



Statement of Democratic Principles

Introduction

St John Bosco's mission to young people has its origin in his work with the *poor and abandoned* street children of the northern Italian city of Turin. He fed them, clothed them, housed them and educated them. His goal was to form them as good *Christians and Honest Citizens*.

St Joseph's College continues the spirit and mission of Don Bosco 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.

Statement of Principles

St Joseph's College is committed to the principles and practice of democracy in Australia, including a commitment to:

- An elected Government
- The rule of law
- Equal rights of all before the law
- Freedom of religion
- Freedom of speech and association
- Values of openness and tolerance

Purpose

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

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.

Guidelines

To give practical expression to these principles St Joseph's College will:

- Fly the Australian flag
- Display the *Values for Australian Schooling* poster and link through College Website
- 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
- Information Pack to new parents
- College Website