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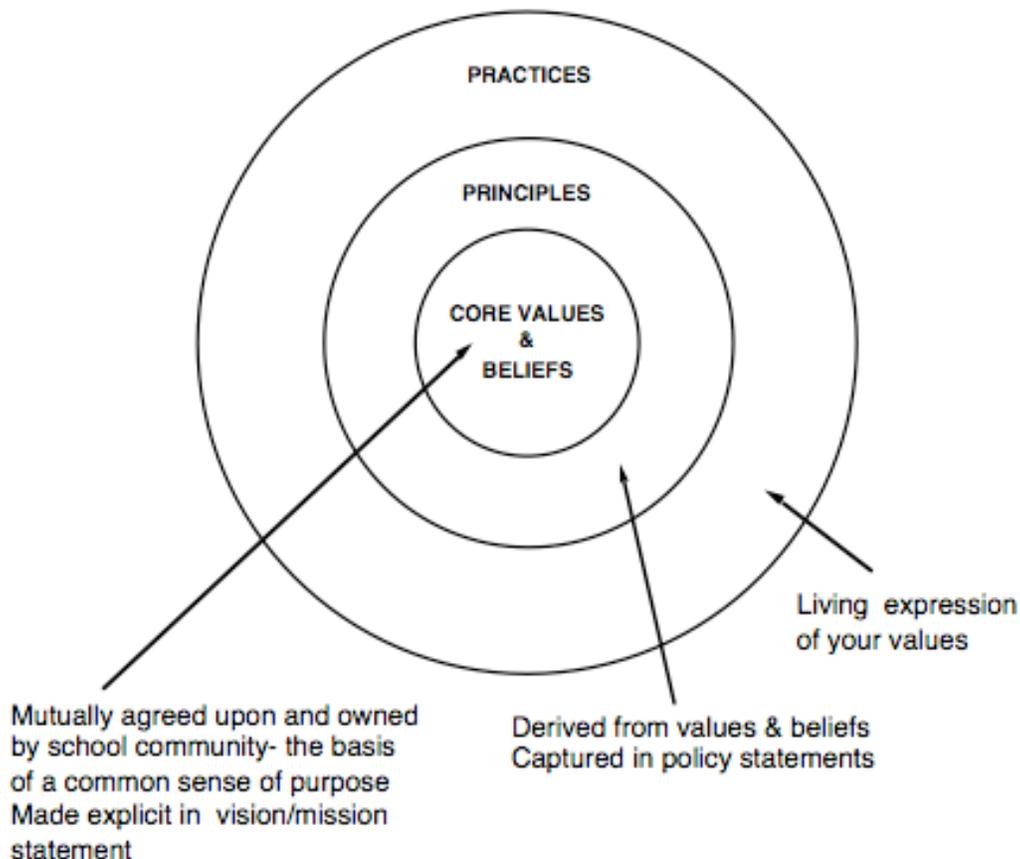
SCHOOL VALUES

July 2012

At St. Michael's Church School we strive to be a Values-driven Learning Community. In such a community:

1. There is **CLARITY** - We all know where we're going, across the whole school community.
2. There is **BUY IN** - When everyone knows the beliefs, then the practices become easier.
3. There is **COMMUNICATION** - Values need to be known and used by the pupils, staff, board and parents.

Values driven Learning Communities are where our principles and practices are the expression of our core values.



Dr. Julia Atkin

St. Michaels' Church School staff has developed a set of core values over the last 18 months. We began our discussions on a teacher only day in February 2011, and continued throughout the year.

1. We investigated our vision and mission – what key concepts are important to our School community?

VISION

St Michael's Church School was founded over 150 years ago. Throughout its history the School has enjoyed worship, learning and ministry with the parish community of St. Michael and All Angels.

The School provides excellence in education for girls and boys from Year 0 to Year 8 in a rich atmosphere of Christian beliefs and values. Pupils are given a wide variety of challenging and enriching educational experiences utilising the resources of our city. These experiences empower our pupils to participate as compassionate, responsible, thinking members of the community. Led by dedicated and skilled staff, the School provides a supportive, caring and respectful learning environment in which pupils are nurtured.

MISSION STATEMENT

St Michael's Church School is a Christian community providing quality education and empowering learners to be compassionate, responsible, resourceful citizens.

2. We looked at other schools – how are they defining and promoting their values?

3. We chose and ranked eight key values

*Belonging / Community
Compassion
Growing Faith
Confidence, Integrity
Risk Taking
Responsibility
Learning*

4. Pupils ranked the eight values

*Learning
Responsibility
Risk Taking
Confidence
Integrity
Compassion
Growing Faith
Belonging / Community*

5. Parents were surveyed and they ranked the eight values

Learning
Integrity
Compassion
Confidence
Responsibility
Risk Taking
Growing Faith
Belonging / Community

6. Staff reduced the list to four core values

7. The four values were ‘unpacked’ – how did we see these being displayed in our School community?

Our Values

• **CONNECTEDNESS**

Social connectedness refers to the relationships people have with others and the benefits these relationships can bring to the individual as well as to society.

These relationships and connections can be a source of enjoyment and support. They help people to feel they belong and have a part to play in society. People who feel socially connected also contribute towards building communities and society.

• **FAITH**

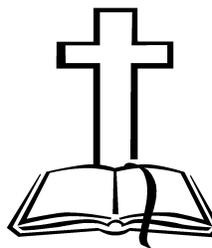
Faith refers to our desire to demonstrate Christian attitudes and to develop a personal faith. This includes developing our understanding of God, and applying this understanding in our relationship with others.

• **AROHA**

Aroha refers to the personal attributes that our community strives to develop. They are the characteristics that are at the heart of who we are.

• **LEARNING**

Learning refers to the lifelong process of transforming information and experience into knowledge, skills, behaviours and attitudes. Learning involves practice, reflection, and social interaction, and can be assisted by a range of new technologies.



CONNECTEDNESS

At St. Michael's, our learners will experience connectedness, a sense of family, belonging, participating, co-operating, celebrating, and being part of a larger community – in the School, in the Parish, in the City, and in the World.

FAITH

At St. Michael's, our learners will develop and demonstrate Christian attitudes and values, developing a life of prayer and knowledge of the Bible, showing our faith through our daily actions, and being accepting of other cultures and faiths.



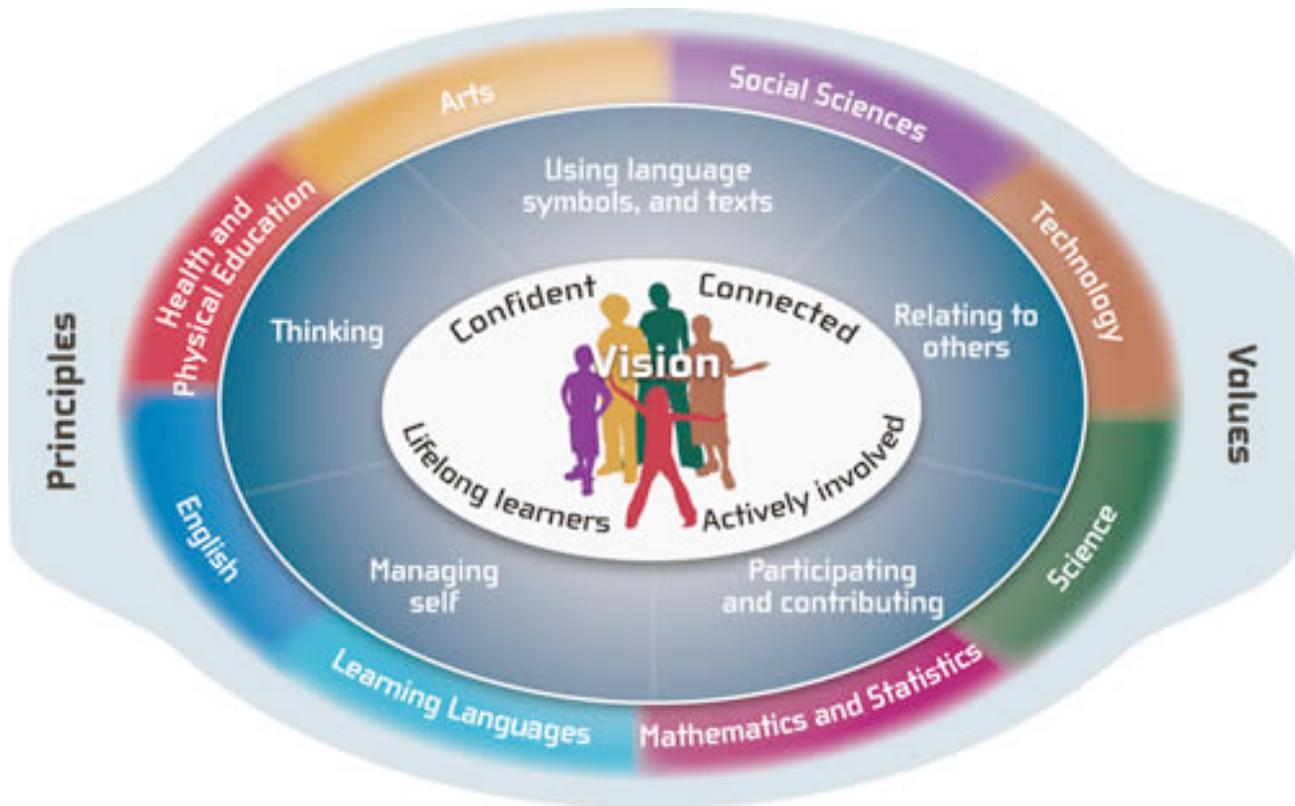
AROHA

At St. Michael's, our learners will develop integrity, positivity, caring, resilience, co-operation, sense of humour, determination, diligence, creativity, passion, confidence, motivation, independence, interdependence, flexibility, responsibility and resourcefulness.

LEARNING

At St. Michael's, our learners will develop a lifelong love of learning, exploration and curiosity, learning together, and using our gifts and talents. We will be creative and take risks as we seek to develop our knowledge, skills, behaviours and attitudes.

These Values link to the NZ Curriculum and to the Key Competencies:



These Values link to our Vision / Mission Statement:

We will empower our pupils to be compassionate, responsible, thinking members of the community.

Our next steps:

We need to communicate our School Values – through:

- Graphic Representation
- Posters for around the School
- Website
- Newsletters
- Reports

Our Goal is for all of our School community - Board, Staff, Parents, and Pupils – to know, discuss and use the Values.