



## WELLBEING

We believe it is very important for our students to be healthy and happy and feel connected to our school community. We work very hard to provide a safe and stimulating environment that promotes resilience and wellbeing. We have a whole school framework to support this as well as explicitly teaching the skills students need to enable them to develop positive and productive relationships with others.

## OUR VISION

As a founding school of the Josephite sisters, we are challenged and inspired to live by the example of Mary MacKillop. We see students, teachers and parents as partners in learning, where the worth and dignity of each person is acknowledged, appreciated and celebrated. This is the foundation from which we will nurture and develop self-reliant and confident individuals who will make a difference in the world.

## OUR STRATEGIC INTENT

We are committed to creating an inclusive learning community that engages students so that they are motivated, creative and collaborative learners, who are challenged to aim high and are given opportunities to grow in all areas of their lives.

Through the inspiration of the person of Jesus, Scripture and Mary MacKillop, we want to build a vibrant Catholic identity that connects with, and has meaning for, our students, parents and staff.

## NOW ENROLLING!

Please call us on 5148 2514 to find out about our school.

## CAN I AFFORD IT?

We have a set family fee per year, regardless of how many children you have. Added to this there are school levies for each child based on their year level. Fee payments can be paid in full or in instalments – we are flexible with this and you can nominate how you would like to pay. If you have a healthcare card or other concession card you may be eligible for a fee concession. We can also make arrangements for families who are experiencing hardship – it is not the intention of the school to add to a family's burden. A fee breakdown can be found in our parent handbook which is accessible on our website.

## GETTING INVOLVED

There are many opportunities for parents to work in partnership with the school. Parents are welcome to assist with classroom learning and the many activities that take place in and around the school. There are also more formal opportunities for parents to be involved in the life of the school through the School Advisory Committee or the Parents and Friends Association.



# ST. MICHAEL'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

[www.stmheyfield.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stmheyfield.catholic.edu.au)

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Jenny Miller  
Principal

## A GREAT PLACE TO GROW & LEARN

### WHY CHOOSE ST MICHAEL'S PRIMARY SCHOOL?

St Michael's Primary School has always prided itself on its warm and welcoming community. We are an inclusive school and our student population covers a range of abilities, needs and personalities. Our curriculum is aimed at creating lifelong learners with a range of social and educational skills. We believe we are preparing our children for the future.

We value our partnership with parents. We work with parents to differentiate the curriculum for the needs of their child and recognise the valuable input that parents contribute to the life of our school community.

Our dedicated staff, who work tirelessly to provide the best education for their students, foster this partnership. Every staff member is committed to improving the educational outcomes of the students and in providing a learning environment that nurtures and enhances each student's talents and skills.

## SPIRITUAL AND MORAL GROWTH

Our Catholic Faith is infused into everything we do at school. Students are encouraged to see how they can live their lives in a faith-filled way through showing respect for themselves, each other and the world they live in. We help them develop the talents that have been gifted to them through God to make the world a better place, especially through the idea of social justice and service to others.

## A LEARNING JOURNEY

We provide a varied and challenging curriculum that enables students to progress from their point of need. We also support students in being the 'architects' of their own learning journey, helping them to recognise what they need to learn to be a successful learner and developing with them the tools they can use to achieve their learning goals. We closely monitor students' progress and use this evidence to direct learning for student growth.

Our teachers are passionate about education and always focus on building their own capacity so that students access curriculum based on proven best practice. We acknowledge the importance of lifelong learning for everyone.

## CONTEMPORARY LEARNING

We recognize the importance of keeping abreast of current technologies and pedagogy and adjust our learning programs accordingly. We know that it is not enough for students to have access to great technology; they also need to develop flexibility of thinking, problem solving skills, communication skills and persistence if they are to be successful learners in a 21st century context. We are continually building on our digital technologies to support the learning of everyone. Currently, each student in 3-6 is allocated a Chromebook, provided by the school. Students in the junior classes have one-to-one iPads. All students have access to our digital technologies room where there are desktops for each student. In all learning spaces there is a Smart TV. We have a recording studio where students are able to create vodcasts, podcasts, animations and so much more! Our classroom teachers incorporate cybersafety and ethical technologies use into the program as well as exploring other areas such as robotics and coding.

## SIZE MATTERS

The benefits of small schools go beyond academic achievement. At St Michael's we believe our small size provides unique opportunities for social and emotional growth, relationship building and high expectations both in and out of the classroom. When class sizes are small, teachers are able to better know the strengths and weaknesses of each of their students and tailor their instruction accordingly. We can be more learner-centred. Students in small schools also develop closer relationships with their peers and teachers. This helps students to feel safe, supported and included. Academic success is linked strongly to student wellbeing. We frequently have multi-age days where students can support each other. Students at small schools are also more likely to be highly engaged in their school community, leading to a sense of personal responsibility for the community. We have no problem getting students willing to put their hand up for leadership responsibilities in our school and see active citizenship across the school.

## CLASS STRUCTURE

Our class structure reflects our commitment to providing the best learning environment for students. We currently have four classes where learning is maximised due to the small class size; we purposefully keep our class sizes to a minimum enrolment. This is so that each child can receive individualised and personalised learning. Each learning team (currently P-2 and 3-6) shares an aide to support students' learning.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENRICHMENT

All students participate in specialist classes in Italian, Art and Sport. Students also have the option to join our Choir which is open to all year levels and be radio hosts for our school radio station. We participate in extra-curricular programs such as 'Tournament of Minds' at Federation University and Public Speaking Competitions. We offer our student leaders opportunities to develop their skills, including attending leadership conferences and training in Melbourne. Our Student Representative Committee (SRC) are active within the school and focus mainly on social justice activities. SRC is made up of students from Year 1 to Year 6 and is a great opportunity for students at all levels to develop their leadership skills.