



## **STATEMENT OF DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES**

The VRQA Minimum Standards for School Registration includes a Standard concerning the school's adherence to Australian democratic principles and practice. 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:*

- *an 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.*

### **Rationale**

Nazareth College is a Catholic school within the Melbourne Archdiocese and Catholic Education Commission of Victoria. While being a Catholic school, we acknowledge that we are part of the wider community - Local, Regional, State and Commonwealth. Because of our interconnection with our community, we affirm and adhere to the following Australian principles.

Nazareth College is committed to the principles of a liberal democracy.

- We believe in an accountable, democratically elected government and the active role we play in developing good citizens for our local, regional, state and commonwealth communities by providing a quality education;
- We respect and observe the rule of law in the education of our students and believe that no person is above the law;
- We believe in equal rights for all before the law, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, sexuality, gender or other attributes;
- We actively promote the principles of justice and equal rights for all in our community. We educate our students to be committed to social justice;
- We are an inclusive educational community. While we are a Catholic school, we accept and value all cultures and religious beliefs and teach religious and cultural tolerance;
- We believe not only in the freedom of religion, but also the need to practice tolerance and understanding of others' beliefs;
- We believe in the value of freedom of speech and freedom of association, but also acknowledge that we have the responsibility not to abuse this freedom;
- We believe in the values of openness and tolerance, and value and respect all members of the school community regardless of background.



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## Nazareth College Statement of Democratic Principles

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### Nazareth College Vision

Nazareth College is a nurturing community, where Faith, Wisdom and Knowledge are at the core of our aspirations. Nazareth College strives:

- To create a faith-centred and hope-filled community inspired by the teachings of Jesus;
- We aim to provide quality education that challenges, supports and empowers students to explore and reach their full potential;
- We aim to foster an inclusive and safe environment;
- We aim to build authentic partnerships between school, parents and carers and the wider community.

### Review

This document shall be reviewed within three years of the date of issue.

SAM COSENTINO  
PRINCIPAL

Signature: ..... Date: June 2020