

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.*

Carlo Acutis Catholic Primary School operates with the consent of the Catholic Archbishop of Melbourne and is owned, operated, and governed by MACS.

Carlo Acutis Catholic Primary School is a Catholic primary school which has been established to provide quality education in the Catholic doctrine for families in the Wollert area.

Vision

Carlo Acutis is a new Catholic School set to open in 2025 within the Parish of St Peter's, Epping.

Our vision is to be a welcoming, inclusive community of learners inspired to act with love and generosity, which is underpinned by the Gospel values and will be reflected in our Catholic identity. Enriching hearts, empowering minds.

Our vision was created in light of the inspirational young life of our school patron, Carlo Acutis. The vision captures what we aim to achieve as a new school community. Our students will be supported and cherished within a community that respects one another and values what everyone brings to the school family.

Carlo Acutis Catholic Primary School is an innovative and inclusive learning community that commits to following Jesus Christ's example of love, compassion, forgiveness, humility, and the pursuit of justice. Inspired by the life of Blessed Carlo Acutis, we build a culture of service and collaboration through our actions and attitudes towards others.

Servite Deo et aliis Liberaliter – Serve God and Others Generously

"Servite Deo et aliis Liberaliter" translates to "Serve God and others generously" in English. This motto encapsulates Carlo Acutis' essence of selflessness and service to God and his fellow human beings, embodying the core values of generosity, compassion, and altruism. It serves as a guiding principle for individuals to live a life dedicated to helping others and fostering a sense of community and empathy.

Values

Faith, Service, Generosity and Courage

Carlo Acutis exemplified a remarkable embodiment of faith, service, generosity, and courage throughout his life.

Faith: Carlo's unwavering faith in God was central to his being. He demonstrated profound devotion to the Catholic Church, actively participating in religious practices and advocating for the Eucharist. His deep spiritual connection guided his actions and interactions, inspiring others to nurture their faith journeys.

Service: Carlo's life was marked by a genuine commitment to serving others. He selflessly dedicated his time and efforts to helping those in need through volunteering, supporting charitable causes, or simply offering a helping hand to those around him. His acts of service reflected his compassionate heart and desire to impact the world positively.

Generosity: Carlo's generosity knew no bounds. He quickly shared his resources, talents, and love with others, embodying the spirit of giving wholeheartedly. Whether through acts of kindness, sharing his knowledge, or offering assistance to those less fortunate, Carlo's generosity touched the lives of many and left a lasting legacy of compassion and goodwill.

Courage: Despite facing health challenges, Carlo demonstrated remarkable courage and resilience. He approached life bravely and determinedly, refusing to let obstacles hinder his pursuit of faith and service. His courage in adversity inspired countless others to persevere in their challenges and embrace life with hope and courage.

Carlo Acutis' values of faith, service, generosity, and courage continue to inspire people around the world and remind us of their transformative power.

Philosophy enactment

At Carlo Acutis Catholic Primary School, our school philosophy, which includes the vision, motto and values, will be central to all our policies, practices and teaching and learning programs.

The Vision and Learning philosophy at Carlo Acutis Catholic Primary School emerges from various theories, research and best practices. Central to our approach is ensuring that learning is made visible to students. Learning progressions, analysis of data and goal setting work towards empowering our learners to understand themselves as learners as well

as the processes of learning. Developing students' competencies to think creatively and critically, problem-solve and reflect are essential to our learning and teaching approach.

The school's philosophy is published on our school website and in 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).