



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

St John the Apostle is a Catholic primary school which has been established to provide quality education in the Catholic doctrine for families in the Tarneit area.

## Mission

*Inspired by Christ, we partner with our community in the faith development and quality education of our students. We serve the community in the spirit of St John the Apostle; with integrity, mercy and fidelity.*

## Vision

*Through the guidance of God, we at St John the Apostle aspire to create a positive culture, where all members of our community are safe, welcomed, valued and empowered to contribute and succeed.*

## Values

St. John the Apostle Catholic Primary School – A school where gospel values of relationship, community, outreach, learning and celebration are witnessed in everyday school experiences.

These values create a learning environment which embraces the individual, providing a curriculum which is rigorous, relevant and engaging bringing about high student achievement.

The school design enables students to instantaneously access the resources they need to support, enable and engage them in their learning. It acknowledges that learning can occur anywhere and at any time and therefore provides conditions where learning opportunities can be varied and purposeful without compromising student safety.

The curriculum is delivered taking into consideration the developmental needs of the student and is scaffolded in a way which builds confidence, independence and success of the whole child.

## Objectives

At St John the Apostle, we aim to empower our students to take their place in a contemporary, global society as valued individuals, alive with the wisdom of the gospel. We endeavour to build connections between the school community and parish life.

## Philosophy enactment

Our school philosophy, vision, mission, values and objectives, are central to all our policies, practices and teaching and learning programs. The school's philosophy is published on our school website.

## 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).