

# 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, Monbulk, 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, Monbulk, is a Catholic primary school which has been established to provide quality education in the Catholic doctrine for families in the Monbulk area.

## Vision

“Together ...

- Active in the Spirit
- Journeying in God’s love
- Striving for success
- Reaching out to all.”

## Values

At St Paul’s, Monbulk, we value Responsibility, Courage, Justice, Respect and Wisdom. Our values set out expectations for all members of the community.



## Objectives

St Paul’s, Monbulk, aims to ensure we maintain our Catholic Identity as an outward facing community building upon our strong reciprocal partnerships with parents. We engage in a climate of 21st century learning where student voice is valued. Together, with our shared vision, it is our intent to develop the whole child and build resilient individuals that can contribute effectively to a global society.

## Philosophy enactment

St Paul’s Catholic Primary School strives to form quality partnerships with school families, to support the Academic, Physical, Social, Emotional and Spiritual Learning of all students in an environment that is safe and secure within the school grounds, the wider community and online. The school’s philosophy is published on our school website as well as in our key policies such as our enrolment policy.

The vision and philosophy is evident in policies and procedures throughout the school, including but not limited to:

- We meet with parents at the beginning of the year - Transition Interviews
- 2 days at the beginning of the year are dedicated to student meetings/interviews
- Sacramental Parent education nights
- Biennial Country Fair
- Inter School Sports in the community
- Students being picked up from the classroom door
- Parents notified of awards at assembly in advance
- Student Wellbeing Officer
- Social and Emotional Learning is explicitly taught (timetabled fortnightly)
- School Advisory Council

- Parents and Friends Association
- Achievements acknowledged in the newsletter
- Mini Monbulkers - link with Monbulk Care and St Vincent de Paul
- Whole School Mass - Grandparents, Graduation, etc
- Level Mass
- Restorative Practice
- Buddy System
- PSG's
- Class Photo Gallery at PLM's
- Prayer Gatherings and Assemblies
- Community Christmas Carols
- Working Bees
- Strong relationship with Bendigo Bank
- Emerald BBQ
- Playground Maintenance
- Ready, Set, Prep Taster Days - Transition Program
- Facebook Page
- See Saw
- Boys Lighthouse
- Combined Schools Mass
- Curriculum Nights

## 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).