



## **Statement of Commitment to Australian Democratic values**

Australian society is defined, among other aspects, by a belief in elected Government; by a commitment to the rule of law, to equal rights for all before the law; and by a belief in freedom of religion, freedom of speech and freedom of association. Our society is also tolerant of a range of religious, political, social and cultural beliefs and values in the context of the fundamental principle of our democracy.

Mount Lilydale Mercy College adheres to and promotes the principles and practise of Australian democracy:-

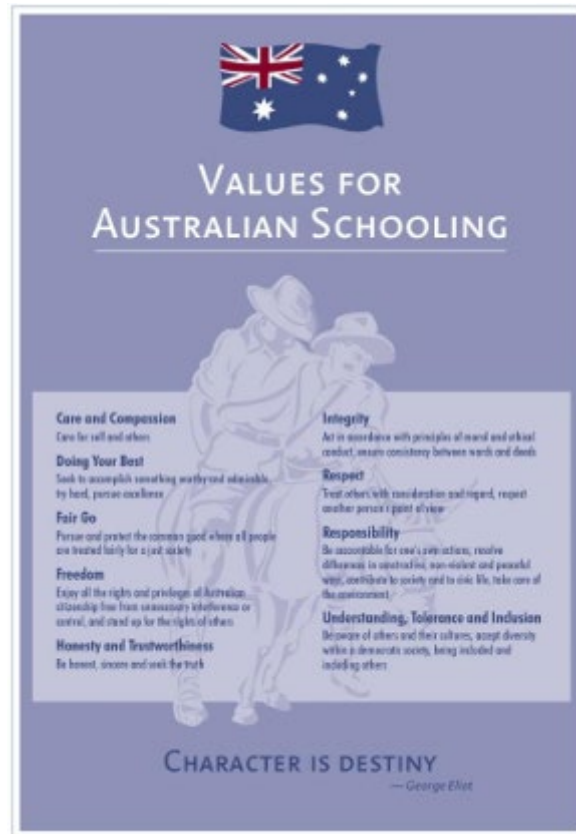
- We believe in an accountable, democratically-elected government
- We respect and observe the rule of law and believe that no person is above the law
- We believe in equal rights for all before the law, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, sexuality, gender or other attributes
- We believe not only in the freedom of religion, but also the need to practice tolerance and understanding of other' beliefs
- We believe in the value of freedom of speech and freedom of association, but also acknowledge that we have the responsibility not to abuse this freedom
- We believe in the values of openness and tolerance, and value and respect all members of the school community regardless of background.

As such, Mount Lilydale Mercy College adheres to the reporting requirements under Commonwealth and State funding agreements and makes available on request reports on all aspects of school performance to members of the school community.

In giving practical expression to these endeavours, Mount Lilydale Mercy College will remain steadfast in:

- Referencing democratic values and principles in the College's community engagement and service programs and in our faith, mission and religious education programs. By the nature of being a Catholic school, which seeks to develop the whole person and values the uniqueness of the individual and rejoices in the gifts and talents of all its members, and to assist students to become active members of the Catholic Church and contributors to the common good of society, Mount Lilydale Mercy College acknowledges Australian democratic values.
- Flying the Australian and Aboriginal flag
- Participating in the Acknowledgement of Country as part of our assemblies
- Displaying the 'Values for Australian Schooling' poster

- Teaching the Civics and Citizenship learning area of the Victorian Curriculum where all students will work through the three dimensions of the Civics and Citizenship domain: Government and Democracy, Law and Citizens, and Citizenship, Diversity and Identity. These units provide students with knowledge, skills and opportunities to understand and practise what it means to be a citizen in a democracy.



## REVIEW HISTORY

Version	Date Released	Next Review	Author	Authorised by:
1.0	2023	2026	Executive Deputy Principal	MLMC College Executive