

Our Lady of Lourdes 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 the 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.*

Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School is a school that operates with the consent of the Catholic Archbishop of Melbourne and is owned, operated and governed by MACS.

Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School is a Catholic primary school that has been established to provide quality education in the Catholic doctrine for families in the Bayswater area.

Vision

Shaped by our Catholic identity,
we at Our Lady of Lourdes Bayswater,
respect the sacredness of each person.

In partnership with our community,
we seek to nurture the development
of young minds, empowering them
to enrich the world with meaning
and hope.

Values

- Caring
- Confidence
- Courage
- Doing your best
- Fair go
- Forgiveness
- Helpfulness
- Honesty
- Patience
- Responsibility

Philosophy enactment

At Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School our school philosophy, which includes these Vision Statement and Values are central to all our policies, practices, and teaching and learning programs. This philosophy is enacted in the daily interactions between community members, in professional discourse when planning for student learning and engagement, in the frequent communication between school and home, and in the governance of the school. At the heart of our school philosophy is the whole child, as we seek to promote the best possible faith, academic and wellbeing outcomes for every student.

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).