



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 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