

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

## Vision and Mission

### Our School Vision

*St Paul's School - a welcoming and diverse Catholic community:*

#### United in Faith

Educating our community in our Catholic story and beliefs  
Rejoicing in our cultural and multi-faith community  
Embracing our partnerships within our parish and wider Church community  
Proclaiming Jesus and the Gospel values through word, prayer, celebration and example

#### Inspiring a Passion for Learning

Creating learning environments that are welcoming, safe and secure  
Implementing a curriculum which is accessible, engaging, challenging and rigorous  
Providing learning experiences that are student centred, authentic and transforming  
Empowering families to be partners in the learning journey

#### Striving for Excellence

Committing to a culture of high expectations of all  
Fostering the wellbeing, dignity, self-esteem and integrity of each person  
Recognising and celebrating the talents, abilities and uniqueness of each individual  
Providing opportunities that respect and cater for difference

#### Connecting With and Shaping Our World

Knowing and respecting our stories  
Engaging with local and global communities  
Living out our commitment as ambassadors of action and social justice  
Inspiring hope and a positive vision for the future Christ-centred Catholic education providing excellent, inclusive and contemporary schooling.

## Values

At St Paul's Primary School, we respect, diversity, learning and care and compassion. Our values set out expectations for all members of the school community.

## Objectives

At St Paul's Primary School, 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.

## Philosophy enactment

At St Paul'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).