

Democratic Principles



All students enrolled at St Clare's have the right to feel safe and be safe. The wellbeing of children in our care will always be our first priority and we do not and will not tolerate child abuse. We aim to create a child-safe and child-friendly environment where children are free to enjoy life to the full without any concern for their safety. There is particular attention paid to the most vulnerable children, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, and children with a disability.

(St Clare's Child Safety Policy)

DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES

St Clare's Catholic Primary School aims to promote lifelong learning and active participation as citizens in Australian society. Learning and teaching practice is based on an integrated curriculum and implemented through an inquiry approach. An important focus of curriculum development and implementation is the focus on Community and Citizenship, which is developed and explored in line with the Victorian Curriculum's Personal and Social Capabilities and the Civics and Citizenship Domain, and the vision for Catholic Education that children who attend Catholic schools are "prepared for their present and future lives as independent persons, citizens, parents, workers, learners and members of the Catholic Church empowered to contribute to the common good of society" (*CEM, One Body – Many Parts: Strategy Plan 2008 – 2010*).

The programs of St Clare's Catholic Primary School and the teaching of those programs support and promote:

- the principles and practice of Australian democracy;
- the elected government;
- the rule of law;
- equal rights for all before the law;
- freedom of religion;
- freedom of speech and association; and,
- values of openness and tolerance.

This is communicated using a variety of media, through the policies, programs, documentation and practices of the school. This occurs formally at the enrolment interview on application for enrolment to St Clare's Catholic Primary School; through newsletter items, at regular school assemblies and weekly flag raising ceremonies.