

BURGMANN ANGLICAN SCHOOL — PROSPECTUS



Grace Commitment Wisdom

An Anglican education in the northern districts of Canberra



Principal's Welcome

Welcome to Burgmann Anglican School. We are a co-educational independent school located in Gungahlin, ACT with two campuses. Our school is divided into four sub-schools:

- **Early Childhood** 3 Year old Preschool – Year 2
- **Junior School** Year 3 – Year 5
- **Middle School** Year 6 – Year 8
- **Senior School** Year 9 – Year 12

The Valley Campus caters for students from 3 year old Preschool to Year 5 and Years 9 to 12, and the Forde Campus caters for students from 3 year old Preschool to Year 2 and Years 6 to 8.

Our four sub-schools provide a structure in which each student is encouraged to do his or her best. The innovative learning and teaching programs at the school are designed to meet the changing needs of students as they progress from Preschool to Year 12. Burgmann offers an imaginative yet rigorous education as well as a range of cocurricular activities.

Burgmann is a welcoming community. Parents, students, staff and members of the broader community contribute to the learning and teaching programs in many practical ways. The annual fair, end of year celebrations, music concerts, plays and sporting teams highlight the strength of this community.

The Christian foundation of the school provides the framework for developing and understanding of the Christian world view. Christian values are taught explicitly in both the weekly chapel services and in designated lessons. The school's Chaplain and ministry team play a leading role in the values education program.

The school's motto of *Grace, Commitment* and *Wisdom* embodies the foundation of our school's vision:

- *Grace* in God's compassion to His people,
- *Commitment* to Christian living and a better world, and
- *Wisdom* to discern our place in God's creation and to act accordingly.

The education of each student is strengthened by the partnership between the home and school.

I welcome you and your family to the Burgmann Anglican School community.



Steven Bowers
Principal

Philosophy Statement

Burgmann Anglican School is committed to providing an educational environment that challenges and inspires each child to achieve personal potential in intellectual, ethical, aesthetic, emotional, social and physical development. It attempts to meet individual and common needs by providing a creative and balanced curriculum which aims to produce excellence within a Christian framework.

The school's philosophy centres around the belief that children are unique individuals created by God with their own strengths, weaknesses, gifts and needs. The staff endeavour to get to know the children entrusted to their care so that they can successfully meet their needs, provide opportunities to extend their gifts and assist them with their weaknesses.

The curriculum is broad, innovative and stimulating, taught by teachers dedicated to the ethos of the school whose first task is to meet the needs of each individual child.

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The School Crest Encapsulates the School's Values

When designing the crest we attempted to incorporate what the school has become and what the school hopes to be. Each piece of the crest encapsulates the school's ethos, philosophy and vision.

The crest is dominated by the Cross. Christ is the centre of the school. It has been built upon Him. The cross is both underpinning everything the school stands for and supporting everything that the school does. It radiates beyond the boundaries of the crest as it reaches out into the broader community. It represents God's grace to us, His gift of life and everything that holds, given freely through His Son.

In the top left-hand corner is the symbol for community. The school has become a community where individuals are recognised for their own unique qualities and gifts. This community is committed to each person and the achievement of their full God-given potential. The school is also part of the wider community.

The key represents education. A book has often been used as a symbol for education but with the explosion of knowledge and the advent of the technological age it is more necessary than ever to go beyond the realms of book-knowledge and provide children with the skills to unlock and use information appropriately. In 1944 Bishop Burgmann, after whom our school is named, stated that 'knowledge alone is not enough. We must know what to do with it, and in what spirit it is to be used' (Education of an Australian, p45). Therein lies wisdom.

The Southern Cross places us within the world. As it does, it also implies our vision to become an outstanding educational institution that is recognised by people from around the country and the world.

The shepherd's crook symbolises our connection to both the Anglican Church and the Good Shepherd. Christ provided us with the best example of how to live and how to treat those around us. He is the perfect example as we as a school commit ourselves to develop the whole child, intellectually, physically, emotionally, aesthetically, ethically and socially. In turn we help our students to become people who will demonstrate commitment to ideals, to achievement and to others in their own lives.

These symbols are summarised in the motto, Grace, Commitment, Wisdom. These words are both deeply religious and profoundly educational. Their meaning permeates every aspect of our humanity and our search for truth.

'... each of us was given GRACE according to the measure of Christ's gift.' Ephesians 4:7

'... Commitment: For God so loved the world that He gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him may not perish but have eternal life.' John 3:16

'... turn your ear to Wisdom and apply your hearts to understanding.' Proverbs 2:2



Early Childhood

Early Childhood at Burgmann Anglican School is unique and innovative. We operate as one sub-school across the Valley and Forde Campuses.

Our goal at both campuses is for children in Early Childhood to feel connected and cared for and to experience an excellent education.

We value the transition from family to school. We provide environments which offer choices that best suit each child's needs and skill, and work in close partnerships with families.

In Early Childhood we believe in:

- Providing rich, varied and engaging learning opportunities that are age appropriate.
- Providing a comprehensive literacy program that includes guided reading, exposure to and analysis of quality literature and a balance between whole language and phonics approaches to reading, writing and spelling.
- Providing a Mathematics program that incorporates active learning with concrete materials and develops strong foundational numeracy skills.
- Differentiating our programs so that we are building on each child's strengths, needs and catering to their learning styles.
- Providing a comprehensive curriculum including active exploration of The Arts, Science, Technology and the world around us. We also provide specialist lessons in Physical Education, Music, Christian Living, Indonesian and Library/Information Communication Technology.
- Teaching social skills and emotional intelligence explicitly through social skills programs from 3 year-old Preschool to Year 2 which explore resilience, inclusivity and restoration of relationships.

Our caring discipline and academic strength are the foundations for building self-confidence and creating opportunities.

Children are unique individuals created by God.

There is a strong focus on reading and writing.

Parents are encouraged to be involved in school life and the education of their child as they are the child's first educators. The education of each individual is viewed as a partnership between the teacher, the parent and the child. Teachers are always accessible to parents to discuss issues. Opportunities are there for parents and grandparents to be involved, for example, through literacy and numeracy programs. Social functions are regularly organised for families of the school.



Junior School

The Junior School's curriculum is based on integrated learning. The students discover the connections between curriculum areas as they build upon the skills and learning accomplished in the Early Childhood School. Integrated learning experiences enrich and immerse students in exciting and stimulating educational environments. Here, knowledge, skills and attitudes coalesce as the students embark on their quest to visualise the 'big picture'. The Junior School is located at the Valley Campus.

The school has an extensive curriculum:

- Music lessons which include singing, instrumental and theory lessons.
- Physical Education and Sport.
- Religious Education classes and Chapel Services each week teaching Christian values.
- An Enrichment program providing remedial and extension programs for those requiring additional work.
- A second language program.
- Programs to support and cater for the social and emotional development needs of the whole child.



Middle School

The Middle School program, Years 6 to 8, recognises the needs of early adolescents by providing students with a dynamic learning environment full of opportunities for self-discovery, self-reflection and self-determination. The curriculum moves children from a thematic teaching and learning experience in the Junior School to research based project learning and skill development. It provides a transition from Junior School to the more rigorous study required in the Senior School. The Middle School is located at the Forde Campus.

Project learning focuses on immediacy of feedback, authenticity and direct application to the real world. Teachers and students use a custom-built framework for negotiating integrated curriculum projects which takes students on a journey of learning and self-discovery that has relevance, meaning and academic rigour.

In addition to the core curriculum, children will be engaged in the Middle School's Leadership Program, which aims to develop leadership skills and enhance cooperative learning. The children will also have opportunities to increase their self-confidence and optimism as they explore the concept of service.

The core subjects of the Middle School program are Mathematics, Science, English, History, Health and Wellbeing and Christian Living. The Middle School elective program includes:

- French or Indonesian as a second language
- Information Technology
- Theatre and Performance
- Visual Art
- Music
- Textiles
- Design and Technology

Underpinning our academic and pastoral programs are the Middle School core values of Genuine Relationships, Lifelong Learning, Challenge, Personal Bests and Living Beyond Ourselves. These values seek to be a catalyst for each student to:

- Engage in their learning
- Be empowered in decision making
- Build confidence and self-esteem
- Discover individual strengths and needs
- Achieve success
- Plan for the future

A stimulating educational environment which challenges
and inspires children from Preschool to Year 12.

The school takes pride in its open and caring environment where each child is made to feel an important and valued member of the community.



The Senior School

As a Senior School we need to respond to the changing needs of our students, taking into account their increasing maturity, as well as their greater need and ability to be independent and to make life decisions for themselves. The Senior School is located at the Valley Campus.

We want to continue to engage students in their own learning, building on their Middle School experiences, and encouraging them to further develop as resilient individuals who value community and understand their roles of service within it. While it is important that we prepare students for their ACT Year 10 and Year 12 Certificates, this is done in a context that values reflection and spiritual growth; where success is measured by more than academic results.

The Senior School structure reflects a more traditional high school model in terms of its daily organisation, with students being responsible for moving from one class to the next according to their individual timetable. After exploring many different areas of learning in Middle School, Senior School students have the opportunity to make informed decisions about their strengths and weaknesses to pursue areas of personal interest and talent through the elective program.

The core subjects in Year 9 and 10 are Mathematics, Science, English, Humanities, Christian Living and Personal Development, Health and Physical Education. Elective subjects for Year 9 and 10 can be found on the school website in the Year 9 and 10 Academic Pathways book and may include:

- Commerce
- Design and Technology
- Drama
- Fashion Design
- French
- Indonesian
- Information Technology
- International Relations and Global Issues
- Music
- Numbers, Patterns and Problems
- Visual and Digital Art

Year 11 and 12 is an exciting and fulfilling time as students complete their schooling. We offer a program of study that offers a wide range of subjects but which remains broadly academic in perspective. In this way, we aim to give our students the best possible platform for entry into tertiary study or the workforce. Details of the Year 11 and 12 program can be found in the Year 11 and 12 Academic Pathways book on the school website.

Burgmann Anglican School

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