



St. Mary's School Altona

School Governance Structure

Catholic schools, in general, are responsible and accountable to their students, parents, their local Catholic community, their Bishop and to both the State and Commonwealth Governments. The most important of these responsibilities is to the parents of the students placed in the school's care.

Catholic schools are committed to care for each student's physical, emotional, intellectual and spiritual wellbeing. They prepare students for their place in society as mature, well-adjusted and literate people. Catholic schools are called to foster partnerships with parents and guardians in their role as the principal educators of their child.

St. Mary's School maintains a 'culture of child safety' by actively implementing strategies in accordance with its moral & legal obligations and Victorian Government Ministerial Order 870.

The Principal and Staff of a Parish Primary School are accountable to the Parish priest for the conduct and operation of the parish school.

The CECV receives all Commonwealth and State Governments grants and distributes these funds to schools. The CECV reports to government on Catholic schools' use of these public funds in accordance with the legislation that authorises the grants.

Victorian Catholic schools are subject to the authority of particular bodies that regulate and monitor standards of learning, teaching and facilities. Catholic schools are bound by the Acts and regulations of both Commonwealth and Victorian Parliaments, the authority of the Victorian Minister for Education and by bodies such as the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority which regulates the Victorian Essential Learning Standards (VELS).

Consistent with diocesan policies and the requirements of regulatory bodies, individual schools have considerable autonomy in developing appropriate curriculum and structures that best suit their community and circumstances.

Archdiocese of Melbourne

The Catholic Education Office Melbourne works in partnership with and through the Archdiocese of Melbourne to provide a vision and support for Catholic Education.

St. Mary Help of Christians Parish – Fr. Shabin Kaniampuram

Canonical administrator and employer.

Principal – Mr. David Kelly

Chief Executive Officer and Manager

St. Mary's School Education Board

The School Board is consultative and advisory body whose main purpose is to support the Parish Priest and the Principal in their work of supporting the vision of the school. It consists of: Parish Priest, Principal, staff representative and five parent representatives.

School Staff

School Leadership Team: Principal, Deputy Principal, Religious Education Leader, Learning & Teaching Leader & Student Wellbeing Leader – meets fortnightly.

Professional Learning Teams involving all staff.

Parents & Friends Association

The P & F has a twofold purpose: Building a sense of community among parents and fundraising.