
Carmel College Governance Policy 10: Special Character

Special Character statement

Our college is the Catholic Church in action, an authentic expression of the Church's mission. Therefore, our role as a Catholic college, is, above all, to be a place where every member of this learning community can encounter the living God and our focus is on helping to form Christ in the lives of others. We do this through the Catholic and Mercy traditions.

Outcome statement

That the school policies and structures reflect the values of Jesus Christ and Special Character as provided for in the Private Schools Conditional Integration Act 1975 and the Integration Agreement for this college.

Scoping

The Board of Trustees will ensure that all decisions and actions undertaken by the Board promote and enhance the Special Character of the college.

Delegations

The Special Character committee, which is a CCAL committee with Board of Trustees members in attendance, will take primary responsibility to fund Special Character activities in the college.

At least one of the Proprietor's appointees is included on the appointments committee for senior positions.

Expectations and limitations

1. Ensure that the school policies and structures reflect the values of Jesus Christ and Special Character as provided for in the Education (Update) Amendment Act, 2017 and the Integration Agreement for this college.
2. Opportunities for trustees, staff, parents/caregivers and students are provided to take part in Sacramental or Liturgical celebrations and to encourage professional development and personal faith.
3. The students' knowledge and appreciation of their faith tradition and the teachings of the Catholic Church is increased by implementing the N.C.R.S. "Understanding Faith" secondary school syllabus.
4. The Principal, DRS, Head Girl and student leaders responsible for Special Character will have an important leadership role in promoting the Catholic Character within the college and our parish communities.
5. Newly appointed staff will be assisted in their understanding of the Special Character of the college through an Orientation Programme.
6. A time of prayer will be included at meetings and in classes.
7. Ensure that the attitudes, values and conduct of the staff and Board of Trustees will reflect Gospel values and support the Special Character of the college.

8. Ensure that, with the CCAL, a chaplaincy service is provided for students and staff.
9. Ensure that the college culture and physical environment reflect our Catholic Character.
10. Ensure that the school carries out an annual self-review of its Catholic Character, and an external review is carried out by Diocesan reviewers every 3-4 years.

Procedures/supporting documentation

1. NZCEO handbook for Trustees of Catholic schools
2. The Catholic Education School-Age Children (NZ Catholic Bishops Conference, 2014)

Monitoring

1. The Special Character subcommittee will report regularly to the Board of Trustees and CCAL on matters relating to the Special Character of the college.
2. The Special Character subcommittee will report regularly to the Board of Trustees and CCAL on matters relating to the Special Character of the college.
3. The Board will provide the Proprietor Board with an Annual Compliance Attestation

Legislative compliance

1. Education (Update) Amendment Act, 2017
2. Carmel College Integration Agreement.

Date reviewed:	March, 2018	Next Review:	February, 2021
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