1. **Vision Statement and Motto**
   At St Joseph’s School we seek A Connected Community through living out our Motto - Christian Values, Catholic Family and Individual Growth.

   The Policy Statements are designed to provide transparency and accountability for our community in relation to our educational ministry as a Catholic School.

2. **Profile of the school.**
   St Joseph’s School is administered by the Brisbane Catholic Education office on behalf of the Archbishop of Brisbane. As a Catholic School within the Archdiocese of Brisbane, St Joseph’s is committed to an educational ministry that embraces and promotes lifelong learning.

3. **Our Values**
   Gospel values should so illumine and enliven Catholic Education that the way of life in each school gives witness to Christ. This alone makes the school distinctively Catholic. Obviously, these Gospel values will impact on all decisions concerning the purposes, content, teaching/learning experiences, evaluation processes and structures which form elements of the curriculum in Catholic schools. The following values have had a major influence in assisting the community in the development of this policy.

   **Our Catholic Christian tradition:** we are a pilgrim people, journeying together, our story is never fully written, so our plans are never fully realised; we are constantly drawing upon our tradition and also being called into new ways of growing and renewing ourselves as church.

   **Dignity and justice for all:** all persons are created equal and human dignity is inviolable. Our educational efforts should confirm the belief that everyone is unique, that individual distinctions enrich and enliven our world and that the individual has both rights and responsibilities.

   **Catholic Christian Community:** a community in communion that does not exist for itself but is empowered by the Spirit to be at the service of others; an evangelising and joyful presence in the world.

   **Search for truth:** education shall impart in the learner a zest for life, the courage to tackle it, and a desire by students to use and extend what they learn. Critical judgment in different areas of learning is underpinned by a search for truth.

   **Collaboration and subsidiarity:** Catholic educators make use of a ‘shared wisdom’ in arriving at decisions and attempt to locate decision making at the lowest appropriate level.

   **Creativity:** we look for creative, flexible and future oriented responses that best address the needs of students, the local community, system and government.

   **Stewardship:** education should view individuals as moral beings, accountable for their decisions and responsible for their actions, with an ability to seek what is true and to do what is right.

   **A mutual accountability:** as an educational community we report on the outcomes of our work and the degree to which our goals are realised.

4. **Consultation and data review.**
   St Joseph’s School developed these Policy Statements in consultation with our school community. Consultation occurred through staff meetings, meetings with our School Board and distribution of the draft Policy Statements for comment and review. The Policy Statements were endorsed by the Principal and the School Board, and will be reviewed at least every 3-5 years (in line with the Strategic Renewal Plan).
CHRISTIAN VALUES

POLICY STATEMENT
We teach Christian values and prepare students to make strong decisions, both at school and the wider community.

POLICY INTENTS
- Policies, programmes and practices which explicitly articulate the nature and purpose of Catholic schooling, within the broader evangelising mission of the Church.
- A religious education curriculum that promotes knowledge, deep understanding and skills about the Catholic and broader Christian tradition.
- A cohesive and integrated approach to nurturing and promoting the religious life of the school, the faith formation of students and participation in the worshipping community.
- A cohesive and integrated approach for the spiritual formation of staff.
- A cohesive and integrated approach for the professional learning of staff in religious education and theology.
- A shared understanding of and practical responses to Catholic Social Teaching.

CONSEQUENCES
As a consequence of this policy, the following guidelines and procedures will be developed:
1. Social action and justice initiatives.
2. Faith formation framework.

REFLECTION MATERIAL
In developing this policy, the community of St Joseph’s utilised the expertise of the local community – School and Parish. Input from the broader community included the following:


CATHOLIC FAMILY

POLICY STATEMENT
We foster a sense of belonging and build ‘A Connected Community’ – School, Parish and wider community.

POLICY INTENTS
- Structures, processes and collaboration with clergy and parish bodies strengthen the shared mission of parish and school.
- Partnerships that provide for consultation and engagement with parents as the primary educators of their children in the mission of the Catholic school.
- A comprehensive approach to staff well-being and development including professional learning, professional standards, performance management and pastoral care.
- Leadership development and succession planning informed by the mission and purpose of Catholic Education.
- Development of effective professional learning communities both within schools and across the wider BCEO community.
- Productive links are forged with professional bodies and institutions, the broader community and government agencies.
- A safe, healthy and productive school environment for students, staff and community.
- Consultative and collaborative partnerships are evident among schools and between schools and BCEO.

CONSEQUENCES
As a consequence of this policy, the following guidelines and procedures will be developed:
1. Connections between School and Parish.
2. Development of community connection partnerships.

REFLECTION MATERIAL
In developing this policy, the community of St Joseph’s utilised the expertise of the local community – school and parish. Input from the broader community included the following:


INDIVIDUAL GROWTH

POLICY STATEMENT
We empower students to achieve their personal best through working self-confidently and considerately with others.

STRATEGIC INTENTS
- Enhanced pedagogical practice that is data-informed and evidence-based.
- Implementation of the Australian Curriculum within the context of the BCE Learning Framework as a means of realising equity and excellence.
- Improved literacy and numeracy standards.
- Learning and teaching environments are adaptive and responsive to the changing structure of schooling, e.g. Year 7 to secondary.
- Comprehensive whole school approaches provide pastoral care, protection of students, student behaviour support and foster social and emotional wellbeing.
- Targeted strategies that ensure the identification, monitoring, and improved education outcomes for specific diverse student populations
- Career education and creative curriculum planning that improves student access to pathways and maximises school and post school options.
- School Leadership Team and Classroom Teachers have well developed capacities to utilise information, communication and learning technologies to improve teaching and learning.

CONSEQUENCES
As a consequence of this policy, the following guidelines and procedures will be developed:
1. Educational research that improves teaching and learning.
2. Environment that encourages and challenges students of all levels.

REFLECTION MATERIAL
In developing this policy, the community of St Joseph’s utilised the expertise of the local community – school and parish. Input from the broader community included the following:


