



School Governance (Democratic Principles)

Source of Obligation

The Victorian Registration Standards (**sch 4 cl 1** and **sch 8 cl 1**) (CECV Guidelines ref 1.1 and 8.1) require that the programs of, and teaching at St. Thomas' must support and promote the principles and practice of Australian democracy.

St. Thomas' is committed to democratic principles of Australia including:

- elected government; and
- the rule of law; and
- equal rights for all before the law; and
- freedom of religion; and
- freedom of speech and association; and
- the values of openness and tolerance.

As stated in the Regs, the requirements of the commitment above are not intended to affect the rights accorded to, or the compliance with any obligation imposed on, the School under the enactment of the State or of the Commonwealth.

Explanation of How the School Communicates the Statement

This Statement of Democratic Principles is communicated to staff, students, parents and guardians and the School community. This Statement is published:

- in the policy folder on our teacher shared network;
- in the student handbook;
- in the St. Thomas' annual report;
- on the St. Thomas' website;
- the Democratic Principles Poster
- in the Curriculum units

CECV Role

The CECV will coordinate the application for senior secondary with the VCAA and VRQA as required.

