Statement

MacKillop Catholic College will interact with the community to promote and express positive involvement in community life.

Definition

Interact with: two-way process implying -

a) using the community both as a resource for, and focus of, an activity. This might include inviting guest speakers from the community, commissioning students as speakers to community groups and performing works of charity and/or civic benefit;

b) acting as a resource for the community. This might include sharing our facilities and/or staging cultural events for the community.

Community – Hobart with a focus on the Eastern Shore and its hinterland which supply students to MacKillop Catholic College.

Positive Involvement - taking part in life-enriching activities.

Rationale

1. As the only Catholic secondary college on the Eastern Shore, MacKillop Catholic College should assume a leading role in promoting the values of Christian education. One such value is outreach.

2. Middle secondary years characteristically coincide with a shift in the young person’s ego-focus from self to others. Educational policies must capitalise upon and direct this development.

3. Students’ experience of positive community involvement as givers and receivers generates feelings of self-worth and belonging, as well as a sense of civic responsibility.

Guidelines

1. Activities must always benefit both students and the community.

2. Student involvement in community relations must be recorded on students’ records.

3. The activities program needs to be sufficiently broad and imaginative that all students over their life at MacKillop Catholic College may engage in both aspects of the policy, i.e. as resources for, and as active participants in their community life.

The program might include arranging sporting or cultural events for public benefit; charity work by specific groups; participation in local council or shopping centre activities/competitions with a community focus; student management of hiring out or lending physical or educational resources; student enterprise activities and work experience.