



Bundaberg Christian College
Education with Wisdom

PHILOSOPHY AND AIMS STATEMENT

BUNDABERG CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

INTRODUCTION

Bundaberg Christian College is a non-denominational Christian School seeking to provide excellence in education within the context of a genuine Biblical framework. The College aims to encourage students to reach their highest academic potential, to fully develop their God-given gifts, to know Jesus Christ as Lord in every aspect of their lives, and to love others as themselves.

Our College aims to partner with parents as the primary educators of their children to provide excellence in education, inspire Christian Character and empower students to discover their God-given gifts and realise the purpose God has for their lives. Our motto: "Education with Wisdom" highlights the importance we place on combining an excellent academic education with the quality of Godly wisdom.

PHILOSOPHY AND AIMS

Biblical foundations:

The College aims to provide holistic education through the integration of spiritual, academic, social and physical aspects from a Biblical perspective. The educational philosophy of the College is based on the recognition that each child is unique and created in the image of God and gifted by God with different abilities. Discovering and developing these abilities in order to use them to honour God and serve Him purposefully is fundamental to our approach at Bundaberg Christian College.

Discipleship

The RISE values of the College are built on the Bundaberg Christian College Statement of Faith. Our College programs seek to integrate true Christian faith into every day, contemporary life. We are committed to providing the opportunity for students to develop their understanding of Jesus Christ as described by the Bible whilst assisting them to explore what it means to be disciples of Christ and to understand God's purpose for their lives.

We seek to value each child as a special and unique person, fostering a culture which supports the intellectual, physical, social, moral, spiritual and aesthetic development of each individual. In order to support each child, we aim to come alongside them to identify and encourage the development of their intellect, talents, skills and passions. Bundaberg Christian College seeks to be an agent of change through supporting young peoples' values, attitudes and beliefs, helping them to build their self-worth and equipping them to develop a sense of social responsibility, stewardship, coupled with a desire to be transformational within their sphere of influence.

The Role of the Teacher

At Bundaberg Christian College, we believe that each staff member plays a significant role in establishing the culture within the College. The 'BCC Way' is a set of values and guiding principles which articulates the culture we wish to maintain as a staff team. It is critical that every staff member understands the missionary calling of God to lead and disciple the students of the College. We believe the attitudes, values, beliefs, lifestyle choices and character of our staff is a powerful example for all students.

Our teachers are expected to exemplify Christian character and teach from a Christian worldview seeking to implement research-based best practice in teaching and learning in order to prepare students for life beyond school. Teaching staff at the College are committed to life-long learning. They are provided with ongoing professional development, coaching and mentoring which aligns with AITSL standards. Staff are required to develop curriculum, assessment and implement moderation processes in order to promote quality outcomes for students.

Christian Community

The development of community at Bundaberg Christian College is key to our philosophy. Working with local Churches, the College Board, College staff, parents and friends of the College and students in order to create a harmonious and stimulating atmosphere enables students to feel safe and secure as they engage in their learning. The College aims to foster positive relationships with members of the local community, businesses, education and training providers and industry, which in turn assists students to develop an understanding and appreciation of our community, our nation and global citizenship.

At Bundaberg Christian College we value mutual respect, diversity in culture, ethnicity and socio-economic background and believe that students achieve their potential when learning in a strong community that is free of discrimination, bullying, criticism, abuse, and negativity. We are committed to encouraging students in the national values of democracy, equity and justice as well as participating in Australia's civic life.

Curriculum and Worldview

Fundamentally, the curriculum at Bundaberg Christian College is established within the framework of a Christian worldview and based on the Queensland Curriculum Assessment Authority (QCAA) requirements.

A worldview is ultimately the framework through which we look at our universe, our world and our lives and make meaning of the world in which we live. At Bundaberg Christian College we have adopted a Biblical worldview and this is based on the infallible word of God. We seek to diligently apply God's truths into every aspect of our lives: to equip students to recognize the worldviews and philosophical underpinnings of various disciplines of study and compare and contrast these with their own Christian worldview. As a result, they will be equipped to make sense of these philosophies and disciplinary knowledge within a scriptural framework. Christianity is considered more than simply a relationship with Jesus Christ. It must also be a way of looking at our lives, making decisions in our lives and making meaning of the world around us.

Each worldview is characterised by the way it answers three questions:

1. *Where do we come from and who are we?*
2. *What has gone wrong with the world?*
3. *What can we do to fix it?*

The Bible provides three answers to these questions:

1. *Creation*
2. *The Fall*
3. *Redemption*

Our College is committed to the successful transitions from Kindergarten to Prep, Junior School (Prep – Year 6) to our Middle Years Program, (Year 7 – Year 9) to our Senior Years Program (Years 10 – Year 12) and finally to further education, training or work beyond school. In each phase of learning, our goal is to tailor our approach considering the specific needs of each age and stage in order to ensure student engagement and motivation.

From Prep to Year 12, the College aims to implement programs which develop skills for all students in the areas of numeracy and English literacy. Our goal is that every student will be numerate, able to read, write, spell and communicate at an appropriate level at the completion of their schooling. Students have access to an education necessary to enable the completion of school education to Year 12 or its vocational equivalent providing clear pathways to employment or further education or training.

Bundaberg Christian College aims to be effective in providing an innovative and dynamic learning environment for students from Prep to Year 12. Students are provided with opportunities to integrate and increase effectiveness in the use of information and communication technologies in order to enhance their learning and prepare them for the future and its complex environmental and social challenges. Assisting them to develop a disposition towards life-long learning is key to our approach at the College.

Statement of Faith

The Doctrinal basis of the College is as follows:

The School accepts, adapts and adheres to the following Doctrinal basis:

We believe that the Bible is God's written word, divinely inspired and infallible in the original autographs of the thirty-nine books of the Old Testament and the twenty-seven books of the New Testament in their entirety, and we therefore believe that the Holy Spirit supernaturally guided the human authors to write authoritative statements of truth that are the supreme basis for Christian belief and conduct.

We believe there is one God in whom there are three co-equal and co-eternal Persons, revealed as the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, and we believe that God, of His own Sovereign Will, created the Universe and all that is contained within it.

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ is the uncreated, eternally-existing, only begotten Son of the Father, and that He became a man, conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, lived a sinless human life, offered Himself as the perfect atoning sacrifice upon the cross, was raised bodily from the dead, and ascended to Heaven where He is now seated at the Father's right hand.

We believe that the Holy Spirit, co-equal with the Father and the Son, is present in the world to convince people of their sin and their need for the saviour, to lead them to repentance, and to regenerate and indwell those who believe in Jesus Christ as Lord. We also believe that the indwelling Holy Spirit seeks to enable each believer to live in a manner worthy of his or her calling in Christ by manifesting the fruit of the Spirit in his or her life, and bestows at least one spiritual gift upon each believer to prepare him or her for Christian service.

We believe that human beings, both male and female, are in the spiritual image of God and the supreme creatures within His Creation. We also believe that, through the rebellion of disobedience of the first human beings, this image was marred and that all people are now in a fallen sinful and lost condition which has separated them from God and caused disharmony between themselves.

We believe that human beings can never make up for their sin by self-improvement or good works, and that salvation from the penalty of the consequences of sin is offered as a free gift of God and is found only through a personal acceptance of this substitutionary atoning death and bodily resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ.

We believe that human beings were created to live forever, either existing eternally separated from God in Hell because of sin, or living eternally with God because of personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

We believe in the actual existence of the Devil, originally created by God in a perfect state, but he chose to rebel against God's authority and is now the father of all evil and opposed to God and God's purposes and seeks to attempt God's people away from the ways of God. We also believe that Satan was defeated through the bodily resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ, and that he is ultimately subject to the purposes of God and will be confined forever to Hell.

We believe that the Church is composed of all believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, and finds visible manifestation in each of the local churches.

We believe in the future, personal return to earth of the Lord Jesus Christ, at which time will commence the glorious reign of Christ, and then the full realisation of the Eternal Kingdom of God.