



# MARIAN COLLEGE ARARAT

## Australian Democratic Principles Statement

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 principle 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 will deliver our programs and teaching in a manner that supports and promotes the principles and practice of Australian democracy. This includes 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

As stated in the Regs, the requirements of the commitment above are not intended to affect the rights accorded to, or the compliance with any obligation imposed on, the college under the enactment of the State or of the Commonwealth.

## Statement of Democratic Principles

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

We believe in an accountable, democratically elected government.

We respect and observe the rule of law, 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 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.

Explanation of How the College Communicates the Statement

This Statement of Democratic Principles is communicated to staff, students, parents, volunteers and guardians and the school



community. This Statement is published:

in the Information for Families

in the Marian College prospectus

on the Marian College website;

In addition:

A poster of democratic values is displayed at \*insert location at college\*.

Curriculum documents show that all students at Marian College undertake studies in the two dimensions of the Civics and Citizenship domain of Victoria Curriculum.

Implementation

Marian College has set up a series of compliance tasks on our Assurance System, to ensure that key obligations under the Victorian Registration Standards and CECV Guidelines are managed effectively.

## Nine Values for Australian Schooling

Nine Values for Australian Schooling have been identified for this National Framework. They have emerged from Australian school communities and from the National Goals for Schooling in Australia in the Twenty-First Century. They are presented below in alphabetical order and not in any rank order of importance.

These shared values such as respect and 'fair go' are part of Australia's common democratic way of life, which includes equality, freedom and the rule of law. They reflect our commitment to a multicultural and environmentally sustainable society where all are entitled to justice.

Individual schools will develop their own approaches to values education in partnership with their local school communities, including students, parents, caregivers, families and teachers. These approaches should be consistent with the National Framework for Values Education in Australian Schools and with their State/Territory policy.

Nine Values for Australian Schooling

### 1. Care and Compassion

Care for self and others

### 2. Doing Your Best

Seek to accomplish something worthy and admirable, try hard, pursue excellence

### 3. Fair Go

Pursue and protect the common good where all people are treated fairly for a just society

### 4. Freedom

Enjoy all the rights and privileges of Australian citizenship free from unnecessary interference or control, and stand up for the rights of others

### 5. Honesty and Trustworthiness

Be honest, sincere and seek the truth



## **6. Integrity**

Act in accordance with principles of moral and ethical conduct, ensure consistency between words and deeds

## **7. Respect**

Treat others with consideration and regard, respect another person's point of view

## **8. Responsibility**

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

## **9. Understanding, Tolerance and Inclusion**

Be aware of others and their cultures, accept diversity within a democratic society, being included and including others

Mrs. Carmel Barker  
Principal

