

FOUNDATION STATEMENTS

Purpose Statement Foundation Statement

31 July, 2013

THE PURPOSE OF HEATHDALE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE IS:

To glorify God through Christ-centred education that helps children develop their God given potential.

The purpose of Christian Education is to develop the whole person. The school shares with the home, the church and the community in the nurture and education of children, but the final responsibility rests with the parents. God gives this responsibility to parents in Deuteronomy 6 and Ephesians 6.

It is a responsibility which embraces the total welfare of the child and includes spiritual, emotional, physical, academic, social and cultural aspects.

The College is open to all children whose parents accept and actively endorse its aims, and who wish to take advantage of the type of education being offered.

Heathdale Christian College is a multi-denominational, co-educational college, serving the educational needs of families, by providing education:

- 1. For Junior, Middle and Senior School students, from a wide range of backgrounds, in an environment consistent with the Theological Foundations;
- 2. Which affirms the relevance of the Christian Gospel to each individual.
- 3. Which highlights the value of every individual and supports each student as he or she develops, instilling in each student concern and respect for the needs, abilities and convictions of others;
- 4. Which engenders an appreciation of beauty, goodness and truth;
- 5. Which stresses a sense of community and develops individual gifts so that students will be able to make an informed and responsible contribution to the local area and to society in general;
- 6. Which highlights the importance of family life, respects equally all forms of work, and which honours those who seek to follow the teachings and example of Jesus Christ;
- 7. Consistent with The Quality Development of the Child.

Prov.22:6 - Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old he will not depart from it.

ADOPTED BY BOARD:

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Quality Statement

31 July, 2013

To achieve The Purpose, we have a commitment to the following Quality Statements:

Quality Environment - through:

- God being glorified in all we do and have;
- Working with and supporting parents in their Christian responsibility to educate their children and prepare them for future adult life;
- A caring culture conducive to spiritual growth in an atmosphere where all people are valued as created by God;
- All staff being committed to Christ and growing in their walk with Him;
- Educational programs that reflect a natural bias toward Biblical values;

Quality Learning – through students being:

- Engaged in learning;
- Encouraged to value learning and become lifelong learners;
- Challenged to achieve the highest standards in accordance with their God-given abilities:
- Equipped in social development, personal development and skills development.

Quality Achievements - by:

- Promoting and fostering diligence and excellence in all endeavours through governance, management, staff, parents and support groups;
- Providing Christian Education with sound curriculum and teaching;
- Encouraging students to acquire the knowledge, skills and work habits needed to grow into disciplined, thinking individuals;
- Equipping students for vocations in the service of God's kingdom.

Quality Management - through:

- All staff and systems operate in a Godly, parent-friendly manner;
- The implementation of appropriate policies, procedures and systems;
- Leadership that embodies high standards of personal and corporate integrity;
- The pursuit of best practice management systems.

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Theological Foundations 31 July, 2013 Updated April, 2017

The teaching and activities of the Heathdale Christian College will conform with and be informed and enriched through the principles outlined in the following statement of basic truths contained in the Christian Bible and expressed in the Westminster Confession and the Apostle's Creed.

1. Holy Scripture, the Old and New Testaments, is God's written word and contains all things necessary for salvation. It is the supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct and provides the framework for our understanding of God's creation and His purposes within it.

Scriptural Basis: II Timothy 3:16 -17; Psalms 119:9-16

2. Holy Scripture is intelligible in itself, but our understanding of its truth is brought about only as the Holy Spirit reveals it to us. It remains essential for God's people to draw to one another's attention the plain meaning of Scripture and its implications for life, and to witness to its truthfulness in experience.

Scriptural Basis: II Peter 1:19-21; Deuteronomy 17:19-20

3. There is one true God who in the unity of His Godhead exists in three persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Scriptural Basis: Exodus 20:3; Matthew 28:18-20; I Corinthians 8:4-6

4. God is the creator of all things and His sovereign providence and authority is exercised in holiness, infinite wisdom, power, goodness and love.

Scriptural Basis: Genesis 1:1-31; Colossians 1:16-17

5. All human beings were created in the image of God, and because humanity has chosen to rebel against the sovereign God, that image has been marred by sin. This event has cosmic significance, as it has affected the environment in which we live, marred our nature including our mind and will, distorted our perception of our place in the world and broken our relationship with God. People by themselves no longer have the power to act in a way that is pleasing to God; from birth, our nature is self-centred and not God-centred, thereby rendering us deserving of God's condemnation and in need of salvation.

Scriptural Basis: Genesis 3:1-24; Romans 5:12 -19

6. God the Son became man and lived in His world. He is known as the man Jesus Christ who is both truly God and truly man. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

Scriptural Basis: John 1:1-14; Hebrews 4:14-16Luke 1:35; Isaiah 7:14; Galatians 4:4-5

7. Jesus Christ, the perfect man, died in mercy and grace to reconcile us to the Father. Acting as a substitute, He took on all the sins of humanity and accepted God's sentence of punishment on our behalf. The death of Jesus satisfied God once for all, and because of that He has removed the barrier which had prevented His full relationship with humanity.

<u>Scriptural Basis:</u> Isaiah 53:4-11; I Peter 3:18-20; I John 3:4-5; John 1:29; John 3:3-17;

8. Completing the work of redemption, Jesus has been bodily raised from death and given all authority. This authority is not recognised by rebellious people, but will be clear to all when He returns in person to judge the world.

Scriptural Basis: Matthew 28:1-7; 1 Corinthians 15:3-9;

9. All people as they commit their lives to Jesus in repentance and faith, are declared righteous by God and restored to their relationship with Him. This conscious commitment is made possible by the work of the Holy Spirit within the individual; it is not a based upon one's efforts or merit.

Scriptural Basis: Romans 8:9-17; Ephesians 2:8-9; John 1:12-13;

10. God, the Holy Spirit lives within everyone who confesses Jesus Christ as Lord. By their personal commitment of faith, believers are born anew, baptised of the Spirit and made alive to God.

Scriptural Basis: John 14:15-17; 1 Corinthians 12:12-13; John 16:12-15

11. The Church is the universal Body of all believers who have been made alive to God and indwelt by the Holy Spirit. The Biblical ordinances or practices given by Christ for His Church are Baptism and Communion.

<u>Scriptural Basis:</u> Ephesians 1:22-23; Acts 2:37-47; Matthew 28:18-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 & 12:12-13;

12. God expects His people to assemble together regularly in the name of Christ for Bible teaching, thanksgiving, prayer and mutual edification. Spiritual gifts are to be exercised not selfishly or egotistically, but with loving humility in the service of Christ and for the edification of His Church.

Scriptural Basis: 1 Corinthians 12-14; Hebrews 10:23-25; Colossians 3:12-17

13. Christian parents are responsible to God for the care, discipline and instruction of their children in the Lord.

Scriptural Basis: Deuteronomy 6:1-9; Ephesians 6:1-4;

** It is not intended that the College should be used as a platform for issues of contention or denominational bias.

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Quality Development of the Child 31 July, 2013

