



STATEMENT OF

Christian Ethos

Since its founding in 1875 as one of Australia's first independent schools for girls, Presbyterian Ladies' College (PLC) has been guided by its distinctively Christian ethos reflecting the highest values and ideals of humanity. This ethos lies at the heart of PLC's culture, nurtured by members of its community living out its principles and values.

This distinctive ethos is embedded in the College's Constitution 1 which states that one of the aims of the College is to provide for the education of students which is:

"consistent with the teachings of Christianity, including religious instruction and education in the Holy Scripture of the Old and New Testaments interpreted not inconsistently with the Westminster Confession of Faith, the 39 Articles of Religion of the Church of England and the Basis of Union of the Uniting Church in Australia (1971)."

Consequently, the Bible (being the Holy Scripture of the Old and New Testaments) is the College's guiding authority regarding character and conduct within the College.

At the heart of the Bible is the good news (or Gospel) of the coming of Jesus Christ. Jesus is the divine Son of God, who humbled himself and by becoming a human, served us by dying sacrificially on the cross in our place. Those who put their faith in Jesus receive the gift of salvation through his death and resurrection. They then receive a restored relationship with God their loving Creator and are empowered to live a life of selfless service modelled on the example of Jesus.

The College is established in connection with the Presbyterian Church of Victoria (PCV) 2 and as such, continues to enjoy a strong and ongoing association and fellowship with the PCV.

The Constitution stipulates the expression of Christian faith and public worship should be in accord with



the practices of the PCV in form and substance 3.

Consequently, to the extent relevant to its purpose, mission and operations, the College references the doctrinal position of the PCV, and papers prepared by its standing committees 4 as they seek to understand and apply the Bible to various current issues facing society.

1 Constitution: section 2(b)

2 Constitution: section 2(a)

3 Constitution: section 2(c)(ii)

4 Full copies of these statements and papers are available at PCV website: www.pcv.org.au