

# The Character of a Catholic School

## Brief Statement for the Information of Non-teaching Staff

This statement is to be read in association with the College charter, a copy of which is available from the College.

The special character of a Catholic school 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”.

A person applying for a position in a Catholic school needs to understand the commitment this involves.

- 1 All employees, whether Catholic or not, are part of this “whole school community”. Each employee is expected to use her or his specific skills to achieve the purpose of the College.
- 2 No employee will be required to act against her or his own conscience or personal philosophy of life. That would be un-Christian and contrary to the aims of the College.
- 3 However, in accepting a position in a Catholic school it is assumed that the employee realises that:-
  - (a) Personnel work as a team and all are expected to contribute, according to their individual strengths and within their personal convictions, to the total purpose of the College. No school can operate successfully if any one employee undermines the efforts of the others.
  - (b) The College community rightly expects all personnel to act so as to be appropriate models for young women. Conduct by an employee which would give the College community grounds for thinking that the employee’s attitude is antagonistic to the special character of the College would be seen as unprofessional and, therefore, unacceptable.