

St Kevin's Guiding Lights

Your Light Guides Our Way





Our Vision

We are an inclusive Catholic community,
nurturing each child's potential
to thrive in a changing world.

Our Mission

We are a welcoming Catholic community, grounded in faith through
the teachings of Jesus, inspired by St Kevin and St Mary MacKillop.

We provide innovative, differentiated learning experiences
that engage and invite all to flourish.

We foster resilient learners who embrace life's challenges
with hope and contribute positively to our changing world.

Acknowledgements

We would like to acknowledge the St Kevin's School Community for the collaboration, dedication and love that went into designing the St Kevin's Guiding Lights. This community project has been over 2 years in the making and has culminated in the beautiful script of how we work and pray at St Kevin's School.

Belinda Kingston, Principal
on behalf of the St Kevin's School Community 2022

St Kevin's School

To Work is to Pray

Est. 1964

Established by the Josephite Sisters in 1964, on the land of the Turrbal people, St Kevin's is a respectful Catholic school community, grounded in a faith where everyone is welcome and valued, and where children are encouraged to SHINE.

We are motivated by our school's vision, which calls us to walk in the footsteps of Jesus – with faith, hope, love, justice, wisdom, resilience and balance.

We acknowledge past injustices and seek to educate our community together with First Nations peoples to promote positive and genuine reconciliation.

Our Patron Saints Kevin and Mary MacKillop are at the forefront in the St Kevin's Guiding Lights. Their history is entrenched in our school and lived out each day, guided by our whole school virtues.

St Kevin's Guiding Lights



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Our Pillars



LEARNING AND TEACHING

We teach and aspire to a culture of excellence where children grow and learn in an equitable inclusive environment.

We expect consistency of teaching practices, implemented within a Model of Pedagogy through the Australian Curriculum and BCE Religion Curriculum.

We motivate our children to be confident and creative individuals who grow and thrive in an ever-changing world, taught by compassionate staff who are equipped and trained with research based best practices.

In striving for excellence, we expect aspirational teaching which encourages children to learn and do their best.



FAMILY AND COMMUNITY

At St Kevin's School, we value our partnerships with families and the especially important role that parents and caregivers play in developing their child's positive attitudes towards learning and education.

Working together, we can build confidence in our children as learners, supporting their wellbeing and motivating them to be the best versions of themselves that God created them to be.

We celebrate learning progress, our Catholic Identity and respectful relationships, so that our children grow to be active and informed members of the wider community.

In our community 'Your light guides our way'.

RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS

Nestled in the leafy neighbourhood of Geebung, our aim is to provide a learning environment that promotes sustainable practices and inspires respectful relationships, embracing the example of Jesus.

Students are nurtured in a safe, supportive environment which enables the development of positive behaviours and self-discipline. We acknowledge that each individual has rights and responsibilities and are committed to positive practices, empowering students to reach their full potential.

St Kevin's vision and mission emphasizes a community where all are welcome, loved and respected. Each person is empowered to grow both as an individual and in partnership with others.

Our wellbeing is important, we treat each other with dignity and respect promoting a safe, happy and healthy environment.



CATHOLIC IDENTITY

We are a Catholic school steeped in tradition, rituals and teachings, foundational in the life of Jesus Christ.

Our Catholic Identity encompasses two distinct but complementary dimensions: teaching people religion (the classroom teaching and learning of Religion) and teaching people to be religious in a particular way (the religious life of the Catholic school).

In partnership with the parish, we celebrate our rich Catholic faith as a community. Our decisions are guided by our virtues personified by our patron saints, St Kevin and St Mary MacKillop.

We celebrate a love of God and empower everyone in our school community to be the head, heart and hands of Jesus.



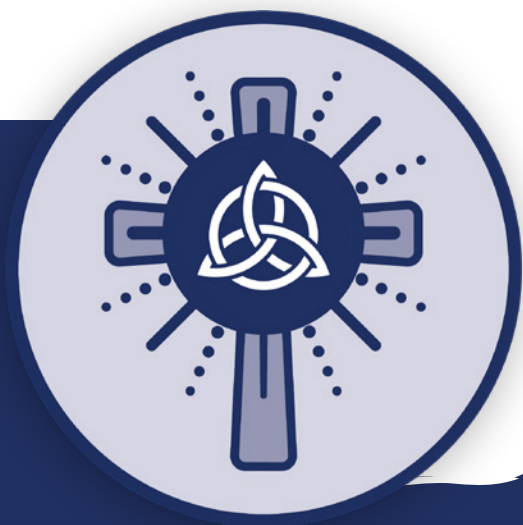
A stylized flame icon in a light blue color, positioned on the left side of the page. It consists of a large, teardrop-shaped flame with a smaller, pointed flame at its base. The background features two concentric, light blue circular arcs on the left side.

Our Virtues

FAITH

Jesus said to him,
“If you can believe,
all things are possible.”

Mark 9:23



Our community is connected in faith, expressed in our daily life;

- ◆ Believing in God as Trinity.
- ◆ Sharing the good news with each other as St Mary Mackillop did.
- ◆ Nourishing us through prayer as we teach, challenge and transform.

Our school's Christian Tradition and Celtic heritage is revealed in the symbol of **FAITH**, which includes the Triquetra—expressing the relationship of the Trinity—within a Celtic-style cross from which radiates light of Christ. For Christians, the Cross symbolises God present with Jesus in his suffering, and God who promises new life through the mystery of the resurrection.

HOPE

I have come that they
may have life and have it
to the full.

John 10:10



We live and grow together guided by the light of Christ,
a heart open towards a positive future;

- ◆ Nurturing and respecting each other and all living things.
- ◆ Feeling safe and happy at our school.
- ◆ Making good choices and learning from our mistakes.

Within the symbol of **HOPE**, the tree signifies the way our hope grows in the light. Hope believes in a future, even amidst challenges—yet it needs to be nurtured. Recognising its fragility, we are all called to be gardeners of hope.

LOVE

My command is this:
Love each other
as I have loved you.

John 15:12

We are a community of love, a self-giving love of God and others;

- ◆ Honouring and celebrating the gifts of every person as we work and pray together.
- ◆ Supporting a welcoming, inclusive school community.
- ◆ Accepting changes and frustrations with a loving heart.



The **LOVE** symbol shows the blackbird and hand representing the story of St Kevin. The gently supportive hand speaks of a safe and supportive learning community where students have the space to 'grow wings' and fly into their future.

BALANCE

For his love
has no end.

Psalm 136



Like St Kevin, our community is centred in calmness and harmony in life;

- ◆ Cherishing Mother Earth and contributing to make it a better place.
- ◆ Listening and caring for ourselves and each other, with kind words and compassionate hearts.
- ◆ Showing self-control at difficult times, remembering that our actions can affect other people.

In the **BALANCE** symbol, ripples form on Glendalough lake, suggesting peace and equilibrium. The leaf represents the fragility and delicacy of balance in nature just as in our lives.

RESILIENCE

Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

1 Thessalonians 5:11



We are resilient people with a growth-mindset, persisting in searching for what is best and good;

- ◆ Using mistakes as opportunities to problem solve, grow and ‘bounce back’.
- ◆ Spreading happiness and positivity to make others happy
- ◆ Stretching and challenging ourselves, being adaptable learners.

RESILIENCE is represented by journey over the mountains, the challenges and the accomplishments along the way. The mountain is similar to D’Aguilar Range to the west of our school. Resilience, taking one step after another, often rewards us with a wonderful view of life.

WISDOM

Your word will be a lamp
for my feet and a light
to guide me.

Psalm 119



We are people of wisdom who inspire and learn,
discerning in the choices we make each day

- ◆ Trying hard and doing our best, setting high standards.
- ◆ Working together knowing it makes us stronger.
- ◆ Inspiring others, shining through our behaviour,
mindset and energy.

The symbol of **WISDOM** is a reminder of the Spirit of love and knowledge that has been with creation from the beginning. It lives and flows in our hearts through the light of scripture.

JUSTICE

'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind'; and, 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'

Luke 10:27



We strive for what is fair and what is right, with concern for fairness and responsibility for all;

- ◆ Supporting forgiveness and dignity for all.
- ◆ Reflecting love in all we do.
- ◆ Building a community of honesty and trust.

The symbol of **JUSTICE** features hands to express the action of seeking justice for those in need. Inspired by the God of justice, our work for justice comes from the heart. The crossed hands, referencing the heart, also echo a butterfly, highlighting how justice can bring transformation and freedom. The Australian wattle branch and flowers reference Mary MacKillop, a woman of dignity who faced injustice and challenges with courage.

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