

**MERCY
COLLEGE**



SCHOOL EVANGELISATION PLAN

2019 - 2022



MERCY COLLEGE'S EVANGELISATION PLAN

The focus of the Evangelisation Plan is the faith formation of staff and students.

The plan requires an examination of all aspects of the school community's life, apart from religious education, that contributes to the faith of students and staff and enables them to witness to their faith.

The plan carries the core aspect of a Catholic school in linking faith and life for students and staff in dynamic ways.

Section 9B1: Handbook for Catholic Schools



'Go out to all the world and tell the Good News'
Mark 16:15



MERCY COLLEGE'S MISSION STATEMENT

Mercy College is a community whose members work in partnership towards the education of young people. With Christ as our guiding light and in the spirit of Catherine McAuley, we seek to recognise, appreciate and develop the gifts of all in a spirit of collaboration, love and service.

"The Glory of God is a person fully alive"

Charged with the ministry of our vision statement above, the College is committed to the following core values:

JUSTICE

"Never speak with contempt of any nation, profession or class of people." Catherine McAuley

Justice is the treatment of each person with fairness in relation to the equality of all, and the maintenance of a balanced and fair relationship with self and all members of the community.

COMPASSION

"Let charity then be our badge of honour, so that it may truly be said, there is in us but one heart and one soul in God." Catherine McAuley

Compassion is a non-judgmental understanding of another's need, which results in unselfish giving to meet that need.

SERVICE

"If we are humble and sincere, God will finish in us the work he has begun." Catherine McAuley

Service is the exercising and ministry of leadership in order to make a positive difference in the lives of individuals and communities.

EXCELLENCE

"There is nothing of greater importance than the perfect discharge of our ordinary duties." Catherine McAuley

Excellence is the state of achievement of the highest possible standards.

DIGNITY

"Now and again bestow some praise." Catherine McAuley

Dignity is the treatment of each person with respect and the recognition of their inherent value and worth.



Mercy College looks to promote faith in students with little or no interest or experience of Jesus Christ and to strengthen the faith of students from families of deep faith. Reflection on the Christian message is encouraged by helping students relate Christ's message to the 'here and now'; to relate the Gospel messages to help students deal with their own questions and yearning.

However, in doing so the school is faced with difficulties including:

-  some students' family background of non-involvement in Christian faith
-  students with little or no experience of the church
-  peer pressure
-  life experiences that have given students a poor image of their relationship to God
-  adolescent developmental issues
-  cultural issues

CELEBRATING OUR FAITH STORY - HISTORY

Mercy College has a rich and proud history which began soon after the settlement of Western Australia (the Swan River Colony) in 1829.

In January 1846 the first Sisters of Mercy arrived in the new colony promising to offer their services to the poor, the sick and the uneducated. Within a few years they had built a convent, three schools and two orphanages, one for Aboriginal children.

In 1888 the sisters established St. Brigid's School in West Perth in an area of sand and scrub. By 1896 there were about 500 pupils and in 1928 there were 40 Sisters of Mercy and 600 pupils. As the city and the suburbs grew and spread the sisters from West Perth began new schools at Leederville (Aranmore), Lesmurdie (St. Brigid's), Osborne Park (St. Kieran's) and St Anthony's Wanneroo.

Eventually the city and the northern freeway system pushed families further north.

ESTABLISHMENT OF MERCY COLLEGE

Mercy College was built in 1972 to meet the educational needs of the children in these new areas. St. Brigid's students transferred directly to the new Mercy College as well.

At that time Beach Road and Mirrabooka Avenue stopped well short of this school in the bush and buses dropped students off 200 metres from the entrance. They then walked along a limestone track from the bus stop to the school. As well, there was no telephone or postal service.

The first students were all girls and the first buildings are now part of the Primary school on Mirrabooka Avenue. The school expanded rapidly from the first Year Eight to Ten classes in 1972.

The primary school (Year Five) began in 1974.



CURRENT DEMOGRAPHY

Mercy College has now become a school for both girls and boys from Kindergarten to Year Twelve. Its total population is over 1650 students and about 215 staff. Buildings have continued to expand to keep maximising learning opportunities for all students following the example of our founding Sisters. Staff and students alike make a conscious effort to maintain the Mercy ethos.

Catering for diversity is a priority at the College. A variety of opportunities are experienced by the students, not just through the classroom program, but through the Soccer Academy also. Extra curricula activities are available such as sporting activities and camps.

RATIONALE

The Mercy College Evangelisation Plan attempts to examine all those aspects of our community's life that contribute to the faith formation of staff and students and that enable us to witness to our faith.

This plan carries the task of reflecting a core aspect of a Catholic school in linking *faith and life* for students and staff in dynamic, life-giving ways.

What does it mean to evangelise?

To evangelise is to share the good news about Jesus with other people. The Holy Father has pointed out that Evangelisation is meant to serve men and women by revealing to them the love of God made manifest in Jesus Christ We evangelise when we witness to people by serving their practical needs, by sharing our own experiences of Jesus, by opening ourselves up to ongoing conversion so that God becomes the centre of our lives, and by helping to build up a life-giving Christian community. So evangelising is taking the risk to care for people, inviting them into a caring Christian community in which they are loved and in which they come to know God, and in which they grow so that God becomes the centre of their life.

An excerpt from "INFORM: Current thinking on Catholic Issues" by Martin Tuelan, member of the Commission on Mission of the National Council of Churches

OUR GOALS FOR REFLECTION AND DIALOGUE

Evangelisation here at Mercy College simply represents our shared and ongoing reflection and dialogue about:

- ✠ Providing a Catholic Education and environment that focuses on and values the development of the whole person.
- ✠ What is 'life-giving' and sustaining to us as a faith community?
- ✠ Challenging those words and actions that are not 'life giving' to our community and to find respectful ways of moving forward.
- ✠ The need to celebrate, seek out and nurture those values and beliefs that align with the gospel values and the teachings of Jesus.



- ✠ The challenge to help our students and staff to see, feel, hear and understand the necessary relationship between our faith and everyday life.
- ✠ How authentically we witness our faith through our everyday relationships with one another – students, staff, parents, guardians and possibly the wider community.
- ✠ The unique opportunity and responsibility we have as a school community to evangelise and transform our culture in knowing Jesus.



FRAMEWORK FOR OUR EVANGELISATION PLAN

Our Evangelisation Plan addresses three areas of our community: staff, students and the wider community.

A number of essential elements of evangelisation find expression through the Catholic school. These elements include:

CHRISTIAN WITNESS - our efforts to be 'Christ like' and respond to Jesus' calling to reflect our God.

PRIMARY PROCLAMATION - our efforts to raise religious awareness among our community members by helping someone to arrive at an initial belief in Christ and developing this interest by helping them to learn more about what Jesus taught.

CATECHESIS – our efforts to deepen the faith of a person by sharing Christian understandings of God and integrating these into their own human experience.

Within the area of catechesis the basic teachings of Jesus are to be found in:

THE BIBLICAL RECORD

THE CREED – which is a profession of faith and an affirmation of the central beliefs of the Catholic Church and its members.

THE SACRAMENTS – these are seven rites that resemble the natural life of a human and the stages of spiritual life. These rites are divided into three broad stages of Christian initiation, healing and the service of commission and mission of the faithful. They include: Baptism, Reconciliation, Eucharist, Confirmation, Marriage, Holy Orders and Anointing of the Sick.

CHRISTIAN MORALITY - LIFE IN CHRIST - the art of living well together.

CHRISTIAN PRAYER – prayer unfolds throughout the whole history of Salvation as a reciprocal and intimate call between God and us and is the foundation of our relationship with God.

Religious education is concerned with religious knowledge, facilitated by the use of the Perth Archdiocese Religious Education units. While it supports both primary proclamation and catechesis, religious education is not catechesis and is therefore not included as part of the Evangelisation Plan.

A look at the 'current situation' of our school each year, helps to give direction to those areas where attention needs to be given and also helps to affirm those areas where we are making positive progress.



THE CURRENT SITUATION IN OUR SCHOOL

THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Mercy College's amalgamation as a K-12 Catholic College gives rise to ongoing reflection. As part of the wider Catholic Church we reflect upon Jesus and the mission he gave to the Church. As members of a Catholic school we are all called to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus and be genuine signs of the presence of God in our community today.

The charism of the Sisters of Mercy are a major focus of the school as Mercy College was founded by Catherine McAuley and managed in conjunction with the Catholic Education Office.

Today we continue to seek to build a community of faith and authentic Christian friendship and witness. The impact of the students' negative experiences of life brings challenges for evangelisation. The work of the Chaplaincy Team and the Religious Education teachers has proved to be beneficial in the past. The employment of a Christian Service Learning Coordinator has expanded the already diverse opportunities for our students to demonstrate "Love in Action" in their daily lives. They can continue to foster an understanding of social justice and ethical behaviour whilst participating in Outreach Programs

1) **What examples can we see of school community members (staff, parents, students) reflecting attributes of God here at Mercy College?** (in varying degrees and at various times)

- ✙ Support, affirmation and respect for family life and for the relationships we share with one another.
- ✙ Striving to reflect the gospel values (love, justice, compassion, mercy, truth, forgiveness, reconciliation etc) in our everyday life.
- ✙ Using our God-given gifts and talents for the good of ourselves and our community.

2) **What religious values do we appreciate here at Mercy College?**

We believe that religious values point the way to quality relationships and achievements. We accept that we may be challenged, but we commit to the direction charted by these values in our important work here together.

PRAYER AND SERVICE are integral and 'life-giving' values of our school community. Prayer nourishes, sustains and gives us all hope.

REVERENCE is about understanding and appreciating the sacredness and holiness to be found in relationship with our God and reverence for the created gift of life both in human form and with our environment.



COMMUNITY is vital, so we do our best to help, welcome, include, affirm and respect each other. We celebrate our differences and value and promote the dignity and worth of each unique individual. We accept that our individual faith journeys are at different stages of 'becoming'.

RELATIONSHIPS are a source of constant joy and support, so we try to solve problems in constructive ways instead of just complaining or gossiping. We place more importance on understanding, rather than on judging each other. We seek, expect and rely on everyone striving to become their 'best self' for the good of themselves and our community. We support each other in times of weakness, or wrong judgement.

RECONCILIATION AND FORGIVENESS are integral to our faith journey. We accept that we will stumble and make poor choices, that we will need to say 'sorry', to forgive and to find ways of repairing relationships at various times and to various people in our school community.

LITURGY AND SACRAMENTS – we join with others in hearing God's word, and celebrating through relevant liturgies. We are supportive of the Catholic ethos. We are in partnership with the Our Lady of Mercy Parish to support those who wish to receive Sacraments.

3) What moral values do we strive to reflect at our school?

INCLUSIVENESS – everyone has a right to belong and to feel valued here at Mercy College.

EQUALITY – we have a preferential option to help and support the poor in our community (this includes the materially poor, but more often the spiritually and socially poor i.e. to assist them to find solutions and empower them to improve their life situation).

ACCEPTANCE AND CELEBRATION OF DIFFERENCE – we celebrate our multicultural roots within our school; we promote tolerance and embrace difference as something to celebrate, enjoy and learn from. We work on developing our own feelings of worth and self-esteem.

FRIENDLY, SAFE AND RESPECTFUL BEHAVIOR – we monitor students behaviour through a behaviour management system and we support each other by keeping an awareness of students' situations.

STEWARDSHIP – we promote the understanding that we each have a responsibility to look after and respect ourselves, our things and our environment.

LOVE FOR ONE ANOTHER – we promote the understanding that to be like Jesus we need to try and love others without conditions and to look toward helping meet the needs of others.

JUSTICE WITHIN THE CURRICULUM – early intervention program, individual education plans for students at academic or social/behavioural risk; extra teacher support to assist with those students experiencing learning difficulty; support with classroom strategies.



We respect the rights of students, parents and staff – and so we expect that:

- ✠ We will treat each other with respect, courtesy and honesty at all times.
- ✠ Staff and guardians will work in partnership to best meet the social, emotional, physical, learning and spiritual needs of each student.
- ✠ We will work hard to provide and maintain a safe, friendly, clean and respectful school environment where faith, relationships and learning are greatly valued.
- ✠ Students will cooperate with their teachers and strive to do and 'be' the best they can be.

4) What apparent pressures face our students to conform to social trends at Mercy College?

- ✠ Peer pressure and pressures outside of school
- ✠ Internet use and Social Networking by students at home
- ✠ Mobile phone use in out of school hours between students
- ✠ Choice of clothing
- ✠ Media pressure to conform to certain body images
- ✠ Music
- ✠ Materialism
- ✠ Affluence
- ✠ Fashion

5) What signs might indicate a need for some challenge and/or support as a Christian community?

- ✠ Level of supervision and boundaries at home
- ✠ Lack of sleep and routines
- ✠ Influence of drugs/alcohol
- ✠ No links or experiences with Church or Parish
- ✠ Making sustainable links with the parish community
- ✠ Breakdown in Catholic culture at home, if any
- ✠ Breakdown in family relationships
- ✠ How we deal with conflict – learning to disagree in a respectful way
- ✠ Impact of negative life experiences
- ✠ Experience of Racism
- ✠ Unstable accommodation
- ✠ Inclusive practices for those who have different needs
- ✠ Peer pressure

6) Who are the prophets here at Mercy College?

The task of prophetic ministry is to nurture, nourish, and evoke a consciousness and perception alternative to the consciousness and perception of the dominant culture around us. Prophecy is about the immediate future.

Here at Mercy College School we aim to be prophetic as we strive to integrate faith, life and culture.



Some of our definitions of "PROPHET" include a person or persons who are able to:

- ✠ Be inspired by faith
- ✠ Be a spiritual leader
- ✠ Announce good news.
- ✠ Be brave and challenge traditional ideas.
- ✠ Extend boundaries.
- ✠ sees the 'big picture' without losing sight of various understandings of Christian faith
- ✠ Be aware that there may not always be acceptance by all - their message may not always be easy to hear.
- ✠ Be 'open' with discussion and accepting of the effect of an individual's life experiences on their faith journey.
- ✠ Focus on 'real' issues
- ✠ Focus on positives

7) How does Mercy College aim to be prophetic?

- ✠ We place Christ at the centre of all we do and say considering the charism of the Mercy Sisters.
- ✠ We pray together.
- ✠ We teach and follow Jesus' way of love – Love God and love one another.
- ✠ We have an inclusive enrolment policy.
- ✠ We develop ourselves professionally, spiritually and socially.
- ✠ We provide a fee structure that is affordable for families and makes allowance for those who are unable to pay or experiencing financial difficulty.
- ✠ We provide regular newsletters with relevant information.
- ✠ We seek authenticity by looking for ways we might be able to improve on what we are doing already.
- ✠ We celebrate the achievements of the individual and the school community.
- ✠ We dream about what might be and work together to find ways of making our dreams a reality.

We need to be prophetic in three particular ways:

- *Gospel Justice* – Putting the 'teachings of justice into practice on the Mercy College school community.
- *Gospel Poverty* – Mercy College aims to model simplicity and use resources that we need. We also are conscious of the financial demands we place on families.
- *Religious Education* – the quality of religious instruction is integrated into the overall education of the students, through discussions, reflections, guidance and RE lessons.



CHRISTIAN WITNESS

Our efforts to be Christ-like. It is our response to Jesus' calling to reflect our God.

ONGOING FORMATION

STAFF	STUDENTS	WIDER COMMUNITY
Harmony is promoted as people grow to understand the Christian vision of the human faculties and how they should function in Harmony by listening and being empathetic to the needs of others. E.g. pastoral, good listening, role models	Communication between classes as a means of pastoral support	Inviting parish priest to school for primary Class visits
Raising social conscience and awareness of social, religious and cultural issues in the wider community e.g. through journal articles, newspaper articles.	Encouraging students to show tolerance and acceptance of all students through the Pastoral Care program. Respect for themselves, property, policies, money and people.	Raising social conscience and awareness of social, religious and cultural issues in the wider community e.g. through the newsletter
Supporting each other in times of personal crisis.	Acknowledgement of good deeds e.g. through special shared meals together, student reviews, Acknowledgement of students promoting the vision of the College	For the school to be seen as a supportive extension of the student's own home.
Implement Faith, Story and Witness Accreditation for new staff members	Encouraging acceptance and celebration of differences through student meetings and discussions.	Support for families – services, counseling, mediation etc.
Orientation for new members of staff. Induction process for new staff and provide mentor teachers with support guidelines	Encouraging peer modeling through involvement in leadership roles.	Support of families in crisis
Integrate teaching about Christian values, attitudes and understandings	Showing compassion for others who are in need e.g. fundraising for MercyWorks and other worthy causes.	
Showing tolerance, respect and an appreciation of each individual.	Development of school spirit e.g. celebration of Mercy Day and House Days – House Patron liturgies	Developing the parent/guardian support system in order for families to feel welcome into the school
Consistent implementation of the Pastoral Care Policy within the school.		
Sharing roles of responsibility throughout the staff, team work, collegial support.	Development of positive self-esteem and values through the implementation of Pastoral Care Programs e.g., Respectful Relationships and support of the Care Centre	Invitation to appropriate liturgies –
Appoint staff members who witness the Gospel values.	Acknowledgement of children's birthdays	Phone calls and Commendation letters to Parents from Pastoral Care /classroom Teachers in regards to student achievement and behaviour
Teach students about social and world situations and help them to integrate culture, life and faith to help improve society from the perspective of the Gospel.	Continued stewardship of our Prayer Gardens	Christian Service Learning and connections with Service organisations e.g. packing hampers for St Vinnies at Christmas time
	Provision of food and uniform/clothing – Breakfast club, Helping Hands and Staff Scholarship Program	
	Extended Form - Student meetings, Group program – self-esteem, resilience, body image,	



CHRISTIAN WITNESS

Our efforts to be Christ-like. It is our response to Jesus' calling to reflect our God.

FOCUS FOR THE FUTURE

STAFF	STUDENTS	WIDER COMMUNITY
<input type="checkbox"/> K-6 prior to weekly hymn singing, focus on an aspect of Catholic Faith e.g. Parts of the Mass	<input type="checkbox"/> Increase awareness about others that are less fortunate E.g. LifeLink, Caritas, Project Compassion via visual means and CSL promotion	<input type="checkbox"/> Maintain the focus on welcoming families into the school.
<input type="checkbox"/> More opportunities for public and private prayer	<input type="checkbox"/> Guest speakers – self-image, drug education, bullying, careers etc.	<input type="checkbox"/> Student participation in Christian Service Learning activities such as visiting the sick and elderly.
<input type="checkbox"/> Planning with staff at the beginning of a school year to plan which activities/services we will support that year	<input type="checkbox"/> Contact with Christian Youth Groups from Retreat – e.g. drama groups, music groups	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> To communicate witness of behaviours that are of concern and to attend to policies which reduces or modifies behaviour	<input type="checkbox"/> Opportunities for our students to demonstrate Love in Action e.g. Attending Project Compassion & LifeLink Launch and Secondary CSL to work with Primary students	<input type="checkbox"/> Further development of the school's website to highlight school mission.
<input type="checkbox"/> Review of Pastoral Care/Behaviour Management policy	<input type="checkbox"/> To participate in Church experiences that provides the students an experience of history, prayer/reflection, and includes opportunities to discover and question. It must be linked to a real life outcome to give purpose.	<input type="checkbox"/> Schools support of parish evangelisation initiatives. Sacramental team with links to Parish and Our Lady of Mercy Primary
<input type="checkbox"/> To continue to monitor attendance and take appropriate action	<input type="checkbox"/> Continued stewardship of our Prayer Gardens	<input type="checkbox"/> Communicating affirmations to parents via College postcards
<input type="checkbox"/> A review of the Orientation process for new members of staff. Induction process for new staff and provide mentor teachers with support guidelines	<input type="checkbox"/> K- 12 House system strategies	
<input type="checkbox"/> Further integrate teaching about Christian values, attitudes and understandings <input type="checkbox"/> Employ Baptised Catholic staff members who witness the Gospel values.		
<input type="checkbox"/> Prayer Tables in each Religious Education Class	<input type="checkbox"/> Display of class Religious Education work and school activities in classrooms	<input type="checkbox"/> Communication of the 'Mandate' document.



PRIMARY PROCLAMATION

Raising religious awareness amongst Community members through helping someone to arrive at an initial belief in Jesus, developing this interest and helping them to learn more about what Jesus taught through the Gospel.

For some of the students of Mercy College coming from an environment of alienation, anger and disenchantment the hope that this promise offers is critical for new evangelisation.

ONGOING FORMATION

STAFF	STUDENTS	WIDER COMMUNITY
Shared prayer at the Gathering and Staff Prayer	Religious Education lessons	Inviting parents and guardians to attend school masses and liturgies. Harmunity – increase engagement each year up until our 50 th Anniversary.
R.E. Professional Development at school and promotion of RE PD at CEWA	The teaching of the sacraments to revisit and review the role of the Participation of the Sacrament as part of students developing maturity as Christians	There will be a more noted approach to the recognition of our Holy Days of Obligation, so that students Catholicity is realised and practiced.
Participation in Mass and liturgies E.g. Commissioning mass, Mercy Community Mass	Involvement in liturgies and Masses	Students and staff will be immersed in the five Mercy Values so that the charisms of the Mercy Sisters are upheld and students will know their values and what is expected, across all areas of development in relation to the values.
Encouraging and assisting staff in the completion of Accreditation and Accreditation renewal	Participation in class prayer and reflection	In 2019 each term will have an emphasis on a different College value. The value for Term One is <i>Dignity</i> . Each term the Masses and other liturgies will include Scripture and other prayers pertaining to the chosen value. Also, Term 1 is a big Harmunity evening focusing on Dignity, inclusiveness and respect. We engage with our diverse cultures and dressed in National Costume. Term 2 is Excellence.
Providing opportunities for Accreditation renewal through staff PD at the school	Awareness of current social justice issues.	
Promote RE resources	Sharing and listening to the faith stories of others through opportunities of reflection.	



<p>Raising social conscience and awareness of religious issues through journal articles and publications e.g. INFORM</p>	<p>Celebration of Mercy Day</p>	<p>Mercy Values painted during Mercy Day Mass</p> <p>While the Circle of Mercy song is being sung these students will paint in the 6 Mercy words (5 Values plus Mercy) with acrylic paint and rollers. The boards are painted in house colours beforehand with the words pencilled in with a Graffiti style.</p>
<p>Faith development workshops and Retreats</p>	<p>Student review meetings</p>	
	<p>Students are provided with many well planned opportunities to use the Gospel to reflect on life's questions.</p>	
	<p>Rewards system</p>	



PRIMARY PROCLAMATION

Raising religious awareness amongst Community members through helping someone to arrive at an initial belief in Jesus, developing this interest and helping them to learn more about what Jesus taught through the Gospel.

FOCUS FOR THE FUTURE

STAFF	STUDENTS	WIDER COMMUNITY
<input type="checkbox"/> Participation in retreat days Retreat day – a time for staff to retreat together and experience faith development opportunities. This could be for at least half a day until two days.	<input type="checkbox"/> Incidental teaching on Feast days in lessons	<input type="checkbox"/> Incidental teaching on Feast days in newsletter
<input type="checkbox"/> Sharing of ideas and resources for the teaching of RE at staff or cluster meetings including planning times for liturgies	<input type="checkbox"/> Proposal of Retreat for all Primary years	<input type="checkbox"/> Faith in Education in the newsletter highlighting the significance of various Church seasons, symbols and traditions.
<input type="checkbox"/> Networking with other Catholic school staff to share ideas and resources for the teaching of RE .	<input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising for the Missions and other Catholic organisations.	<input type="checkbox"/> Publishing school or parish events in the school newsletter
<input type="checkbox"/> Review Behaviour Management policy.	<input type="checkbox"/> Offering Immersion experiences to senior students offering National and International	<input type="checkbox"/> Articulating the Evangelisation plan and its strategies
<input type="checkbox"/> Celebration of events with students – E.g. NAIDOC Week, Harmony Day.	<input type="checkbox"/> Awareness of history of the school, its mission and the Sisters of Mercy – Mercy Week.	<input type="checkbox"/> From 2020 all teachers will have a directory which will outline how to incorporate our Catholic values into their classes including a list of prayers and what is the expected behaviour of students during prayer time. <input type="checkbox"/> From 2020 ALL students will be expected to be respectful of the Catholic practices at Mercy College.
<input type="checkbox"/> Noticeboard for Director of Mission.	<input type="checkbox"/> DOM office area – to become student area for discussion and planning.	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Exposure to the stories of Jesus and traditional creation stories.	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Raise awareness of feast days, Liturgical Calendar and seasons.	<input type="checkbox"/> Over the next 5 years’ songs with a religious flavour, in particular our own school song will be incorporated into the music played over the PA to indicate movement to class in an effort to embed it into our Mercy culture. One possibility is “Love in Action” written by Drew Griffith.



CATECHESIS

Deepening of faith by sharing Christian understandings of God and integrating these into a person's human experience.

Catechesis is based on the teachings of Jesus and are found in: The Creed, Sacraments, Life in Christ (following the example of Jesus) and Prayer.

ONGOING FORMATION

<p>CREED We believe in God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We believe in the one holy, Catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come</p>	<p>SACRAMENTS Mercy College together with Our Lady of Mercy offer opportunities for Confirmation, Eucharist and Reconciliation. Students are taught about the sacraments in RE lessons. Family focused, Parish based and school supported</p>	<p>LIFE IN CHRIST <u>10 Commandments</u> 1. I am the lord your God: you shall not have strange gods before me. 2. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain 3. Keep Holy the Sabbath Day 4. Honour your father and mother 5. Value life 6. You shall not commit adultery 7. You shall not steal 8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour 9. You shall not covet your neighbours husband 10. You shall not covet your neighbours goods</p>	<p>PRAYER</p>
Acceptance of cultural differences and modeling this to the students and wider community	Explicit teaching of the parts of the Mass, responses and symbols of the Church e.g. tabernacle	Encouraging parents to attend liturgies by publishing times in newsletter/website	Weekly class prayer and regular meditation
Striving to be Christ-like models for the students.	Whole school support of students involved in sacramental programs e.g. acknowledgment at student meetings and open days.	Involvement in own parishes through music ministry, reading or special ministry, if applicable.	Regular staff prayer
Explicit teaching of the creed and other formal prayers in R.E. lessons	Sacramental programs for Baptism, Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation and regular participation in the sacraments	Involvement of staff in school Liturgies through roles such as readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. Allow appropriate time and opportunity for formation of Liturgies and Masses.	Prayer included in the Monday memo/Gathering
Raising social conscience and awareness of religious issues through journal articles and publications	Sacramental Team to facilitate the partnership between Parish, Home and School	Involvement in Religious Education studies at CEWA and tertiary levels for relevant staff members	
	Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Altar Server training	Class, whole school and feast day celebrations e.g. Mercy Day	
	Attitude of Reverance when in the Chapel of St Brigid	Acknowledging the land of the Aboriginal people prior to any welcoming and formal presentations.	
	Help students to grow in Communion with Christ after Communion focusing on personal needs and life questions	Acknowledging the Mercy Sisters at Harmunity Event.	
		Prayer at the beginning of all meetings including School Board	



CATECHESIS

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FOCUS FOR THE FUTURE 2019 - 2022

CREED	SACRAMENTS	LIFE IN CHRIST	PRAYER
<input type="checkbox"/> Begin the year with a liturgy	<input type="checkbox"/> Develop a strategy to show forgiveness / reconciliation through restorative justice. Develop strategies to make the Reconciliation strategies overt	<input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing renewal and accreditation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Provide staff with current journal articles about current critical issues for Catholic schools and evangelisation	<input type="checkbox"/> Explain the Sacraments and how there is a progression. Integration of certain elements may be taught	<input type="checkbox"/> Opportunities to develop understanding of the history, sacraments, symbols of the Church etc	<input type="checkbox"/> Daily prayer – Start the day with a class prayer in each individual class and more visual supports and resources for Prayer e.g. Monica Brown prayer cards
<input type="checkbox"/> Providing assistance to those staff who need assistance with RE connections		<input type="checkbox"/> Chaplaincy Team to continue as a K-12 team and oversee the Evangelisation	<input type="checkbox"/> Greater use of the school prayer e.g. at student meetings
<input type="checkbox"/> Providing more reflective time to allow students to deepen their relationship with God e.g. explicit teaching of meditation, encouraging students to write their own prayers, journal writing		<input type="checkbox"/> Integration of beliefs and values where possible	<input type="checkbox"/> Prayer in Monday's 'The Gathering' Memo
<input type="checkbox"/> Provide more reflective time for students to wonder about and be in awe of God's creation.		<input type="checkbox"/> Developing a greater awareness and tolerance of other religions through incidental teaching	<input type="checkbox"/> Reflections/Prayers at Student Meetings
<input type="checkbox"/> Respect for each other and the environment through reviews, points system and prayer. Code of Conduct		<input type="checkbox"/> Continued implementation of Pastoral Care and support of Social Worker	
<input type="checkbox"/> Empowering students to be aware of social justice issues and providing opportunities to take action e.g. attending Caritas leadership program			

