



Lakeside
COLLEGE

Mission, Vision and Values

Lakeside College

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Introduction

Mission, Vision and Values	
Created by:	Principal Lakeside College
Current version:	2.0
Applicable for:	All Lakeside permanent and fixed term employees, casuals, independent contractors, volunteers and work experience students

Definitions

Vision

Learn. Care. Achieve.

- We **learn** as a community of learners
- We **care** for ourselves, each other and the wider community
- We **achieve** beyond what we believe possible
- We do all this to **give glory** to God and to **serve** the world in love

Mission

A Christian school in the Lutheran tradition providing outstanding education...

- serving students through nurturing holistic wellbeing, setting high expectations, acknowledging positive achievement and encouraging a commitment to serve others
- with a servant hearted, collaborative and thriving school staff who are adept learners and leaders in their fields
- which supports family wellbeing and assists parents and caregivers to encourage, and be actively involved, in the education of their children
- that meets external requirements and stewards the resources it has in order to serve Pakenham and the world into the future

Values

We seek to operate by the values shared by all Lutheran schools in Australia lived out in our context and community.

These values are:

- Love
- Justice
- Compassion
- Forgiveness
- Service
- Courage
- Humility
- Hope
- Quality
- Appreciation

Love

For Christians, the expression of love is always a response to God's love. It is a way of being that leads to inner peace. Love flows from the heart and manifests itself in caring, kind and respectful thoughts, words and actions.

Justice

Through genuine concern, and the developing of a conscience for the rights and wellbeing of everyone in the human family, justice focuses as much on understanding and responding to the reasons for suffering and injustices as it does on responding to unjust conditions. It requires integrity between beliefs, words, and actions. It may necessitate taking a stand and acting with courage.

Compassion

Having compassion is being loving and attending to people's innermost needs. It is exercising the ability to reach out, to walk in another's shoes, to be open and responsive to the needs and concerns of others and being active in caring for others.

Forgiveness

Forgiveness is breaking the cycle of un-grace, pardoning the wrongs others have done to us and seeking pardon for the wrongs we have done to others. Forgiveness often comes with pain and can involve stepping over our hurt. Forgiveness releases both ourselves and others, enabling new starts and new beginnings, another chance.

Service

There is a saying you can serve without loving, but you cannot love without serving. Service involves selfless giving, loving others and making a difference in their lives by identifying and responding to their needs, individually and collectively, and carrying out that service without expecting recognition or reward.

Humility

Acting with humility involves recognising and valuing one's own gifts/abilities and the gifts/abilities of others as being equally valid but of no lesser or greater importance. It is using those gifts/abilities in service to others with an attitude of selflessness. It is being thankful rather than boastful and willing to respect and learn from the experience of others.

Courage

Courage is the strength of heart that enables people to stand up for their convictions and do the right thing, even when it is hard or fearful. It involves being firm of spirit despite the ups and downs of life and it means 'having a go' even when success is uncertain.

Hope

Hope enables us to look forward with expectation and confidence, placing our trust and faith in God's provision of the things we need to handle all kinds of situations and events that occur. Hope is open-ended, open to all possibilities and not limited by what we might wish for. Hope allows God to define our lives.

Quality

People bring their gifts, abilities, skills and talents to fruition seeking excellence, striving always to do their best, giving careful attention to every task, every relationship, every interaction. They ensure that their input and efforts result in quality outcomes due to the successful use of their gifts, abilities, skills and talents for the benefit of others.

Appreciation

Appreciation is recognising and valuing highly the gifts and blessings given to us and surrounding us. It is an attitude of gratitude for learning, loving and being. It is a positive attitude that responds in wonder and awe to, and with respect for, the created world – its fragility and its potential.

Lakeside College aims to

- provide students with a comprehensive program of education that is conducive to the development of their talents and skills for responsible Christian living and service;
- encourage students to strive for excellence in learning according to individual ability;
- help students value themselves as persons created in the image of God, redeemed by Christ, and made members of his body, the church, and to express their new life in Christ in their relationship with God and others;
- include as a core part of the program, a Christian Studies curriculum which has been developed deliberately and consciously from the perspective of confessional Lutheranism;
- provide an alternative to a secularistic, humanistic philosophy and practice of education;
- promote the spiritual life and development of the college community through regular worship, study of the Scriptures and pastoral care;
- assist parents and caregivers in the fulfilment of their God-given responsibilities to their children; and
- assist the State in providing it with responsible citizens equipped to contribute positively to the community.

Our Lutheran Heritage

"For if we want capable and qualified people...we really must spare no effort, time and expense in teaching and educating our children to serve God and the world" - Martin Luther

In the 16th century, Martin Luther was a young Catholic monk who, fed up with the abuses of the church at the time, sparked a new church movement which sought to clearly proclaim God's unconditional love and mercy to all humankind. Along with being a passionate Christian, Luther was passionate about the importance of education in creating caring and capable people who could partake in making the world a better place. With over seventy million members, the Lutheran church is currently the largest Protestant denomination in the world.

The long tradition of Lutheran schooling has been part of Australia's history. Lutherans have operated schools in Australia since 1839, when they arrived on our shores seeking the freedom to educate their children as they saw fit. Where Lutherans settled in Australia, they built churches and schools. From these simple beginnings, today there are Lutheran schools located in every state and territory of Australia (except the ACT) serving 40,000 students and their families. Lakeside College is one of these 83 Lutheran schools.

While there is a major focus on quality teaching and learning, Lutheran schools strive to offer far more than that. When a family joins a Lutheran school they become part of a community which strives to be a secure place which offers warm, caring relationships and a safe environment. A Lutheran school sees each student as being unique with their own particular gifts and needs.

As a Christian learning community each school aspires to provide a culture and ethos permeated by the core values of love, justice, compassion, forgiveness, service, humility, courage, hope, quality and appreciation.

Lutherans believe that God has given parents and caregivers the prime responsibility for the education of their children. Lutherans provide schools to assist parents and caregivers in promoting the educational and spiritual growth of their children. It is vital that each home and the school work together for the welfare of students on the basis of shared aims and values.

A Lutheran school holds itself accountable to parents and caregivers for the progress and welfare of students. It provides structures for constant communication between the home and the school. It encourages parents and caregivers to be 'LCA Standards of Ethical Behaviour' involved in their children's schooling and to participate in school life in the variety of ways that are available.

Our democratic principles and respect of indigenous first nations

Lakeside College is committed to the principles of a liberal 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; together with the values of openness and tolerance.

The Lutheran Church of Australia has a long history of ministry with aboriginal people throughout Australia. In keeping with our ethos, we fly the Aboriginal flag alongside the Australian Flag on a daily basis. We display the Aboriginal flag in recognition of the Bunurong people as the traditional custodians of the land on which the College is located.