

# Charter for Salesian Schools in Australia

## **Preamble:**

In keeping with the spirit of Saint John Bosco, whereby *“education is largely a matter of the heart”* that leads young people to *“know that they are loved”*, the Salesian school community of today is challenged to be:

- A home that welcomes
- A parish that evangelises
- A school that prepares for life
- A playground where friends meet and enjoy themselves

## **A home that welcomes by:**

- Being committed to the care and support of all young people, especially the poor and marginalised
- Cultivating relationships based on genuine affection, openness and acceptance of others
- Fostering an atmosphere of joy and hope, based on the ‘Good News’ of Jesus Christ
- Encouraging an attitude of optimism and a conviction that life is fundamentally worthwhile

## **A parish that evangelises by:**

- Addressing the spiritual yearnings of young people and adults
- Having a strong and vibrant Religious Education and liturgical programme
- Prioritising the faith development and formation of staff
- Providing students with significant experiences of faith in action

## **A school that prepares for life by:**

- Encouraging a passion for life-long learning and a quest for excellence
- Developing a sense of meaning and purpose, which expresses itself in a spirit of service and self-giving
- Proclaiming the challenge of community building, commitment to others and responsible decision-making
- Cultivating resilience, resourcefulness and adaptability as important skills for life

## **A playground where friends meet and enjoy themselves by:**

- Being present to each other in an active, engaging and constructive manner, in fidelity to the Salesian Preventive System
- Building positive and inclusive relationships between each other
- Having a rich experience of interaction and sharing, especially between students and staff
- Creating occasions for celebration and festivity

## **Conclusion:**

Faithful to the tradition of Saint John Bosco, the Salesian school community is constantly challenged to re-interpret and re-enliven his educational vision in every generation and circumstance, according to the requirements of the contemporary situation and the needs of young people, to whom he once said: *“I have only one wish: that you be happy in this world and the next”*.