and encourage sporting and other recreational activities.

Philosophy enactment

Our philosophy is enacted through our teaching and care for students. Our philosophy guides our teaching, strategic plans and governance decisions. 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).