

John Paul College Policy
CATHOLIC CHARACTER

RATIONALE

John Paul College is a Roman Catholic College, which promotes the values of Jesus Christ in the Catholic tradition. The Mission Statement should permeate all aspects of school life:

Ma te pono me te aroha – Through Faith and Love

John Paul College seeks to provide excellence in education, within a Catholic environment, to Catholic students and to others whose parents choose a Catholic education for their children.


PURPOSE

1. To assist parents as first educators in passing on their Catholic faith and values.
2. To encourage each student to live his/her life by the values of Jesus Christ recognising that adherence to these values should permeate life choices and relationships with others.
3. To ensure the curriculum reflects and promotes Christian values.
4. To ensure that staff and Board members witness in their own behaviour that they are involved in a school promoting Catholic values.
5. To acknowledge the Bishop of Hamilton as the Proprietor of the College.
6. To acknowledge and honour the charisms of the founding Orders – Christian Brothers and Sisters of St Joseph.
7. To promote understanding of the La Sallian tradition and educational aims for young people.
8. To ensure that the Private Schools' Conditional Integration Act 1976 ("PSCI Act") and Agreement are honoured.

GUIDELINES

1. Recognise that parents are the primary educators of their children and support them in that role.
2. Respect the rights of the Proprietor to supervise the preservation and maintenance of the Catholic Character of this school.
3. Endeavour to have a Priest available to celebrate sacraments.
4. Ensure that opportunities for liturgical celebration are available and that all will be encouraged to take full part in the Church's seasonal celebrations in both Parish and School. Parish relationships with the school will be fostered at all times.
5. To provide opportunities for staff to increase their understanding of the Catholic Character and where appropriate to improve both their knowledge and skills in the area of Religious Education.
6. Recognise that Religious Education classes are an integral part of the total education of pupils.
7. Maintain a regular process for Self-Review of the Catholic Character.
8. Ensure that the disciplinary policy of the school will reflect the dignity of each person, the importance of self-esteem and a sense of Christian justice and forgiveness and reconciliation through a restorative process.
9. Board and staff will receive regular development in Catholic Character and related issues.
10. As part of an interviewing process for new staff the implications of Catholic Character are to be discussed including how the applicant can support the Catholic Character of the school.
11. Staff new to the Catholic system are to receive special assistance during induction to develop their understanding the implications of Catholic Character
12. Board of Trustees will endeavour to ensure the required core of teaching staff with tagged positions is retained.
13. Student enrolments will be accepted according to the directive of the Bishop's Conference of New Zealand, which respects the PSCI Agreement.
14. Students will be challenged to have rigorous concerns for truth and justice.

- 15. Students will develop an understanding of interdependence and their place as Catholics in a global society while encouraged to be sensitive and responsive to the needs of their neighbours.
- 16. Students will explore and be encouraged to develop proactive practices in supporting the sustainability of our world environment as an expression of their spirituality.
- 17. The Catholic Character of the school properly observed and practiced provides a climate of hope, inspiration and service for all members of the school community.

<i>Ratified by Board</i>	 <hr style="border: 0.5px solid black;"/>	<i>Signed for BOT Chair</i>
	<hr style="border: 0.5px solid black;"/>	<i>Date</i>
	31.09.2017	
<i>Next Review</i>	<hr style="border: 0.5px solid black;"/>	<i>Signed for BOT Chair</i>
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