

# **Educational Vision & Philosophy**

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Catholic Parish Primary School, Epping North is part of the mission of the Catholic Church serving and providing opportunities for life in the Catholic Parish of Epping and Epping North.

It honours the diversity of the children and families entrusted to it, shaping its endeavours so that all are drawn forward within its mission, formed by the teachings of Jesus Christ, the Church and the inspired life of St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop.

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Catholic Parish Primary School is a place of optimism, excitement and challenge, where students, parents and staff see each day as a journey, full of purpose, where intellectual engagement and connectedness to the real world are priorities. Personalizing learning is vital to the success of each child's unique development and preparation for a rapidly changing society, confident, resilient and hopeful.

As a learning community this school thrives in a diverse and flexible environment where an inseparable relationship has been created between innovation, sustainable design and a deep knowledge of how children learn. The learning spaces are open, adaptable and aesthetic, embracing the importance of interaction, communication and collaboration; enabling the learning community to share and learn from each other. The provision of state of the art technology resources is integral to the school's belief of accessing both the local and global communities.

School leaders will develop a wellbeing culture across the school, and will have a strong presence in the community and broader Parish. The vision of the school will be to reach out, providing structures, processes and procedures for creating links between student wellbeing and improved learning outcomes.

Every student, teacher, parent and community member is accepted and invited to make a contribution to a vibrant school community that seeks to fire the imagination, develop good citizenship and promote a lifelong thirst for God and learning.

At St Mary of the Cross MacKillop we aim to provide a physically safe and emotionally secure environment, where each child feels accepted and respected, and is challenged to work to his/her full potential.

Ours is a community of learners where all students are personally known, encouraged and challenged by a dedicated, caring staff.

We work to ensure that the programs offered, and the teaching in St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Catholic Parish School, 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 and the values of openness and tolerance.

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We work as a collaborative team to achieve common goals. We value learning from each other and a culture of learning and continual improvement at SMCM. We believe this will provide the best learning for our students.

## Goals of SMCM School 2016 - 2018

#### Education in Faith

To build a strong Catholic community.

#### Learning and Teaching

To provide all students with challenging and stimulating personalised learning within a contemporary learning environment.

### Student Wellbeing

To build a safe and harmonious environment for student learning.

#### Leadership and Management

To develop a highly effective team culture.

#### **School Community**

To build an inclusive, supportive and engaged community.