Our Charter as a Mercy School
Our Charter as a Mercy School

The aim of all Mercy schools is to be true to Catherine McAuley, the foundress of the Sisters of Mercy, who wanted first and foremost for her schools to live and to teach the Good News revealed in Jesus Christ. Our commitment to Catherine’s vision as a lens through which to embrace the Gospel message inspires our schools to strive for excellence in learning and achieve student success.

1. We are a faith-centred Catholic school in the Mercy tradition inspired by Catherine McAuley
   • We model the values of compassion, justice, respect, hospitality, service and courage in the way we teach and relate to others in living mercy.
   • We foster a passion for social justice.
   • We are witnesses to our school community and to the wider community of the school’s Catholic identity.
   • The faith life of our school is practised in prayer and liturgy; evident in our commitment to religious education, faith formation and in engagement in social justice activities; and lived out in the day to day activities of school life.

2. Our school leadership is visionary and shared
   • The school leadership team provides an inspiring educational vision and enables practical measures for its realisation.
   • This vision ensures that our school is open and accountable; undertaking rigorous self-assessments; setting challenging targets for improvement; sharing information about performance; and using evidence to inform improvement strategies.
   • Staff exercise careful stewardship of the school’s resources with a focus on both excellence and equity and ensuring that the school environment is friendly, welcoming, safe, supportive and well maintained.
   • We nurture staff development, providing opportunities for faith formation, reflective practice and professional learning.
   • We foster a culture of consultation and collaboration and evidenced by shared leadership and decision-making.

3. We are learning-centred and foster a culture of excellence and continuous improvement in our teaching
   • Our teachers personalise the learning for their students, engaging them to learn purposefully and successfully and challenging them to strive for excellence.
   • Our students experience classrooms and education programs that are innovative, stimulating and inclusive.
   • Our teachers are skilled in using instructional teaching together with teamwork, research, problem-solving and self-directed learning that develops students’ critical thinking, self-awareness and responsibility for their own learning.
   • Our teachers regularly update their knowledge and skills to ensure that they are employing the most effective, research-based, evidence-informed teaching practices.
4. We foster our students’ growth as competent, confident, independent young adults
   • Our students’ school experience builds confidence, initiative, independence and a determination to succeed.
   • Our students are safe and secure, respectful and considerate of others and have a sense of service to others and care for the earth.
   • Our students are adaptable and resourceful and understand the importance of self-discipline, hard work and doing one’s personal best.
   • Our graduates are equipped to thrive in a challenging and technologically advanced world.

5. We value the engagement of parents and the wider community
   • We maintain positive and productive relationships with our Board, the College Advisory Council and the parent community.
   • We welcome and value the active engagement of parents and carers in their children’s learning.
   • We seek ways to enhance student learning and wellbeing by partnering with parents and families, parishes, local businesses and community organisations as well as other education and training institutions.
Mercy Education is responsible to the Institute of Sisters of Mercy of Australia and Papua New Guinea for the governance of Mercy Colleges across Western Australia, Victoria and South Australia.

COLLEGE NAMES AND FOUNDATION DATES:

MERCEDES COLLEGE
Perth, WA
1846

ACADEMY OF MARY IMMACULATE
Fitzy, VIC
1857

SACRED HEART COLLEGE
Geelong, VIC
1860

CATHRINE MCAULEY COLLEGE
Bendigo, VIC
1876

ST ALOYSIUS COLLEGE
Adelaide, SA
1880

ST ALOYSIUS COLLEGE
North Melbourne, VIC
1887

SACRED HEART COLLEGE
Kyneton, VIC
1889

MOUNT LILYDALE MERCY COLLEGE
Lilydale, VIC
1896

ST JOSEPH’S COLLEGE
Mildura, VIC
1906

OUR LADY OF MERCY COLLEGE
Heidelberg, VIC
1910

ST BRIGID’S COLLEGE
Lesmurdie, WA
1929

SANTA MARIA COLLEGE
Attadale, WA
1937

Mercy Education

720 Heidelberg Road, Alphington Victoria 3078
PO Box 5067, Alphington Victoria 3078
Ph: (03) 9490 6600 | contact@mercy.edu.au | www.mercy.edu.au
ABN: 69 154 531 870