**CONTEXT**

It is important for Mercy Education Ltd (MEL) to have a consistent statement for its ministries to identify its governance structures to the wider community with which it interacts.

MEL has been asked to provide a governance statement for various schools when required to publish Annual Reports. There is also an identified need to have the governance statement available as a direct link on the individual school’s home webpage.

**GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

The Directors of MEL have approved the following statement for such publications:

**Governance**

Mercy Education Limited (Mercy Education) is an incorporated ministry of the Sisters of Mercy of Australia and Papua New Guinea (ISMAPNG), charged with operating all educational ministries for which the Institute has sole sponsorship. Mercy Education is one of the many works operated by the Institute throughout Australia and Papua New Guinea.

Mercy Education will operate at all times as part of the mission of the Catholic Church in conformity with canon law and in strict conformity with the ethical framework of the Institute as determined by the Institute Leader and Council from time to time.

ISMAPNG is involved with twelve fully sponsored schools - eight in Victoria, three in Western Australia and one in South Australia. The governance role of the Board of Mercy Education is confined to the twelve ISMAPNG sponsored schools and sets policies, approves each school’s strategic plan, appoints Principals, approves senior leadership positions and fulfils due diligence in the area of finance and audit management, capital development, risk management and litigation.

These schools are:

- Academy of Mary Immaculate, Fitzroy, VIC
- Catherine McAuley College, Bendigo, VIC
- Mercedes College, Perth, WA
- Mount Lilydale Mercy College, Lilydale, VIC
- Our Lady of Mercy College, Heidelberg, VIC
- Sacred Heart College, Geelong, VIC
- Sacred Heart College, Kyneton, VIC
- St Aloysius College, Adelaide, SA
- St Aloysius College, Kyneton, VIC
- St Brigid’s College, Lesmurdie, WA
- St Joseph’s College, Mildura, VIC
- Santa Maria College, Attadale, WA

Mercy Education is the Employer of the Principal and staff of the Mercy colleges. The existence of Mercy Education gives strength, support and solidarity to each of the member Mercy schools and its community.
ACTION

- Ensure the home page of the school website has a weblink title named ‘Governance’
- Use the approved text for the Governance weblink page and include in all published Annual Reports

The requested actions are required to be completed by 1 February 2018.

Thank you

Christopher Houlihan
Chief Executive
Mercy Education Ltd