

Mary Ward Schools Compass from the Perspective of Global Citizenship

“To improve is to change; to be perfect is to change often”- Winston Churchill

One of the main goals of global education is to develop students as global citizens working for social change equality and justice. A Mary Ward school embraces meaningful change at all levels. Teachers not only teach but are willing to “learn”. Modelling their willingness to learn is a crucial example for students to learn from.



It is a fact that we live in an increasing interconnected world. A Mary Ward school today helps the students to understand and orient themselves in the world around them. Education leads them to critically examine their role in society and develops their potential to become competent citizens of a quickly changing world. It also helps them actively respond to everyday challenges that it brings.

A global citizen is someone who sees themselves as a part of an emerging sustainable world community and whose actions support the values and practices of that community. A global citizen shares universal values such as love, peace, non-violence, humility, truth, joy, justice, inclusivity, gratitude and happiness. A Mary Ward School takes its bearings from Jesus, his gospel and his charism to be guided by the Just Soul. The focus being on traditional values of justice, truth, sincerity, freedom and joy.

Today, children are building the foundations of digital culture. Students need to search and share information safely and ethically. They are contributors, creators, communicators and designers. They author, produce and provide digital information all the time.

A Mary Ward school develops effective ways to enable the young to source and use content for multimedia projects safely and ethically. In teaching Global Digital Citizenship students are taught to show appreciation and respect for any intellectual property provided for free online use, to share their interests and skills with others, to preserve and protect their health when using technology by minimizing the effects of too much time with digital technology. The integrity of relationships is maintained while students get ample opportunities for learning and becoming Global Digital Citizens.

One of the major goals of global citizenship is to help learners attain an individual national and global identity which will enable them to participate actively in solving international problems such as opposition, war, AIDS, global poverty and so on. A Mary Ward School promotes not only traditional values but provides an education that cultivates in the students the knowledge, skills and values needed to be responsible global citizens.

Education plays a fundamental role in developing global citizens. The incorporation into curricula at all levels of education, formal and informal of lessons on peace, human rights and democracy is of crucial importance.

A Mary Ward school recognizes the interconnectedness of all things and finds ways to strengthen the values and abilities such as solidarity, creativity, civic responsibility, the ability to resolve conflicts by non-violent means and critical acumen. It engages in education for peace and human rights and democracy.

A Mary Ward school strives to build peace and encourages the young to think and act justly in the school community, broader community or the environment thus helping the students to build a just, free and peaceful democratic society as global citizens.

A Mary Ward school sees the image of God in human diversity to encourage the young to discover their interdependence and feel truly affirmed and included. A global citizen also aims at developing mutual respect, social responsibility, acceptance and tolerance of diversity among individuals and groups and understanding of each other's cultures and appreciation of common values to achieve a better future.

A Mary Ward school joyfully accepts the responsibilities for evolving the God given charism that Mary Ward channelled. Innovative ways congruent to the times are continuously used in creative ways to interpret this charism to help students to develop into responsible global citizens.