CORE VALUES

In achieving our mission, the St Mary’s school community are guided by a set of core values which find their Christian expression in the Gospels.

These are the fundamental values that we apply to the way we live in all aspects of our human interactions. These values represent our aspirations and beliefs as a community as a whole, including our concern for equity, excellence and the promotion of a caring, civil and just society.

RESPECT (Think)
Consideration and regard in our interactions

In school communities, evidence of this value includes:
- Valuing parents’ contributions as partners in their child’s education
- Implementing government education policy

In classrooms, evidence of this value includes:
- Accepting the right of others to hold different views to your own
- Listening to others without interrupting
- Meeting school expectations
- Acknowledging the strengths and abilities of students
- Affirming cultural diversity within the school community.

RESPONSIBILITY (Reflect)
Take account for own actions

In school communities, evidence of this value includes:
- Reflecting policy and school community needs in school rules
- Supporting the decisions of the school
- Accepting responsibility for the school’s involvement for activities in the community
- Including Restorative Practices in the school strategies to restore relationships

In classrooms, evidence of this value includes:
- Self-discipline
- Modelling expected behaviours
- Involvement in strategies to encourage compliance with school rules.
INTEGRITY (Act)
Being honest and having strong moral principles

In school communities, evidence of this value includes:
   • open and transparent decision making processes
   • consistent school policies and actions.

In classrooms, evidence of this value includes:
   • trusting others to work independently
   • doing what you say you will do
   • teachers mark students work consistently to agreed standards
   • clearly explaining and enforcing rules about plagiarism.

RECONCILIATION (Do)
Restoring right relationships

In school communities, evidence of this value includes:
   • communicating openly within and between different groups in the school community
   • encouraging and considering new ideas
   • forming productive partnerships with business and community organisations.

In classrooms, evidence of this value includes:
   • contributing to class discussion
   • encouraging creative thinking about issues and problems
   • accepting roles in group activities.

CARE AND COMPASSION (Feel)
Feel concern and interest in self and for others

In school communities, evidence of this value includes:
   • providing early notice of students, parents and teachers experiencing difficulties
   • volunteering to assist in school activities
   • programming to actively counter bullying and harassment
   • implementing responsive student support systems being in place.

In classrooms, evidence of this value includes:
   • maintaining friendly relationships
   • making constructive and encouraging comment about other people’s work
   • listening to others
   • modelling skills for positive and caring relationships.