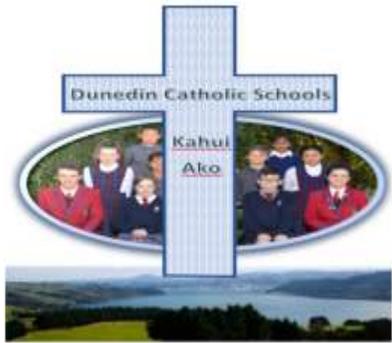


## *Charter 2022.*

Principals' Endorsement:	
Board of Trustees' Endorsement:	
Submission date to Ministry of Education:	



Dunedin Catholic Schools Kāhui Ako  
And St Mary's Dunedin  
Shared Vision.

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## Strengthened by Faith. United for Equity and Excellence

- When we work collaboratively we strengthen our Catholic Special Character.
- When we work collaboratively we enhance the wellbeing and pastoral care of all our young people, whānau and staff.
- When we work collaboratively we can more efficiently implement systems, programmes and initiatives, in order to strengthen student outcomes.

### **Our Shared Kahui Ako Vision**

We are a community united and strengthened by our Catholic Faith, who values each person in our community as being born in the image and likeness of God. Jesus is at the heart of our schools and the measure of all we do as people and as educators. We believe every child matters, and each child is capable of learning. Pastoral care, social justice and equity are central to our lives.

We keep each child at the centre of learning. We believe that all children matter and that they want to, and are capable of learning and achieving great things. We know our learners are all different and learn in different ways so we have to give them the best opportunities we can. There are many ways to achieve this, some we may know and some we are still to discover. Learning is a lifelong process.

We are a community that recognises the importance of having competent, dedicated, faith-filled and caring teachers, who seek to be innovative in their practice. We have a shared vision, and are clear about what the aims, mission and goals for our community are. There is a high degree of professionalism expected. We collaborate with each other, share the load, share best practice and ensure everyone takes personal responsibility for making things happen. All those involved in our community have access to powerful, focused professional learning and development from experts, educational leaders and from within our community.

We are a community that build strong relationships with many people. The contribution of each individual counts and ensures we are truly representative of stakeholders. Being inclusive, respectful of tradition and accepting of differences is something we promote.

# Mission, Values and Vision

St Mary's Learners - Belong, Believe and Achieve through demonstrating their; Faithfulness, Perseverance, Justice and Stewardship.

School Values	Faithfulness	Perseverance	Justice	Stewardship
School Mission	Belong, Believe	Believe, Achieve	Belong, Believe	Belong, Believe, Achieve
<b>Veritas - Truth</b>				
Dominican Pillar	Prayer	Study (Learn)	Community	Mission (service)
Elaboration	Adoration: Praising God.	Learning Skills	Participation	Sharing God's word
	Contrition: Asking for God's forgiveness.	Passion	Leadership	Living God's word
	Petition: Asking God for a favour.	Growth	Roles	Helping God's creations
	Thanksgiving: Showing God gratitude.	Confidence	Relationships self/others	Caring for God's creations
	Traditional	Fortitude/prudence	Responsibility	
	Individual/Community			

**Prayer** (Using the truth) At the heart of Dominican Life is prayer. While we are called to share the fruits of our contemplation, private prayer has traditionally found its counterpart in common prayer, especially the Liturgy of the Hours and Eucharist. It is from our prayer that all life and ministry flow. Dominican spirituality recognizes that each person is unique and has a special relationship with God. Shaped by our own personality and giftedness, meditation and contemplation will take different forms for each person.

**Study** (Searching for truth) Dominic said, "Always study!" Dominicans believe that God's revelation takes place in all of life. To study is to find God. Dominicans especially study the Word of God. In the search for truth, we try to listen deeply to the ideas of those with whom we disagree. Deep listening requires that we take time to allow the earth and all the happenings around us to teach us our place on this planet.

**Community** (Living for truth) We do not learn to walk alone, we do not learn to pray alone, we cannot fully know the mystery of God in isolation. We need one another. Community challenges us with interdependence and diversity. The Order of Preachers began in 1206. Dominican life has not been about uniformity but about a celebration of unity in diversity. It raises the questions: What is the common good? How do we make room for others and their needs?

**Service** (Sharing the truth) Prayer, Study, Mission and Community give us the confidence and direction necessary to give service to the world. St. Dominic recognized that we show God to others by how we are and how we act as persons. Dominicans call that preaching. The preaching is profoundly who we are as persons and who we become by the way we serve others.

## PRINCIPLES

NZ Curriculum	What does this mean at St Mary's Kaikorai, a school in the Dunedin Catholic Kahui Ako?
<b>High Expectations</b>	We believe that all children matter and that they want to, and are capable of learning and achieving great things.
<b>Treaty of Waitangi</b>	It is important that our children learn about Treaty of Waitangi and the history of Aotearoa. We acknowledge and respect Maori as Tangata Whenua.
<b>Cultural Diversity</b>	Being inclusive of all cultures, respectful of tradition and accepting of differences is something we value and promote.
<b>Inclusion</b>	We value each person in our community as being born in the image and likeness of God. The principles of social justice and equity are important to us, and is ensuring pastoral care is given to those in need.
<b>Learning to Learn</b>	Students can articulate their learning, know their next steps and work towards achieving goals. All members of the community work in a positive learning environment that value a growth mindset. We recognise that feedback and feed-forward help us learn and grow.
<b>Community Engagement</b>	We are a community that build strong relationships with many people. The contribution of each individual counts and ensures we are truly representative of stakeholders.
<b>Coherence</b>	We identify and address common learning needs. Realistic goals are set and students, teachers and caregivers are all aware of the learning pathways. Learning is celebrated within and beyond our community.
<b>Future Focus</b>	We are a community that recognises the importance of having competent, dedicated, faith-filled and caring teachers, who seek to be innovative in their practice. We have a shared vision, and are clear about what the aims, mission and goals for our community are. All those involved in our community have access to powerful, focused professional development from experts, educational leaders and from within our community.

# RECOGNISING OUR SPECIAL CATHOLIC CHARACTER.

## **Our Special Catholic Character is defined in the Integration agreement as follows:**

The school is a Roman Catholic School in which the whole school community, through the general school programme and in its religious instructions and observances, exercises the right to live and teach the values of Jesus Christ. These values are 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.



## **In our school this means that:**

We will provide an environment where students can learn and be nurtured by the teachings of Jesus Christ. Religious Education is our first curriculum area, meaning we allow the teachings of Jesus and our special Catholic Character to integrate and influence our daily school lives.

The school has a Dominican Charism which means we strive:

To love to learn and to be curious to know more, by

- Being prayerful. We sit quietly, mind and body still, so as to gather the peace of God within.
- Being community focused. We are just and fair to all. We never forget those who do not have the same rights as us.
- Showing perseverance. Always trying to be the best you can be – an individual with your own gifts and talents.
- Showing Respect. To ourselves, others and the environment.

## RECOGNISING NEW ZEALAND'S CULTURAL DIVERSITY.

At St Mary's we acknowledge and affirm the unique position of Māori as Tangata Whenua, in the dual heritage of New Zealand, as well as our country's cultural diversity. In recognising the unique position of Māori as Tangata Whenua, St Mary's will take all reasonable steps to provide instruction in tikanga Māori and te reo Māori for all our students at an introductory level.

To achieve this, the school will:

- Integrate and teach tikanga and te reo as part of class programmes.
- Consult with the parents of our Māori (and Pasifika) children regarding the programme of learning.
- Promote the theme of New Zealand as a multicultural community with a bicultural heritage.

Should there be a request that children be taught in the medium of Te Reo Māori then the Board will:

- Refer to our Resource Teacher of Māori for advice and assistance.
- Refer the family to the nearest bilingual unit.
- Support an application for dual enrolment at Correspondence School for the child.

We also recognise the cultures that all children bring to our school and will celebrate and acknowledge cultural practices from these places. We will consult with our families to include this in our school wide celebrations.

The school's plans and policies will be implemented in ways that are sensitive to the diverse cultural backgrounds and values of individual children and their families.



# COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

In order to achieve the mission, values and vision of the Charter, the school has developed Governance and Management policies and procedures that are regularly reviewed.

- We are committed to strengthening an effective partnership with the school's community and parish and to being responsive to educational and spiritual needs.
- We communicate, consult, and engage both formally and informally with our community regularly.
- Everyone in our school community has the opportunity to participate in sessions relevant to strategic planning
- All Charter statements and Board policies are available to the school community.
- Strategic goals and Board Minutes are displayed in our office area.
- School newsletters inform the community about learning programmes.
- We are working to ensure we effectively consult with our Māori community on programmes and achievement of Māori children.
- The community is consulted every 2 years on the Health Curriculum.
- We communicate regularly on children's learning and achievement through parent interviews, written reports, and online forums.
- Parents are welcomed and encouraged to contact the school personnel.

Further documents: Analysis of Variance 2021, Strategic Planning, Annual Plan.