

Democratic Statement.

This statement can be found in the school handbook and in our philosophy, which is on the website.

The VRQA Minimum Standards for School Registration includes a standard concerning the school's adherence to Australian Democratic Principles and practice.

This standard is as follows:

The programs of, and teaching in, a school must support and promote the principles and practice of Australian democracy, including a commitment to:

- Elected Government;
- The rule of law;
- Equal rights for all before the law;
- Freedom of religion;
- Freedom of speech and association;
- Values of openness and tolerance.

Ballarat Steiner School believes in an accountable, democratically elected government. We respect and observe the rule of law, and believe that no person is above the law. We believe in equal rights for all before the law, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, sexuality, gender or other attributes. We believe not only in the freedom of religion, but also the need to practice tolerance and understanding of each other's beliefs. We believe in the value of freedom of speech and freedom of association, but also acknowledge that we have the responsibility not to abuse this freedom. We believe in the values of openness and tolerance, and value and respect all members of the schools community regardless of background.