

School Governance (Democratic Principles)

Source of Obligation

The Victorian Registration Standards (**sch 4 cl 1** and **sch 8 cl 1**) (CECV Guidelines ref 1.1 and 8.1) require that the programs of, and teaching at St Peter's College must support and promote the principles and practice of Australian democracy.

These include a commitment to:

elected government; and

the rule of law; and

equal rights for all before the law; and

freedom of religion; and

freedom of speech and association; and

the values of openness and tolerance.

As stated in the Regs, the requirements of the commitment above are not intended to affect the rights accorded to, or the compliance with any obligation imposed on, the College under the enactment of the State or of the Commonwealth.

Statement of Democratic Principles

St Peter's College is committed to the principles of a liberal democracy.

We believe in an accountable, democratically elected government.

We respect and observe the rule of law, and believe that no person is above the law.

We believe in equal rights for all before the law, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, sexuality, gender or other attributes.

We believe not only in the freedom of religion, but also the need to practice tolerance and understanding of others' beliefs.

We believe in the value of freedom of speech and freedom of association, but also acknowledge that we have the responsibility not to abuse this freedom.

We believe in the values of openness and tolerance, and value and respect all members of the College community regardless of background.

Explanation of How the College Communicates the Statement

This Statement of **Democratic Principles** is communicated to staff, students, parents and guardians and the College community. This Statement is published:

in the **staff policy portal**

in the **Student Information on Schoolbox**

on the **St Peter's College website**

in the Curriculum units

on display in the Cranbourne & Clyde North Campus foyers

This document is published on Schoolbox under Student Information for students and on the College Website for parents.

In addition:

A **poster of democratic values** is displayed at the front offices at Clyde North and Cranbourne Campuses.

Curriculum documents show that all students at the College undertake studies in the three strands of the Civics and Citizenship domain of the Victorian Curriculum F-10.

CECV Role

The CECV will coordinate the application for senior secondary with the VCAA and VRQA as required.

Implementation

St Peter's College has set up a series of compliance tasks in **CompliSpace Assurance**, to ensure that key obligations under the Victorian Registration Standards and CECV Guidelines are managed effectively.