

# **Statement Affirming Donvale Christian College's Adherence to Democratic Principles**

**(As required in the VRQA Minimum Standards and Requirements for School  
Registration)**

In the spirit of Romans 13, this school community acknowledges with thankfulness to God, that the College is able to prosper under the principles and practices of a democratic nation and the policy frameworks of both its Federal and State Governments.

We acknowledge with gratitude that we, together with all Australian citizens, have the freedom to pursue our religious beliefs and to live out of a religious worldview that is founded upon those beliefs.

We honour and commit to the fundamental freedoms of speech and association for all Australians so long as those freedoms are not used to subvert the rule of law.

We accept the right of our elected Governments and their officers to prescribe certain conditions pertaining to the programs and teaching practices of schools, provided those conditions do not diminish or remove our right to teach in a manner consistent with our declared religious beliefs around which our College operates.

DCC acknowledges that all persons are entitled to be treated equally before the law and, as far as it lies within our capacity to do so, we will endeavour to treat the members of our community with equity and fairness.

While not in any way compromising the integrity of our own beliefs and values, we are committed to living in peace with our fellow Australians irrespective of differences in faith, race or culture. We are committed to the social value of respect for all persons, which derives from our reverence for Jesus Christ whose sacrifice is available to all those who come to him in trust and faith.

Our College is committed to an education that references its programs and policies to a Christian worldview. As such, the school is open to all Christian families who seek an education based on Christian principles and standards.

Finally, the school is open to the normal processes of accountability required by Governments and commits to ethical and transparent practices in respect of each of those requirements.

## **Communication to Staff**

The Statement is included in the Staff Handbook which is published on an annual basis. Staff members are reminded annually of the implications of the statement for staff practices and attitudes.

## **Communication to Students**

A simplified version of the statement is included in the Student Homework Diaries each year. Students are reminded from time to time on assemblies of the implications of the statement for them.

## **Communication to the School Community**

The Statement is included on the College's website

*Reviewed every 5 years*

*Approved 16<sup>th</sup> July 2008*