Christian Community and Service Policy
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PREAMBLE

All policy, protocols and procedures flow from the St Andrews Christian College Mission Statement:

“To educate our students so that they are well skilled, understand life on the basis of biblical truth, and are motivated to walk with God and serve Him in their lives, so that they will be a positive Christian influence in the world.”

POLICY DOCUMENT INFORMATION

**TITLE:** Christian Community and Service Policy

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**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:** Trinity Christian School, ACT

**PURPOSE:** To provide policy and direction for all the College Community.

**RELATED DOCUMENTS:** Mission Protocols
Mission Trip Guidelines

KEY DATES

**ISSUE DATE:** October 2016

**REVIEW DATE:** 2019
1. **RATIONALE**

As a Christ-centred community our focus and highest priority should be our relationship with Jesus, growing in our knowledge of Him and bearing fruit as an outworking of that relationship. In Colossians 1:10, Paul prays that they "may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work [and] growing in the knowledge of God" (NIV).

Our love for all people, who are made in God’s image, creates a desire to serve those who are in need. These needs may be spiritual, physical, emotional, cultural, intellectual or social.

In Matthew 28:19-20, God makes it very clear that we are to be involved in sharing His message and making disciples. In Acts 1:8, Jesus says we are to be his witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, and Samaria and to the ends of the earth. In other words, we are to be his witnesses in the St Andrews Christian College community, in Melbourne, in Australia and overseas.

2. **AIM**

- To foster an environment that promotes spiritual growth and the practical outworking of faith which flows from a relationship with Jesus as Lord and Saviour.
- To emphasise the importance of a personal relationship with God and the need to grow in that relationship.
- To instil a lifelong desire to reach out and touch the lives of others through sharing the Gospel, acts of service and support for and participation in mission.
- To encourage students and staff to become actively involved in their world, being empowered through the school community to contribute positively to God’s Kingdom and a more caring and just society.
- To work collaboratively with parents / caregivers and staff in supporting students and their endeavours in the realms of service and mission.
- To encourage members of the community to discover and build on the strengths that God has given them and to use them for the glory of God and the extension of His kingdom.

3. **IMPLEMENTATION**

In order to foster a community of love and respect, we encourage staff and students to:

- Understand that they are created and greatly loved by God who desires all people to live in full and meaningful relationships with God and each other.
- Grow in their relationship with God.
- Recognise the needs of those around them.
- Actively participate in service to others in class, in the College community, the local community, throughout Australia and internationally.
- Understand the significance of community and the importance of being actively involved in the community as the body of Christ.
- Reach out to others through mission.