



Philosophy of Learning and Teaching

At St Andrews Christian College we believe that all avenues of knowledge stem from Almighty God. We believe that Learning and Teaching practices should undergird and nurture an intellectual curiosity and sense of awe of God's creation. The presence of God's Holy Spirit in teaching takes Christian education beyond mere programming, methodology, and techniques. As a result, the Learning and Teaching environment of this College promotes a Christ-centred approach to learning with a biblical world view. With this in mind, the College provides a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum which is in line with the Australian Curriculum and the ever-evolving global community. Together with families, the College teaches our children how to grow as whole people, made in the image of God, made for the purpose of knowing, loving and serving God. Students are taught to think, love and act in a way that glorifies Christ and develops in them the mind of Christ (1 Corinthians 2:14-16, Philippians 2: 5-11). This is of particular relevance in terms of the commandment to love one's neighbour as oneself.

At St Andrews Christian College we promote the pursuit of excellence in Learning and Teaching. Our College focus is not just about educational excellence, but education of the whole child. The College also supports teachers and students to embrace a commitment to active life-long learning which includes the use of ICT and other learning tools. Through life-long learning, we grow in wonderment of Almighty God as we grow in our relationship with Him, and, discover our purpose in Him.

We acknowledge that as individuals we are fearfully and wonderfully made (Psalm 139:14). God has uniquely blessed us with individual gifts and talents to steward. These gifts should be generously used to serve others and to glorify God (1 Peter 4:10).

As Christians we believe that God is the author of infallible truth and knowledge, and His Scripture forms the basis through which we perceive the world. Students are challenged and supported to develop effective, deep, creative and higher order levels of thinking. This encompasses a range of cognitive, affective and metacognitive knowledge which facilitate the capacity for critical and discerning thinking.

Providing both formative and summative assessment practices is an integral part of the Learning and Teaching process as these practices are instrumental in improving student performance. We therefore employ a breadth of assessment modes that are representative of the depth and breadth of our curriculum.

At St Andrews Christian College we believe that we are created in the image of the Trinitarian God, who exists in community. Therefore, the learning environment reflects this in promoting independence, interdependence and caring, in the context of our cohesive Christian community. The students are encouraged to be active participants in their learning and to work collaboratively and cooperatively with community members. To this end, each member of the community works towards developing the habits of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23) for this is honouring to God.