

Nelson Christian Academy

Special Character Policy

Growing together in wisdom, maturity and favour with God and others

Purpose

Nelson Christian Academy is a full primary school providing an educational programme based upon Christian values and a Christian world-view.

As per the Deed of Integration between the Crown and New Life Ministries

Incorporated (The Proprietor):

- The school will maintain and preserve the school's Special Character
- Parents/caregivers wishing to enrol their children at Nelson Christian Academy must have established a particular or general connection with the Special Character of Nelson Christian

Nelson Christian Academy aims to provide an excellent Christian education that will meet the spiritual, social, academic, emotional and physical needs of its students. The school is designed to assist parents in their God-given task to bring up their children in the *“training and admonition of the Lord”* (Ephesians 6:4) so that they may, *“love the Lord their God with all their heart, and with all their soul, and with all their mind and with all their strength.”* (Mark 12:30)

Special Character

The Special Character of the school has been determined by the Proprietor (New Life Ministries Incorporated) and is the Christian beliefs, values and lifestyle as held by Richmond New Life Church and Aspire Church.

Statement of Belief:

- God is creator of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible, sustaining and ruling over creation including mankind
- God is the source of all wisdom and knowledge
- God the Father, Jesus His Son and the Holy Spirit are integral to every area of study and endeavour in the school

The school will:

- Use the Bible as the basis for exploring God's world and as a standard against which to compare and interpret all curriculum materials and educational practices.
- Teach Christian values, behaviour and forgiveness through the process of acknowledgment of sin, repentance and acceptance of Jesus' gift of grace.
- Use prayer as a key tool, inviting the Holy Spirit into every learning situation.
- Regard all children, no matter what race or nationality, as having value because they are made in the image of God and are loved by Him.
- Encourage each child, as a unique individual, to develop to his/her fullest potential the gifts God has given to him/her and acknowledge achievement in accordance with the child's efforts.
- Integrate knowledge and understanding with Christian beliefs through a balanced, comprehensive range of learning strategies based upon appropriate Christian curriculum and proven education programmes.
- Act as a continuum and extension of the teaching provided in the Christian home and in the Church.
- Provide an environment where children, parents and staff can experience Godly relationships, showing the character of Christ in love, discipline, respect, honour and trust and witness an exemplary demonstration of Biblical truths in the lives of others.
- Employ staff who are suitable role models of the qualities it seeks to engender in the students.
- Expect parents of children attending the school to support these beliefs and practices.

Vision

- Have God at the heart of all teaching, learning and relationships.
- Develop our students to be world changers with inquiring minds, who are able to respond skilfully, resiliently and biblically to every situation they face throughout life. Mission
- To teach students God's desire for their lives and to encourage them to a personal commitment to Jesus Christ through education and learning.
- To support students to apply themselves to their work in a consistent manner and to fulfill their various responsibilities.
- To develop students' ability to work independently and cooperatively.
- To assist students to discover their own particular God-given talents and abilities.
- To create leaders who will think of others through servant leadership.

Implementation

The Board of Trustees are responsible for the implementation of the Special Character throughout the school. It is expected that all members of the Board and all staff will demonstrate a commitment to the Statement of Belief and to the school's Special Character.

All students and their families are expected to demonstrate a commitment to the Special Character of school.

All policies and procedures will reflect the Special Character of school.

Protection of the Special Character

The Proprietor, being the New Life Ministries Incorporated, reserve the right to determine from time to time the interpretation of 'special character' and the safeguards necessary to establish, preserve and maintain it and to review regularly the implementation of the Special Character within the school.