



## POLICIES

# Leschenault Catholic Primary School

Topic:	Christian Service Learning in Catholic Schools		
Policy No:	2-A2		
Policy Area:	Catholic Identity		
Updated:	2017	Date of Review:	2019

### Rationale

One of the key roles of Leschenault Catholic Primary School is to form young people committed to the love, compassion and justice of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We foster a Christian attitude in society and encourage the development of the kind of world envisaged by Christ.

Christian Service Learning in our school enables students to grow from a Catholic faith perspective as people of service and justice. We challenge students to grow in their understanding that faith is not just a personal response to God's love but a communal response to love one another as Jesus taught in order 'to make the world a better place for all.'

### Principles

We have a vibrant student Ministry Program which runs in our school. At the beginning of each year during a special Mass our Year Six Leaders pledge to be faithful student leaders who strive to encourage and support the students and community at Leschenault Catholic Primary School. In this way each senior is given the opportunity to contribute towards building a peaceful and happy school through Christian service.

Our Senior Ministries challenge students in developmentally appropriate ways to think and act in ways that reflect values that are consistent with the Gospel.

1. Our *Student Executive* is made up of a Head Boy, Head Girl and Student Council President. The students in these positions represent the school and are positive role models for the student community. These students in these positions are elected.

*This is a prayer for the Student Executive:*

*St. Peter, leader of the twelve apostles.*

*Help us, guide us and strengthen us to be good strong leaders.*

*We ask that you support us, inspire us and help us to set good examples for others as leaders.*

*We thank you for giving us inspirational leaders,*

*who can show us how to use and express our Catholic values.*

2. Our *Library Ministry* are to support and inspire the students in our school to love reading and value books, learning and literature.

*This is a prayer for the Library ministry:*

*Dear Lord*

*Thank you for books that enliven our imagination*

*and give us knowledge. Thank you for all the authors*

*and illustrators that have given us joy or encouraged us to think.*

*Help us as Library Assistants to foster learning, curiosity*

*and imagination, in those we help in the Library.*

*Help us always to do our duties with enthusiasm and pride.*

3. Our *Pastoral Ministry* provides students with opportunities to acquire the knowledge and understandings of love, compassion, justice and service as articulated in the Gospels and to apply their knowledge and skills to real situations in society through raising money and awareness throughout the year of people in our world in need. They support and challenge students to explore and reflect on justice issues as part of an integrated and articulated school plan which actively seeks to promote justice and has a commitment to the common good through a buddy system which supports younger students during break times.

*This is a prayer for the Pastoral Ministry:*

*Loving God*

*Full of compassion and hope,*

*Help us to help others.*

*Guide us to work together to care for those in need.*

*Make us a caring and considerate ministry who are willing to work for the good of all.*

*We pray for all the students at Leschenault, please watch over them*

*Help us to be good listeners as we help to maintain an environment of friendship and trust in our school*

*May we always be a support to those in need.*

4. Our *Sports Ministry* develops a deep understanding of the meaning, practice and value of 'service' from a Christian values perspective.

*This is a prayer for the Sport ministry:*

*God, let me play well but fairly.*

*Help me to learn something that matters once the game is over.*

*Let competition make me strong, but never hostile.*

*Always let me help my opponent up.*

*Never catch me rejoicing in the adversity of others.*

*If I know victory, allow me to be happy; if I am denied,*

*keep me from envy. Remind me that sports are just games.*

*If through athletics I set an example, let it be a good one.*

5. Our *Environmental Ministry* nurtures and cares for our school grounds, encouraging us to become a more sustainable community.

*This is a prayer for the Environmental Ministry:*

*St. Francis, protector of nature. We look to you for guidance as we lead our community in caring for our environment.*

*May you help us as we follow in your footsteps to respect and care for our wildlife and their habitats. Guide us to help younger students respect and care for their surroundings.*

*With your help and God's wisdom, we pray that our ministry can improve the future of our school and those who are part of it*

6. Our *Media Ministry* prepare, document and reflect on our school journey throughout the year.

*This is a prayer for the Media ministry:*

*Dear Lord*

*I praise you and thank you for the privilege of serving you through our media roles and for the magnificent tools you've*

*provided for us to communicate, educate, and inform.  
Help us to respectfully use our technology gifts and talents  
to always positively promote Leschenault and to showcase  
all of the students in a variety of activities.*

Christian Service Learning provides students with the experience of 'service' as a way of learning and living that permeates all aspects of life rather than an activity that is isolated from the rest of their lives. Christian Service Learning is embedded in the curriculum of each Catholic school and is flexible enough to be conducted in or our school time, both on or off school premises.

## **Procedures**

1. Leschenault Catholic Primary School aims to establish developmentally appropriate Christian Service Learning programs.
2. The delivery and structure of Christian Service Learning shall be diverse in order to cater for the differing needs and interests of students at Leschenault Catholic Primary School.
3. Leschenault Catholic Primary School aims to provide structured opportunities for students to reflect critically on their service experience.
4. Leschenault Catholic Primary School aims to follow the Christian Service Learning Framework for Catholic schools when planning and delivering Christian Service Learning in our school.
5. Leschenault Catholic Primary School aims to implement the Christian Service Learning Framework for Catholic Schools in a manner consistent with its own charism, culture and mission.
6. Ministry leaders are the specialist teachers of that learning area and administrative representatives for appropriate groups. For example the Environmental Ministry is led by the Science Specialist teacher. Other groups can be led by interested staff members.