



Marist Catholic School Herne Bay

OUR CHARISM

As Marists, we think, judge, feel and act in the way of Mary

Catholic Special Character Policy

Marist Catholic School Herne Bay is a Catholic School operating under the Marist Charism; where we think, feel, act and judge in the way of Mary. We provide quality learning opportunities with an emphasis on living to the best of our ability with Jesus as our guide. Our Catholic Special Character is the reason for the School's existence.

The school is a Roman Catholic School in which the whole School community through the general school programme in its Religious instructions and observances, exercises the right to live and teach the values of Jesus Christ. These values are as expressed in the Scriptures and in the practices, worship and doctrine of the Roman Catholic Church, as determined from time to time by the Roman Catholic Bishop of the Diocese of Auckland

(MCSHB Integration Agreement 1983)

The Board of Trustees through the Principal will ensure that:

1. The Catholic Special Character permeates all areas of school life including all curriculum areas, professional development, the school environment and all relationships.
2. The Catholic Special Character expresses the school's Marist Charism, Rich values (respect, integrity, courage and humility) and Maori values (Whanaungatanga, Manaakitanga and Arohatanga).
3. The seven Catholic virtues of Prudence, Justice, Temperance, Courage, Faith, Hope and Charity are known and lived within the school community. *(Catholic education of School Age Children 2014)*
4. The Religious Education Programme is an essential learning area within the school curriculum and will be implemented using effective pedagogy.
5. Parents, whanau and caregivers are affirmed and supported in their role as the first teachers of faith to their children.
6. The Catholic Special Character is evident through daily class prayers, staff prayers, Mass, liturgical celebrations, observances of special feasts namely The Feast of the Assumption and activities that support and develop an awareness of social justice issues aligned with Catholic social teaching.
7. A close relationship with Sacred Heart Ponsonby/Our Lady of Perpetual Help parishes is fostered and maintained.

The **Procedures** and **Documents** that support this policy are:

| Procedures | Documents / Legislation |
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| Internal Review Procedure Enrolment Procedure | Catholic Education of School-Age Children (2014) Education Act 1989 MCSHB Integration Agreement (1983) Private Schools Conditional Integration Act 1975 (PSCIA) Suggested protocols for Dealing with Parish/School Issues within Primary Schools (March 2014) Handbook for Board of Trustees of NZ Catholic integrated Schools 2016 |

Self Review – this policy will be reviewed in accordance with the Board’s triennial programme of self review

30th May 2017 version adopted

Chairperson

Principal

Date