



*“Strong Minds,  
Compassionate Hearts”*

## **OUR LADY’S PRIMARY SCHOOL WANGARATTA**

### **AUSTRALIAN DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES STATEMENT**

#### **Rationale:**

Our Lady’s Primary School continues the spirit and mission of the Brigidine Sisters and therefore, seeks to form its students as good Christians and Honest Citizens.

We strive to provide a comprehensive education that will allow our students to take their rightful place active members of the Church and of Australian society

This standard is as follows:

The programs of, and teaching in, a school must support and promote the principles and practice of Australian democracy, including a commitment to:

- elected Government;
- the rule of law;
- equal rights for all before the law;
- freedom of religion;
- freedom of speech and association;
- the values of openness and tolerance.

#### **Aims:**

The purpose of this statement is to affirm the school’s adherence to the principles and practice of Australian democracy.

#### **Implementation:**

Australian society is defined, among other aspects, by a belief in elected Government; by a commitment to the rule of law, to equal rights for all before the law; and by a belief in freedom of religion, freedom of speech and freedom of association.

Our society is also tolerant of a range of religious, political, social and cultural beliefs and values in the context of the fundamental principles of our democracy.

The ‘Education and Reform Act 2006’ requires all education providers to operate in a manner consistent with this set of Australian democratic principles.

In accordance with the Act, we are committed to delivering our programs and teaching in a manner that supports and promotes the principles and practice of Australian democracy.

The Catholic School Review processes require our school to present a published vision and mission statement based on the mission or purpose of a Catholic school.

**Embracing a compassionate and dynamic community through strong Gospel values,  
quality education and promoting respect for all.**



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### **Guidelines**

To give practical expression to these principles Our Lady's Primary School will:

- Fly the Australian flag
- Display the Values for Australian Schooling poster and link through School Website.
- Involve students in leadership roles.
- Communicate these principles via curriculum documentation
- Provide students with the knowledge, skills and opportunities to understand and practise what it means to be a citizen in a democracy
- The Civics and Citizenship domain of the AUSVELS, which are required to be taught in all Catholic schools, provide students with knowledge, skills and opportunities to understand and practise what it means to be a citizen in a democracy. All students are required to work through the two dimensions of the Civics and Citizen domain, Civic Knowledge and Understanding, and Community Engagement.

### **Communicated to the Community**

- Staff handbook
- School Board Constitution
- Information Pack to new parents
- School Website

Developed 2012

Reviewed as needed or as part of the preparation for full school review.

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## VALUES FOR AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLING



<p><b>Care and Compassion</b> Care for self and others</p> <p><b>Doing Your Best</b> Seek to accomplish something worthy and admirable, try hard, pursue excellence</p> <p><b>Fair Go</b> Pursue and protect the common good where all people are treated fairly for a just society</p> <p><b>Freedom</b> Enjoy all the rights and privileges of Australian citizenship free from unnecessary interference or control, and stand up for the rights of others</p> <p><b>Honesty and Trustworthiness</b> Be honest, sincere and seek the truth</p>	<p><b>Integrity</b> Act in accordance with principles of moral and ethical conduct, ensure consistency between words and deeds</p> <p><b>Respect</b> Treat others with consideration and regard, respect another person's point of view</p> <p><b>Responsibility</b> Be accountable for one's own actions, resolve differences in constructive, non-violent and peaceful ways, contribute to society and to civic life, take care of the environment</p> <p><b>Understanding, Tolerance and Inclusion</b> Be aware of others and their cultures, accept diversity within a democratic society, being included and including others</p>
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**CHARACTER IS DESTINY**  
— George Eliot