Rationale:

The Education and Training Reform Act identifies the principles on which the delivery of school education in Victoria is to be based. The following principles apply to the Catholic school sector in Victoria. Emmaus Catholic Primary School students, irrespective of the school they attend, where they live, or their social or economic status, have the access to a high quality education that realizes their learning potential and maximizes their education. It also promotes enthusiasm for lifelong learning and allows parents to take an active part in the child’s education.

Emmaus Catholic Primary School is run in accordance with the Democratic Principles which underpin Australian society. The staff of Emmaus believe that our vision statement is embedded in this as we are committed to the development of the whole child, by committing to assisting students to become active members of the Catholic Church and contributors to the common good of society.

Aims:

- To ensure that all programs and teaching are delivered in a manner that supports and promotes the principles and practice of Australian democracy, including commitment to elected government, rule of law, equal rights for all before the law, freedom of speech and association, and the values of openness and tolerance.
- To acknowledge Australian democratic values and be committed to the principles above.

Principles:

- Emmaus provides information concerning its performance to its school community and makes it publicly available. The annual report to the community is provided to all families through our school website and it is also explained at the Education – Finance School Board annually.
- Parents and the students have the right to access information about their student’s achievements.
- This policy is communicated to the parent community through the Emmaus website.
- This policy is communicated to the staff at a staff meeting and placed in the staffroom.
- A poster of democratic values is displayed in our school and practiced in our school environment.
- Our students undertake studies in Civics and Citizenship that provides students with the knowledge, skills and opportunities to understand and practise what is means to be a citizen in a democracy.

Evaluation:

Our school’s philosophy is ‘to pray, work and share together’.
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