

Sisters of Mercy Tradition

The Religious practice of the Sacred Heart School community finds its roots in the tradition of the Sisters of Mercy. The Mercy Sisters worked in the Ipswich Catholic community in 1914 and then founded the Sacred Heart School.

The spirit of the Mercy Sisters was articulated by their founder Catherine McAuley who stressed religious practices focused on “serving Christ in the poor, sick and uneducated.” Catherine saw works of mercy as a direct means of encountering and coming into union with God. This means that when we live in ongoing conversation with Christ, we allow His Spirit to guide our lives. As a Catholic School we recognise him in the poor, the oppressed and the downtrodden.

Catherine McAuley and the Mercy sisters have a strong link to the charism of Service and Mercy. It was modelled by Catherine McAuley and is embodied by the continuing work of the Mercy Sisters.

At Sacred Heart School our Mercy Tradition is embedded in the history and culture of our school. We acknowledge the legacy of the Sisters of Mercy by preserving aspects of Mercy Heritage in the McAuley Meeting Room. We honour our Mercy tradition in the Religious Life of our school by praying the Children’s Suscipe each morning. We recognise Catherine McAuley and the Sisters of Mercy’s contributions to our school with a Catherine McAuley Award, and a silver Sisters of Mercy medal.