

# 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.*

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

John Paul College is a Catholic secondary school which has been established to provide quality education in the Catholic doctrine for families in the Frankston area.

## Mission

Inspired by the Gospels' values, John Paul College provides an exemplary and holistic education within the Catholic tradition. Our community welcomes students and their families from the parishes and communities of the greater Frankston region. We believe every student's success is grounded in quality learning and teaching, and a school culture that fosters wellbeing, promotes resilience and inspires faith in action.

## Vision

“With Him is the Fullness of Life” Jn 10:10

Our motto is our vision – the commitment to ensure every member of our community is empowered to achieve success, act with integrity and contribute to the common good Christian discipleship for a just world.

## Values

We treasure our spirit of community and the values that flow from it – courage, perseverance and generosity. The strength of our House system is anchored in these values and the charism we inherit from the lives of our founders. Today, we live by our values and animate them within a culture that:

- Respects the dignity of every person
- Is inclusive, compassionate, just and forgiving, and
- Honours the integrity of creation through careful stewardship

## Objectives

At John Paul College we aim to empower young people to take their place in the contemporary society as individuals, inspired by the Gospel message to contribute to their local and global community.

## Philosophy enactment

At John Paul College our 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).