

# Principal Role Description

DIOCESE  
OF  
BALLARAT  
CATHOLIC  
EDUCATION  
LIMITED



CATHOLIC EDUCATION BALLARAT

POSITION TITLE: Principal

REPORTING: Executive Director, Catholic Education Ballarat sub-delegated to the Education Consultant as a Responsible Person per the Delegations Instrument.

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## Organisational Tradition and Context

Diocese of Ballarat Catholic Education Limited (DOBCEL) is a company limited by guarantee, created to govern 58 schools located across Western Victoria. DOBCEL and its administrative arm, Catholic Education Ballarat (CEB) work together to support the leadership of Catholic Primary and Secondary schools, to promote Catholic identity, to deliver quality learning, provide effective stewardship and nurture respectful and trusting relationships with the community.

The Executive Director of Catholic Education Ballarat acts with a delegation from the Bishop of Ballarat to organise, administer, support and service all matters related to DOBCEL Schools and Catholic Education Ballarat.

### OUR VISION

As partners in Catholic education and open to God's presence, we pursue fullness of life for all.

### OUR MISSION

We journey towards this vision through:

- proclaiming and witnessing the Good News of Jesus Christ;
- ensuring quality learning that promotes excellence and fosters the authentic human development of all;
- living justly in the world, in relationship with each other and in harmony with God's creation;
- exploring, deepening and expressing our Catholic identity in diverse ways;
- enabling each one of us to reflect more fully in the image of God.

## Role Purpose

The Principal models' faith in action to enact a shared vision that focuses on the delivery of a contemporary, high quality, and evidence-based learning experience for students. Through professional and personal example, the Principal will lead the school in accordance with the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL) standards and the Victorian Institute of Teaching Code of Conduct.

The Principal assumes operational and strategic responsibility for the effective leadership and stewardship of all school resources and will establish a collaborative and supportive learning community.

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## Key Responsibilities

It is not the intention of this role description to limit the scope or accountabilities of the position but to highlight the most important aspects. The accountabilities described may be periodically altered in accordance with changing organisational needs.

This Principal will provide leadership in the following areas:

### Leadership of School Vision and Mission

*The Principal actively and collaboratively develops, embeds and communicates a whole school vision and mission. They influence change by continuously defining, articulating and shaping the future through the lens of Catholic faith and tradition.*

In leading the school Vision and Mission the Principal will:

- lead the ministry of the Catholic school within the mission of the Church;
- engage the community in the development and enactment of the school’s vision and mission;
- demonstrate authentic witness and commitment to the school’s vision and mission;
- ensure that the vision and mission informs school policies, practices and procedures;
- enliven the charism of the school through stewardship of its history and tradition.

### Leadership of Catholic School Culture

*The Principal provides leadership in mission and evangelisation through Christian witness, active participation in parish life, fostering the religious life of the school, promotion of Gospel values and the provision of quality Religious Education.*

In leading the school’s Catholic culture, the Principal will:

- demonstrate witness and commitment to the Catholic Faith;
- lead and promote alignment of the School Vision, Mission and Values;
- act in a spirit of co-responsibility, giving witness to the distinctive educational, moral and social purpose of the Catholic school;
- promote Catholic identity through evangelisation, faith education, liturgy and prayer;
- collaborate with priests and parish leaders to nurture students and communities in the celebration of sacraments, scripture and prayer;
- lead the school’s participation and data analysis in *Enhancing Catholic School Identity* (ECSI) to inform priorities that promote and enhance Catholic School identity;
- lead the implementation and evaluation of the Religious Education Curriculum (Awakenings), in accordance with the mandate of the Bishop of Ballarat;
- ensure a range of faith formation opportunities are available for students, families and staff;
- model attentiveness to own spiritual formation and leadership;
- enable all members of the school community to participate in the practice of Christian witness and the core of principles of catholic social teaching, through appropriate activities and social justice opportunities;
- ensure school policies and practices are consistent with DOBCEL requirements;
- nurture partnerships with the Parish, the wider Catholic community and Church agencies.

### **Leadership of Community Engagement**

*The Principal has the responsibility to ensure the school is a place of welcome, and strengthens partnerships between the school, parents, parish, diocese and wider community.*

In leading the school community engagement, the Principal will:

- foster partnerships between the school, families, parish and the broader community;
- engage with staff and families to work collaboratively for school improvement and improved student outcomes;
- engage with local, zone and diocesan principal and learning networks;
- implement open and effective communication strategies, policies and practices of student learning which enhances parental engagement;
- build respectful relationships and seeks to remove barriers to engagement of student learning;
- actively participate in a collaborative approach to leadership with the Diocese and engage regularly with the Parish Priest, Parish Leaders and with Catholic Education Ballarat;
- actively promote Catholic education in the community;
- lead the school involvement in the promotion and commitment to reconciliation, and the establishment of meaningful and respectful partnerships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

### **Leadership of Staff and Stewardship of Resources**

*The Principal provides effective leadership, develops a clear strategy to build a professional team of highly skilled staff and promotes collective responsibility for school culture, staff and student outcomes. The Principal also leads the effective stewardship of all school resources.*

In leading the staff the Principal will:

- ensure all staff recruitment, performance management and induction processes are in accordance with DOBCEL policies and procedures;
- build a performance and development culture including the development, implementation and monitoring of professional learning plans;
- through consultation, develop a continuous school improvement agenda;
- ensure effective consultation, delegation and transparent decision-making processes are in place;
- make provision for succession planning, leadership development, and formation of staff;
- promote a culture of professionalism and accountability across the school community and for all staff in the delivery of quality learning and teaching programs;
- develop and maintain positive, professional relationships with staff;
- develop and implement appropriate strategies for organisational change.

In leading the **stewardship** of school resources, the Principal will:

- Ensure that the school remains compliant with all legislative requirements for its registration;
- Be responsible and accountable for the transparent stewardship of all financial resources;

- oversee planning for the short, medium and long-term financial viability of the school, including the development of an annual budget to ensure that the school is adequately resourced and staffed;
- in consultation with CEB develop, implement and monitor a school master plan to oversee the maintenance and development of school property and facilities to comply with legislative requirements and regulations;
- ensure all DOBCEL policies are implemented and ongoing compliance is achieved;
- ensure school procedures are consistent with DOBCEL policies and understood by all stakeholders;
- establish efficient systems for the use and protection of data and records management.

### **Leadership of Learning and Teaching**

*The Principal leads the development, implementation and evaluation of a contemporary school curriculum which focuses on high quality student teaching to ensure student learning and builds a culture of collaboration within a community of engaged teachers.*

In leading the school's Learning and Teaching the Principal will:

- ensure the school has a clearly documented, coherent and sequenced curriculum plan that is regularly evaluated;
- ensure consistent research-based learning, teaching and assessment practices are aligned with the mandated curriculum;
- ensure the school has in place agreed and effective pedagogical practices that lead to high quality learning;
- develop a culture of effectiveness by leading regular evaluations using data to inform practice;
- lead the analysis of school data to inform priorities and improve student learning;
- integrate emerging technologies to enhance learning where appropriate.

### **Leadership of Wellbeing**

*The Principal facilitates a positive climate that recognises the uniqueness and value of each person and establishes a safe school environment in which a spirit of genuine care and acceptance of all is achieved.*

In leading wellbeing, the Principal will:

- ensure a safe environment that contributes to positive learning outcomes and the wellbeing of the whole school community;
- ensure duty of care for students and staff, in accordance with legislative, compliance and policy requirements;
- ensure provision of learning opportunities for students with diverse needs;
- recognise and support the needs of students, families and carers facing complex challenges;
- set high standards of behaviour, encouraging active engagement and strong student voice;
- build, promote and support positive, relationships between all members of the school community;

- collaboratively develop and implement appropriate wellbeing policies and practices;
- ensure a school environment which supports social and emotional learning opportunities;
- promote and ensure consistent, positive behaviour management practices.

## Skills & Capabilities

To be successful in this role the Principal needs to have the following skills and capabilities:

- **Witness capability:** can articulate and embed a Catholic school identity and culture through dialogue and the promotion of Post-Critical belief;
- **Personal capability:** demonstrates confidence, self-awareness, resilience and cultivates and applies sound analysis and reasoning;
- **Relational capability:** establishes emotionally mature, collaborative, relationships of trusts by displaying informed, purposeful and meaningful communication that promotes individual and mutual responsibility;
- **Professional capability:** demonstrates knowledge of current evidence-based curriculum and pedagogical knowledge focused on educational outcomes and supporting an engaging learning environment;
- **Organisational capability:** demonstrates strategic thinking and timely decision making to respond to current and future challenges, with a particular focus on the stewardship of resources to ensure school goals and priorities are achieved.

## Mandatory Requirements

The following are requirements for this position:

- membership of the Catholic Church and regular participation in the sacramental life of a faith community;
- a demonstrated commitment to Catholic Education;
- recent leadership experience within education;
- relevant post graduate qualifications or a commitment to completing within 5 years;
- registration as a teacher with the Victorian Institute of Teaching;
- accreditation to Teach Religious Education in a Catholic School or interstate equivalent;
- satisfactory criminal records check;
- satisfactory completion of the declaration, according to the requirements of the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority;
- a commitment to work within and align to the DOBCEL Vision and Mission;
- a current Victorian or National Police Check.

## Responsibilities of all Principals

### ***Safeguarding of Children and Young People***

*All DOBCEL employees must:*

- demonstrate an understanding and commitment to all aspects of child safety legislative requirements including, but not limited to Ministerial order 870;
- conduct themselves in accordance with the DOBCEL Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct and the CECV Commitment to Child Safety;
- take all appropriate action to reasonably protect children and young people, including being aware of all mandatory reporting obligations.
- ensure all staff have completed as a minimum all mandatory competencies/training.

### ***Health and Safety***

*DOBCEL is committed to providing a work environment that is safe and free of risks to health.*

To achieve this all employees must:

- take reasonable care for their own health and safety and the safety of others;
- provide all relevant information regarding about any medical condition that may require Emergency Services to be called; or that could impact on their ability to perform their duties;
- not 'intentionally or recklessly interfere with or misuse' anything provided at the workplace;
- report all hazards and incidents as required.

### ***Partnering and Communication***

*All employees have a responsibility to demonstrate positive and effective communication.*

To achieve this all employees must:

- promote a culture of partnering and collaboration;
- ensure appropriate and professional language is demonstrated in every interaction;
- provide timely support to maintain teamwork;
- maintain effective and professional relationships with all internal and external stakeholders.

### ***Performance and Professional Development***

*All employees have a responsibility to undertake continuous professional development.*

To achieve this all employees must:

- participate in regular team meetings as required;
- develop individual action and development plans, aligned to organisational and role priorities;
- participate in performance review processes as required;
- complete all mandatory training required as an employee of DOBCEL;
- comply with all expected professional expectations and codes of conduct as outlined by DOBCEL or the relevant regulatory and professional body;
- continuously update knowledge appropriate to the role.

### ***Policy***

All employees are expected to comply with and demonstrate a positive commitment toward upholding all DOBCEL policies, procedures, and work instructions.