

BCC School Philosophy

(Reviewed October 2019)

Bairnsdale Christian College is an essential part of the Christian community of Bairnsdale and its wider district. We exist to provide excellence in quality Christ-centred education for the growing and equipping of our young people in character, wisdom and thinking. The College establishes strong foundations by strengthening them as unique and valued individuals who are purposed to become all that God created them to be.

The College holds to the conviction that Christian families should be supported by a school that shares their values and works in partnership with them to produce outstanding young people of enduring and impacting faith.

A vibrant community requires building respectful relationships where all members of the community work together with trust towards our shared vision to achieve unity and growth. We aim to walk beside families as we disciple our students in heart character, so their life would be an example of love, grace, wisdom, integrity and kindness in their community and the world.

Bairnsdale Christian College endeavours to equip students with wisdom for life. BCC helps students to action, think and reflect from a Christian perspective to serve God and their fellow citizens faithfully and wisely. Learning at BCC is Christ-centred, but student-focused.

We use the Victorian Curriculum, lensed with a Biblical worldview as the basis of our academic development of our students. Our young people at BCC are encouraged to be active participants in their own learning and are challenged to become life-long learners and world influencers.

BCC has the vision to provide a balanced, quality Christ-centred education, enabling individual students to gain the foundations necessary for living an influential and purposeful life beyond school. Our community works together, as an integrated whole, to cultivate a nurturing, supportive and safe environment. Building on strong relationships, everyone can become confident, engaged, motivated and successful lifelong learners. Our committed and caring staff team ensures that all students have the opportunity to grow in their capacity to be all that God created them to be.

Our College aspires to:

- firmly anchor each student in an education grounded in the Word of God, godly values, and principles of heart character, growing them in a strong sense of identity and purpose.
- cultivate a holistic, bible-based, and contemporary approach to learning that build our young people to be creative, reflective discerning thinkers, who are self-aware, resilient and compassionate contributors within a world of innovation and societal change. and
- balance our holistic approach to our students' development through infusing creative endeavours such as the Arts, Community service and authentic purposeful real-world problems that foster expression, innovation, and community.

We aim to have students graduate from our College, with a quality education, embodying our graduate learning attributes and empowered to positively influence and shape ideas and communities.

Vision

(Reviewed 2019)

Our vision is to graduate young people of strong Christian character who will influence their world.

Mission

(Original)

Our College is a vibrant community partnering with parents to educate, nurture and equip their children to the highest standard so they shine wherever they are, discovering their unique gifts and serving God significantly and passionately in a complex world.

Motto

(Original)

Wisdom for Life

Core Values

(Reviewed January 2019)

Bairnsdale Christian College holds to the three shared core values of love, wisdom and integrity which are woven through all that is done in the College from the boardroom through to the classroom. These values describe both how we conduct ourselves while members of the College and the qualities of character that will be needed by students when they leave our College to participate in complex life roles.

We Value Love

“Being recognised for our love of God, people and the environment.”

We encourage our students to understand that love is a conscious choice to value each individual, actioned by placing the needs of others before one's own, being supportive and encouraging, and respecting the perspective of others.

We Value Wisdom

“Being able to understand the world and life from a Biblical perspective.”

We encourage our students to pursue, with humility, their personal best in all spheres of life. Growing intellectually, physically, socially, personally, and spiritually through applying Wisdom in the choices and decisions they make as they discover God's word and purposes.

We Value Integrity

“Displaying the Godly characteristics of honesty, faithfulness and justice.”

Our students are respectful by choosing to see the best in others, and valuing authenticity and honesty within themselves.

Core Principles

(Developed 2018)

Christ-centred education within which:

- each child is precious in God's eyes and is a valued member of our College community.
- we are training students to become responsible, effective disciples of Jesus Christ within our society.
- families have access to enrolment regardless of their socioeconomic situation.
- we work together as part of the body of Christ in order to be effective in our own College community.

We will encourage students to:

- discern a Christian world-and-life view in their personal commitments.
- take responsibility for their choices.
- to live with integrity in the face of complex challenges.

We will provide a curriculum that:

- meets Government requirements.
- serves the needs of the students.
- addresses contemporary issues of society.
- is always faithful to the Bible.
- all students may learn.
- staff instill a keen desire to learn and make learning enjoyable.
- there are safe, supportive learning environments.

We will maintain a staff for the school who are:

- dedicated Christians.
- professionally trained and competent in their area of teaching.
- committed to the vision of the school community.
- able to model to the students an approach to Christian living that has integrity and purpose.

We will aim for an organisational culture within which:

- Values teaching as a ministry.
- Christlike, diligent, caring, supportive and collaborative attitudes are actively nurtured.
- educating a child and having high expectations for educational outcomes involves a collaboration of the family, the College, and the community.
- parents are valued as primarily responsible for their children's education.
- Provide prompt, effective access to staff for all parents for the purpose of resolving concerns, addressing questions, and building a cooperative approach to the education of each student.
- establish and carefully maintain facilities to enable each child to receive training of an excellent standard.
- create an environment that encourages a Christian community to develop, embracing family values and relationships across the Christian community.

Graduate Attributes

(Developed 2018)

Empathetic Servant Leaders

Showing empathy, care, and respect for others. Seeking to meet the needs of others by standing up for what they believe in and reaching out with a positive influence for change.

Discerning Reflective Communicators

Being adventurous in learning; thinking and speaking with honour. Discerning how all aspects of life are connected and embracing the differences of others.

Resilient Problem Solvers

Resilient, persistent, and mentally tough in the face of challenges. Responding with courage. Generate alternate solutions and find problems to solve.

Responsive Creative Stewards

Generating new ideas or opportunities, always trying new things. Being thoughtful and deliberate in their response, use of resources and thinking.

Confident Enthusiastic Learners

Actively learning by taking the initiative and self-managing tasks. Enthusiastically engaged, focused, and giving their best.

Australian Democratic Principles

(Reviewed 2018)

Bairnsdale Christian College seeks to declare its support for and adherence to the principles and practice of Australian Democracy. As a Christian school we are fully committed to the spirit of Romans 13 which teaches about the role of government and our place of obedience to duly approved authority. In this light we acknowledge with thankfulness to God, that the College is able to prosper under the principles and practices of a democratic nation and the policy frameworks of both its Federal and State Governments.

We are very grateful that we, together with all Australian citizens, have the freedom to pursue our religious beliefs and to live out of a religious Worldview that is founded upon those beliefs.

We honour and are committed to the fundamental freedoms of speech and association for all Australians so long as those freedoms are not used to subvert the rule of law. We accept the right of our elected Governments and their officers to prescribe certain conditions pertaining to the programs and teaching practices of schools.

We acknowledge that all people are entitled to be treated equally before the law, and as far as it lies within our capacity to do so, we will endeavour to treat the members of our community with equity and fairness.

We are committed to living in peace with our fellow Australians irrespective of differences in faith, race, or culture, while at the same time not in any way compromising the integrity of our own beliefs, practices and values. As Christians we are committed to the social value of respect for all persons, derived from and founded upon our reverence for God who created all of humanity in His image and our reverence for Jesus Christ whose selfless sacrifice and restorative life is available to all who come to Him in trust and faith.

We are committed to an education that references its policies and programs to a Christian worldview. As such, within the parameters of our enrolment policy, the School is open to all families who seek an education based on Christian principles and standards.

In conclusion our College is open to the normal processes of accountability required by Governments and commits to ethical and transparent practices in respect of each of these requirements.