

Australian Democratic Principles Statement

RATIONALE

At Emmanuel College we recognise that the school plays a vital role in advancing democratic ideals and principles. For democracy to continue to thrive, students must be taught democratic ideals and principles and to value its way of life.

SOURCE OF OBLIGATION

In accordance with the [Education and Training Reform Act 2006](#) the College's curriculum programs and learning and teaching will be delivered in a manner that supports and promotes 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

PROMOTION AND COMMUNICATION OF THE DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES

The democratic principles outlined in this statement are communicated and promoted to the College community through the Vision, Values, and Guiding Principles, curriculum program, induction and enrolment processes, and College publications and promotional resources.

The Vision, Values, and Guiding Principles of Emmanuel College express its Catholic orientation in the midst of diversity across all aspects of life. The school shares in the mission of the Catholic Church and its Vision, Values, and Guiding Principles express this relationship. Similarly, the inspirational nature of the Vision, Values, and Guiding Principles inform and invite all members of the school community into relationship in the life-giving work of the school. In dialogue, we learn from each other and flourish together. The Vision, Values, and Guiding Principles are developed through dialogue that is representative of the school community.

The curriculum program is based on the Victorian Curriculum F-10 (which incorporates the requirements of the Australian Curriculum) and Awakenings (Catholic Education Ballarat) and develops in students:

- a lifelong sense of belonging to, and engagement with, civic life as an active and informed citizen in the context of Australia as a secular democratic nation with a dynamic, multicultural, and multi-faith society
- knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the values, principles, institutions, and practices of Australia's system of democratic government and law, and the role of the citizen in Australian government and society
- skills necessary to investigate contemporary civics and citizenship issues, and foster responsible participation in Australia's democracy
- knowledge, skills and capacities and dispositions to participate in the civic life of their nation at a local, regional, and global level ([Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority](#), 2016)

The College's Australian Democratic Principles Statement and Vision, Values, and Guiding Principles are available on the school website.

As part of the induction process, staff are made aware of the integration of the democratic principles into the curriculum and the life of the school.

Parents/guardians and students are provided with a handbook that outlines the curriculum and learning and teaching for each year level.