TOWARDS COURAGEOUS RENEWAL

A resource to provide direction for schools and the Catholic Education Office in their planning processes

Faith ... Learning ... Growth
our vision
for Catholic Education in the Diocese of Sale

We are committed to courageous renewal and to the promotion of the human person through the provision of stewardship and leadership that are credible, contemporary, accountable, sustainable and transparent. This will enable schools to be contemporary centres of excellence, equity and evangelisation that reaches out to all. In this environment, students are empowered to become successful lifelong learners, confident and creative individuals and active and informed citizens who contribute to the Church’s mission to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Our mission is to enable all students to reach their full human potential where:
• They are brought to a fuller knowledge and love of God, as revealed in Jesus Christ and expressed in the Catholic tradition.
• They experience an environment that promotes healthy social and emotional development where their learning is maximised.
Strengthening Catholic identity

We seek to enhance and express the distinctive nature of the Catholic school in a contemporary pluralist society, encouraging students to use their knowledge, intellect and skills to make Christ present in the world and enrich that society.

Improving school and student performance

We aspire to improve outcomes for all students to become second to none amongst the world’s best students.

—Melbourne Declaration on Educational Goals for Young Australians

We will work to ensure that:

- Communities recognise and embrace the Catholic school’s fundamental duty to evangelise.
- Religious Education teaching recognises the wide range of religious experience of students in each classroom.
- The Enhancing Catholic School Identity Project instrument is an integral part of the Catholic School Renewal process.
- The role of the Religious Education Coordinator is clarified and promoted.
- Teachers understand the nature and scope of contemporary learning.
- Leaders, teachers and support staff adopt contemporary pedagogy that empowers personalised learning to improve student performance.
- Wellbeing is understood as central to learning.
- All schools exhibit a culture which embeds performance and development.
- The capacity of teachers to provide quality education (including Religious Education) is enhanced.
Engaging the government reform agenda

We acknowledge that “rapid structural changes, profound technical innovation and the globalisation of the economy affect human life more and more thoroughly throughout the world. Such an outlook calls for courageous renewal on the part of the Catholic school.”

—*The Catholic School on the Threshold of the Third Millennium*

Building leadership capacity

We foster “leaders who are responsible for creating and sustaining the learning environment” in school communities.

—*Melbourne Declaration on Educational Goals for Young Australians*

We will work to ensure that:

- Government-mandated curriculum (AusVELS) is implemented in each school, acknowledging our focus on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures; Asia and Australia’s engagement with Asia; and Sustainability.
- Schools engage meaningfully with the accountability and transparency agenda of the government.
- Schools meet the government milestones for student and school performance.
- Schools have ICT infrastructure that enables every student to engage with the digital world.

We will work to ensure that:

- The school education community in the Catholic Diocese of Sale is seen as a leader in learning.
- School leaders in the Diocese of Sale exhibit excellence in leadership in faith, learning and wellbeing appropriate to their role.
- Leaders in the Diocese of Sale exhibit exemplary stewardship appropriate to their role.
- There is a strong pool of applicants for leadership positions.
“New requirements have given force to the demand for new contents, new capabilities and new educational models besides those followed traditionally … Such an outlook calls for courageous renewal on the part of the Catholic School.”

— *The Catholic School on the Threshold of the Third Millennium*

## Ensuring sustainability and growth

We pursue practice that ensures that systems, pedagogy and initiatives align with and are responsive to the growing demands of stakeholders.

We will work to ensure that:

- There is a rational approach to the provision of Catholic school infrastructure in the diocese.
- Schools and CEOSale have sound and consistent financial management practices.
- A decision is made regarding the provision of early childhood education.
- The Integrated Catholic Online Network (ICON) is implemented.

## Building sound governance structures

We seek to ensure that the way the responsibility, authority and accountability are distributed and managed in schools and in the diocese will enable us to achieve our vision.

We will work to ensure that:

- Appropriate authority, responsibility and accountability relationships are established and clarified between CEOSale, Parish Priests and schools.
- Schools and CEOSale work in partnership with parents, parish and the wider community.
- School Boards are effective structures in all schools.
Our Core Purposes

Educational Purposes

**Faith:** Bringing every student to a knowledge and love of God as revealed in Jesus Christ and mediated to us through the Catholic Church

**Learning:** Enabling every student to learn so that he or she can lead a fulfilling life and contribute positively to the development of a healthy and just society

**Growth:** Enabling every student to thrive in an environment that enhances his or her social and emotional growth

Enabling Purposes

**Leadership:** Building the capacity for visionary leadership throughout the system and the school to achieve our faith, learning and growth outcomes

**Stewardship:** Developing soundness in our management so that we do the right things right and use sound processes to achieve our purposes of faith, learning and growth