



Statement of Philosophy and Aims

School Mission

Our Mission is to work actively as a Catholic, Christian, inclusive learning community.

History and Context

Clairvaux MacKillop College is a co-educational Catholic Secondary College that seeks to develop a unique identity of faith, hope and love, based on the vision and person of Jesus Christ. Aligning with the goal of Brisbane Catholic Education, as a Catholic community we educate all to live out the Gospels of Jesus Christ as successful, creative, confident, active and informed learners empowered to shape and enrich our world. For over 30 years, we have built a community of students and staff working together towards common goals, striving to be welcoming, open and supportive of each other. We strive for academic excellence, of students with a holistic education who have developed self-discipline, self-motivation, responsibility and accountability. Our vision is to continue that work. We encourage our students to be welcoming, open and supportive. We encourage them to interact with their world with justice, respect and compassion, forgiveness and patience. These characteristics attitudes and life skills will assist them to contribute positively and openly to their community.

School Vision

Inspired by our Catholic tradition, we strive for excellence imbued by the charisms of our Founders. As witnesses to the Good News of Jesus Christ, we act with integrity and hope. Empowered by the Spirit, we embrace the future with confidence.

School Values

Excellence - Accepting responsibility for quality Learning and Teaching is a shared expectation.

Integrity - As witnesses to the Good News of Jesus Christ, we act ethically.

Justice – As people of faith, foster respectful relationships, as well as respect for the environment.

Commitment - As a community we nurture the gifts and talents of all for the common good.

Compassion - Advocating for and empathising in solidarity with those at the margins.

Celebration - As a community, honour the successes and achievements within the framework of a holistic education.

Our Motto

Our Motto is By Effort and Faith.

Our Mantra

Our College mantra which supports the College motto is Commitment Compassion Celebration.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to highlight guiding principles and processes on great learning and teaching at Clairvaux MacKillop College. Together with associated principles, guidelines and procedures, informs decision-making and action, and describes our educational accountabilities.

Clairvaux MacKillop College

Rationale

Clairvaux MacKillop College, as a contemporary Catholic Learning Community, recognises the need for students to be 'Lifelong Learners'. The provision of a varied curriculum that is both relevant and appropriate provides all students with the opportunity to experience successful learning within a safe and supportive environment.

Our Teaching and Learning Philosophy

Our purpose is to inspire a love of learning and a heart of hope. We look to build upon the foundations to wholly engage students in deeper learning. We acknowledge that education involves students, teachers and administrators working together as a learning community. As members of this learning community, we strive to reflect upon our learning by continuously reassessing and seeking to improve upon our practices in the pursuit of teaching excellence for the benefit of our students. We commit to and support Catholic perspectives enabling student learning outcomes, as well as fostering spiritual formation so that every student in the image and likeness of God, benefits from excellent teaching and learning and flourishes.

Brisbane Catholic Education's Model of Pedagogy foregrounds an evidence-based approach for which teachers can construct their practice to ensure that all students are progressing in learning. Clairvaux MacKillop College is committed to data informed, targeted collaborative actions that lead to improving student learning outcomes. The fundamental duty of the teacher is to deliver innovative and relevant teaching and learning informed by student data and current pedagogical research. Incorporating a framework that is founded on data, knowing thy student and explicit teaching practices, we seek to be innovative and collaborative, and offer a curriculum that aims to cater for the needs, interests and abilities of our students to foster assessment capable learners.

As a member of the Clairvaux MacKillop College our teachers understand that learning is about transformation, and transformation is the basis of enhanced learner performance. Effective learning takes the learner on a journey into new and unfamiliar terrains. It provides our students with an investment in learning beyond completion and compliance. We look to prepare our students for jobs that have not been created. We use innovative practices to enhance student learning and develop 21st century skills. Teachers cultivate and engage with BCE's Catholic learning culture to optimize student learning outcomes and continue to be lifelong learners.

The *Alice Springs (MPARNTWE) Education Declaration 2019* states that, "our Vision is for a world class education system that encourages and supports every student to be the very best they can be, no matter where they live or what kind of learning challenges they may face." Every classroom presents a unique community of learners that varies not only in abilities, but also in learning styles. Inclusion and improving access to the curriculum for all students, with particular focus on students with identified and additional needs is a key priority. At Clairvaux MacKillop College, we respond to individual student needs and knowing the learner; provide staff with appropriate resourcing and knowledge to adequately meet the needs of and extend all students.

Clairvaux MacKillop College is a safe and supportive community that welcomes all who share its values, while appreciating what each person has to offer. We acknowledge that each student has unique academic, spiritual, social, physical and emotional needs.

Cultural diversity is acknowledged and mutual respect is practised to create a rich and dynamic learning community where everyone has a valuable contribution to make. Together as students, teachers and community, we work towards a common goal, that is, to enable each student to experience success.

Our Organisation Practices

Clairvaux MacKillop College is to maintain a Catholic Christian Learning Community where appropriately qualified teachers engage with students to foster self-directed learning, and the acquisition of knowledge, attitudes and skills that will assist them to contribute positively to society. Staff work to equip today's youth with Christian values to face the challenges of an ever-changing world. They strive to increase and improve religious literacy through a dialogue approach.

Reporting and Accountability

At Clairvaux MacKillop College we provide timely and appropriate feedback to the community, recognising successes and achievements in education. We reflect on the relevant data to inform future directions in curriculum. Guiding us are the educational requirements of the various governing bodies, such as ACARA, QCAA, BCE, CRICOS and others.

Futures perspective

We encourage students to embrace learning in all its forms, both within the classroom and beyond. In order to be full participants in the society of the future, students will need to be life-long learners. Our curriculum must therefore be sensitive to this need, and acknowledge the diverse pathways that our students may follow. The College must teach students the skills and the habits of mind that will enable them to adapt to a changing, complex world progressing towards a sustainable future. The College provides educational opportunities in flexible learning modes developed to responsibly meet changing needs.