

# CES Sandhurst SOCIAL JUSTICE



## CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING PRINCIPLE #6 Care of Creation



On country at Winton Wetlands (courtesy of Louise Levy, Catholic Education Sandhurst)

The earth and all life on it are part of God's creation. We are called to respect this sacred gift. We are responsible for taking care of the world we live in and for sharing all the wonders and resources the earth gives us in perpetuity for future generations. We all have to share our home; it's the only home we've got. "Creation is not a property, which we can rule over at will; or, even less, is the property of only a few: Creation is a gift, it is a wonderful gift that God has given us, so that we care for it and we use it for the benefit of all, always with great respect and gratitude." (Pope Francis 2014)

In his landmark encyclical "Laudato Si" Pope Francis clearly states the following key principles:

- care for the environment is now part of the body of the Church's social teaching
- everything is connected in an "integral ecology"
- the poor are disproportionately affected by climate change
- a change of heart (an ecological conversion) is required

HOW

can we respect God's gift of creation?

HOW

can we take responsibility for and care for our environment?

HOW

can we live sustainably for the sake of future generations?