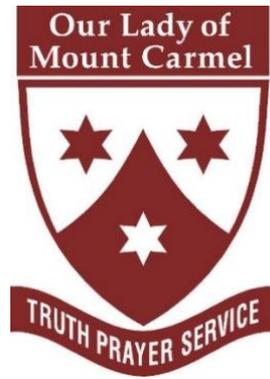


Our Lady of Mount Carmel School



Christian Service Learning Policy 2-A2

RATIONALE

OLMC is a community inspired by our motto of Truth, Prayer and Service. We are all gifted in some way and the challenge for each student is to use their gifts in the service of others. Our Carmel Care senior leadership group forms the basis of our Christian Service Learning Program with involvement from all year levels encouraged.

The Christian Service Learning program gives students the opportunity to explore many ways to serve in the footsteps of so many Christians and will help students discover new talents and interests as they participate.

Students soon discover that not only the people they are assisting are benefiting, but so are they. It requires the student to be creative, to find things to do that will be fulfilling and helpful and that they will feel rewarded and experience a sense of satisfaction as a result of being involved.

Christian Service Learning enables students to interact with others in the spirit of the Gospel, to live and serve as Jesus commanded. Students identify areas in their communities where they can help develop a Gospel vision of society.

DEFINITION

Christian Service-Learning is a concrete way of putting into action the Gospel values espoused by all at OLMC. Catholic schools are communities of faith whose main task is evangelisation through education: they are 'important means through which the Church proclaims the Gospel of Jesus Christ'.

Throughout history, serving others has been the mark of a great person. Christian Service Learning is a student-centered program that provides students with an opportunity to develop empathy, compassion and a sense of justice through meaningful and active citizenship. It will enable students to demonstrate competencies in critical thinking, problem solving, communication, self- reflection, community and environmental responsibility and cultural awareness.

SCHOOL PROCEDURES

The Christian Service Learning program at OLMC enables students to have the opportunity to further achieve the following Religious Education Outcomes.

Outcome 2 - Drawing on Human Experience

Students understand the content of the Christian message and its significance by relating it to examples drawn from human experience. Students analyse how to relate Catholic beliefs and practices to real life situations and experiences.

Outcome 3 - Knowing Jesus

Students know the person of Jesus, the model for living out the Christian mission in the world. Students understand that, in the Gospels, Jesus taught about and demonstrated the commandment of love. They know that this commandment today can be shown through the Christian values of justice, compassion, truthfulness and respect. Students understand what it means to develop a gospel vision of society.

They examine practical examples of how this vision can be developed in Australian society and the world in which they live.

Outcome 4 - Living Like Jesus

Students understand that Christians are empowered to live like Jesus, the Saviour, as they draw on the power of God's spirit. Students appreciate the call to faith in Christ. They understand that Jesus reveals the truth about what it means to be human and how to live as God wants. They understand discipleship and the Christian call to discipleship. Students understand the meaning of Christian vocation and how people can live out their vocation.

ACTION PLAN

Student Rights and Responsibilities

RIGHTS

Students have a right to:

- Worthwhile and stimulating activities, using any special skills they may have.
- Have input into choosing the activities undertaken.

RESPONSIBILITIES

When participating students have the responsibility to:

- Be dependable.

- Be willing.
- Ensure that confidential information is respected.
- Be open to other peoples' points of view.
- Work as a member of a team.
- Deal fairly with all people.
- Employ necessary precautions to ensure your own safety and the safety of others.