



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION POLICY (BOARD OF DIRECTORS)

Rationale or Purpose

Villanova College is a Catholic College “striving for excellence in boys’ education as an Augustinian community one in mind and heart on the way towards God”. Villanova College is a College where education is the formation of the whole person within a faith community. The staff, parents and students both past and present contribute their gifts and talents towards the development of young men of Gospel values who seek the common good. The community promotes life-long learning through continually challenging itself in the restless search for Truth. ii

It is the Catholic Church’s Vision in the Archdiocese of Brisbane that “schools and colleges aspire to educate and form students who are challenged to live the gospel of Jesus Christ and who are literate in the Catholic and broader Christian tradition so that they might participate critically and authentically in faith contexts and wider society.” iii

Villanova College is, in partnership with parents and parishes, part of the Church’s mission in the Archdiocese of Brisbane to educate and support the faith of its members. Villanova College embraces the living tradition of the Catholic Church, enriching the mission of the Archdiocese of Brisbane with its Augustinian charism and organisational independence. It is witness to the Gospel vision of life, centered on Christ, and challenges those values of contemporary Australian society which erode the dignity of the human person. iv

Villanova College contributes to the faith development of its students.

Policy

Villanova College will provide a religious education program aligned with Brisbane Archdiocesan guidelines and faith formation experiences as fundamental components of a Catholic School curriculum. Villanova College will provide a Religious Education curriculum that is aligned with Augustinian Charism and Mission, the Vision and Mission of Villanova College and is inclusive and respectful of all denominations. Villanova College recognises the importance of collaboration with family and parish in promoting the faith development and religious life of its students.

Implementation

This policy, and the procedures and practices that flow from it, are to be part of the staff, student and parent induction and formation processes on an ongoing basis and are to be included in the relevant publications of Villanova College.

Evaluation and Review

The effectiveness of Villanova College's Religious Education Program will be reviewed as part of the Archdiocesan cyclical validation review processes of Villanova College and the results of the review will form part of the relevant Annual Report to the members of the Augustinian Provincial Council and the Villanova College Board.

This policy is to be reviewed after three years or earlier to take account of any changes to relevant legislation or regulations or Brisbane Archdiocesan guidelines on religious education or to Villanova College's operations and practices and to make sure it remains appropriate to the changing environment.

Review Date: 22 November 2020.

Endorsement: This policy was approved and endorsed by the Villanova College Board on 22 November 2017.

References

i Villanova College Vision Statement.

ii Villanova College Mission Statement.

iii Religious Education Archdiocese of Brisbane Curriculum, P-12 2013 p10

iv Villanova College Guiding Principles.