

Pope Francis & Personal Growth in an Atmosphere of Wise Freedom



Pope Francis is a teacher. He has been a high school teacher, had responsibility for the formation of novices, been the vice chancellor of a seminary and lectured in theology. As a local bishop, and now as Pope, he teaches the faith in words and actions.

These quotes from his address to an Italian educational gathering at St Peter's Square in Rome on 10 May 2014 can help us to reflect on how education can foster personal growth in an atmosphere of wise freedom.

- How do these quotes relate to the Criteria for Goal 5?
- Which quote most attracts you? Why?

The school fosters genuine respect, concern and support for each member of the school community.

“Going to school means opening the mind and the heart to reality, to its wealth of aspects and dimensions.”

The school enables all of its members to grow towards wholeness through realization of their individual potential.

“If one has learnt how to learn, this remains forever and one remains open to reality!”

“Teachers are always the first who must remain open to reality, with the mind always open to learning. A teacher who is not open to learning is not a good teacher, and is not interesting.”

The school encourages self-discipline, guiding students to take responsibility for their own lives and actions.

“The mission of schools is to develop a sense of truth, of what is good and beautiful.”

“True education enables us to love life and opens us to the fullness of life.”

The school provides opportunities and training for the development of leadership.

“Education cannot be neutral. It is either positive or negative; either it enriches or it impoverishes; either it enables a person to grow or it lessens, even corrupts them.”



Society of the Sacred Heart

Australia New Zealand Province

52 Awaba Street Mosman NSW 2088 Australia

T +61 (0)2 9960 2061 F +61 (0)2 9968 2013

Web www.rscj-anz.org Facebook /RSCJANZ Twitter @RSCJANZ

ABN 52 106 069 876