



# Values Statement (July 2025)

**Vision: *'Together we can change the world'***

**Mission statement: To deliver exceptional Christian education with excellence, igniting a passion for learning and inspiring students to achieve their full potential**

## **A SNAPSHOT OF OUR COLLEGE**

Coolum Beach Christian College (CBCC) is a dedicated independent Prep to Year 12 Christian school, set in a stunning boutique campus on the beautiful Sunshine Coast.

In everything we do, we believe that together we can build a better world. This is achieved through an educational program that emphasises Christian values and worldview, a strong sense of family and community commitment, and a creative curriculum based on a love of learning. **These essential elements also demonstrate in their unpacking, our commitment to outworking the goals of the Mpartnwe (Alice Springs Declaration of Schooling). We want our students to receive an education that promotes excellence and equity. It is our desire that our students become confident and creative individuals, successful lifelong learners, and active informed members of the community.**

Our staff are very committed and nurturing and work together to build a caring environment where all students are encouraged to pursue excellence according to their God-given talents and abilities. Character development is integrated into rich experiences that challenge and support children through their journey of life. Seeing children come to love learning is our great passion.

Our students are appropriately challenged, supported and extended in their learning and therefore, are prepared to set goals to achieve their dreams. Our programs are integrated to develop the whole child: socially, emotionally, physically, intellectually and spiritually - in a safe and secure setting that values the individual, their family and the community (both locally and globally).

Underlying the physical design of the College is an ardent desire to conserve and support our natural environment whilst providing a safe and inspiring learning environment. This is reflected in our curriculum, which promotes and encourages the effective management and sustainability of the environment for the long term; educating our students on how to care for and create minimal impact on the environment around us.

Our learning environments (classrooms and outside learning spaces) are seen as an extension of our curriculum where our students feel safe and supported. Many of our classrooms are designed

to be flexible, ensuring the space will reflect the intent of learning. These flexible learning spaces can foster student engagement and provide for more effective learning opportunities.

## TEACHING AND LEARNING STATEMENT

### Rationale

Our CBCC Teaching and Learning values statement will provide understandings that will underpin the structure for how teaching and learning will be approached at our College. It ensures we have a shared understanding of what is believed and valued, and guides everyone involved to act consistently in ways that will help us achieve our College mission.

The moral purpose of CBCC's Teaching and Learning Values Framework is derived from our College Vision and Mission statement: **'To deliver exceptional Christian education with excellence, igniting a passion for learning and inspiring students to achieve their full potential'**. Our students are at the centre of our mission and the heart of all that we do.

At CBCC, we believe that an exceptional Christian education, as stated in our mission statement and outworked in our educational programming, needs to be holistic. It involves catering for the whole individual - the HEART and BRAIN - the spiritual, social and emotional aspects, as well as a student's cognitive and physical growth.

We understand that, with this integrated education of the individual occurring, wellbeing is established and hearts and brains are transformed, which enables the individual to reach their fullest potential.

### **What We Value, What We Believe**

Our values and beliefs underpin our mission and vision, and learning is only understood through an examination of these core principles.

## **Value 1 - CHRISTIAN WORLDVIEW**

### Value statement

At Coolum Beach Christian College, we believe the point of Christianity is that it offers an overarching narrative, a reality based on truth, which is the story of the entire world. A story for every individual, and a story that can provide light and hope, which can transform lives. A story that can move us towards integrated wholeness, well-being, and harmony in every dimension of life. We believe that this wholeness comes from having a dynamic relationship with a living God, made possible by his Son Jesus. We believe that by being spiritually alive through our relationship with God, we are more equipped for life and thus able to embrace life's challenges and flourish as humans.

We also believe that as Christians, God expects us to think well and live deliberately, outworking the purposes that can help change our world for the better. As a Christian school, we see it as our mandate to work alongside parents, helping them prepare and equip their children to find their place and purpose in the world.

*'Train up a child in the way they should go [teaching them to seek God's wisdom and will for their abilities and talents], even when they are old, they will not depart from it.'*  
Proverbs 22:6

At Coolum Beach Christian College, we acknowledge that our Christian faith is integral to learning and that our Christian worldview must shape the way we practise education.

### Implications for Teaching and Learning

We aim to create a positive Christian educational community that provides students with an environment where they are guided to find, to discover and understand the God-given meaning and structure of the world, and their place and purpose within it.

An environment where individuals can:

- Get to know God and his plan for us
- Find wholeness through this process
- Discover their purpose
- Outwork ways they can make a difference in the world

### Indicators

We see this when:

- Our Christian faith is evident in our words and actions throughout the school
- Our Christian beliefs resound in the way we approach life and inform every aspect of our College.
- Our students know what they believe and why they believe it
- Our programs and curriculum reflect our Christian understandings
- Our curriculum reflects our belief that we need to provide opportunities to shape each student, inform their thinking with the truth and provide the means for them to action their beliefs.
- We have a core program that is Christian and holistic in nature and assists to shape hearts and inform thinking and therefore grow and develop our students (School Matters: Heart and Brain)
- This program provides a common language for growing beautiful people that is known, articulated and actioned throughout our College (School Matters: Heart and Brain)
- We provide a concise framework that articulates how we will outwork our Christian worldview (Christian Worldview statements)
- Our people (staff, students, parents) are doing life well, or are on a journey where life and wellbeing is continually improving
- Our students respond to life with knowledge, wisdom and discernment
- Our school community is inclusive, co-operative and caring with appreciation and respect apparent within our classrooms and our community

- Unity and alignment are consistent across the various areas within the College
- Active servant leadership is the norm and modelled by mature members of the community (across the school – e.g. older student leading and/or modelling)
- Responsibility for behaviour is occurring
- Our College embraces the broken, helping them move to healing, health and wholeness
- Our new students feel welcome (and if necessary, behaviour changes to reflect our culture).

## **VALUE 2 - EDUCATION AND LEARNING**

### Value Statement

At Coolum Beach Christian College, we believe that God has provided us with an amazing world that is rich, diverse and complex, and where learning is our opportunity to impact the world. We want to ignite and nurture a love of learning in our students, that translates into a desire for learning to become a lifelong practise. We want our students to be actively involved in the process of learning and to develop a curious disposition. We believe that engagement in learning, with the accompanying experiences of wonder and awe, are pivotal elements in a student's learning journey. We also believe that it is essential to use research and evidence to inform our teaching and seek to ensure that every student benefits from high quality evidenced informed teaching. At Coolum Beach Christian College, we want our students to learn to think well and thus live deliberately and thoughtfully.

### Implications for Teaching and Learning

The College thus facilitates a creative and dynamic learning environment where students can explore and develop enduring understandings and appreciate their world. We want our College to be a place where learning is rigorous and evokes curiosity, and where a student's response to learning will include creativity, appreciation and innovation. Our learning programs should reflect the breadth of what it means to be human and therefore be holistic in focus. We believe that learning should be purposeful and with this in mind, ensure that we provide learning experiences that are integrated (where appropriate), authentic and provide links with connections to real life. At CBCC, we understand that learning is a lifelong activity, therefore, we seek to nurture students to become lifelong lovers of learning. We believe that all people can learn and grow in knowledge but that they have different strengths and abilities. We seek to honour these differences in our learning approaches and activities.

We believe that individuals need to take ownership of their own learning therefore, we will provide opportunities for choice, allow students to negotiate aspects of learning (as appropriate), which enables them to be part of the learning process. We understand that students need to learn to think well, to become reflective and discerning, to know what they believe and why they believe it, rather than just consuming knowledge. We provide our students with knowledge rich curriculum and processes and skills that teach them how to learn, how to reflect on learning, how learning works and how they best learn.

At CBCC, our environments are extensions of our learning programs. Our classroom spaces and the outside spaces are used to enhance learning opportunities and provide moments to kindle the fire of curiosity.

## Indicators

We see this when:

- Our school culture celebrates the growth, success and learning of all students and teachers
- Our teachers are passionate and playful and reflect wonder and joy during the learning process
- Our curriculum reflects our belief that curiosity and wonder are essential dispositions necessary to encourage and engage students
- Our teachers value continuous learning and commit to learning and developing as professionals
- Our pedagogy is based on evidenced informed best practices
- Every learner is considered capable of growth, and are given appropriate learning opportunities, inspiration and support
- Our curriculum reflects our belief that education is holistic, and our learning programs and activities are integrated where appropriate
- Our curriculum and teaching strategies addresses differentiated learning needs and teachers teach from the point of revealed need
- Our curriculum and learning experiences encourage and cultivate creativity and innovation using the most appropriate tools that encourage the best learning
- Our students are playful when they are learning, and reflect wonder and joy during the learning process
- Our students enjoy coming to school, and are engaged and excited about learning opportunities
- Our students enjoy the process of learning, not just the product
- Our students have an appetite for lifelong learning, and have a sense of optimism and self esteem
- Our students develop their own capacity to learn, play an active role in their learning and are motivated to reach excellence in their own way
- Our students take healthy risks and rise to challenges
- Our students set goals and have personalised learning experiences to fulfil diverse capabilities
- Our students are on a pathway towards further education, training and employment

- Our learning environments support our teaching and learning pedagogies
- Our learning spaces are to be an extension of best practise - flexible when appropriate to the learning activity.

### **VALUE 3 - COMMUNITY AND COLLABORATION**

#### Value Statement

At Coolum Beach Christian College, we believe that community and collaboration are essential components of an effective and nurturing learning environment. We know that the Christian worldview favours and actively encourages meaningful relationships and strong community. We know that schools are communities for learning and that good learning happens when we all work and learn together. We also believe that our connections and collaborations should extend to every member of our school community (College Board, staff, parents, and students). It truly takes "a village to raise a child". Our vision statement, 'Together we can change the world' can only occur if we share and celebrate life as a school community, with our common purpose being positive outcomes for our students.

#### Implications for Teaching and Learning

We aim to provide opportunities for community and collaboration to develop and flourish within our College.

Our College environment will be physically structured, wherever possible, for connection and collaboration to occur. Our teachers will work in teams to share their expertise, strengths and a wide diversity of insights. Our students will benefit from a range of gifts and different personalities when teachers collaborate and share teaching moments.

We will establish effective communication processes and other essential habits that assist our community to thrive.

We will partner with parents, so students see and understand that the adults in their world are working together for their good, while also ensuring parents feel valued and supported as we work together to understand, know and educate their children.

Our learning environments will embrace an open-door policy for parents, which encourages them to be present and partner in the learning journey.

## Indicators

We will see this happening when:

- Committed partnerships and mutually supportive relationships are reflected across the school
- Positive relationships that encourage community are intentionally cultivated and developed
- Community events and moments are frequent, deliberate in intent and well attended
- Communication throughout the College is thorough, frequent, well-articulated and well received
- Individuals feel well informed and understand College directions and intentions
- Alignment as a concept that builds collaboration and unity (rather than agreement) is understood
- Teams are established, intentionally structured and are provided with support, resources and time to connect
- Our staff model connection and collaboration
- Collaboration and team meetings are valued and seen in a positive light
- Time is provided for effective communication and collaboration to occur
- Our staff understand they have shared responsibility to contribute towards the nurturing and vitality of the team
- Teaching staff observe each other and learn from each other
- Teachers work in well-functioning healthy teams where all team members feel valued and included
- Classroom environments are physically and pedagogically structured for meaningful learning in communities
- Learning strategies are put in place to promote cooperation and connections to occur
- Peer support programs are established (e.g. MOB day)
- New students and families feel included and part of the Coolum Beach Christian College community
- Parent workshops are well attended
- The most effective methods and tools for communication and collaboration are understood and utilised

- Technology is used to enhance communication and collaboration amongst all members of the community.

## **VALUE 4 - EXCELLENCE**

### Value Statement

At Coolum Beach Christian College, we are committed to continual improvement, seeking excellence in all we do. We believe this is reflective of an excellent God, i.e. His creation is excellent, and humans are created to reflect this excellence with God's assistance.

Excellence is demonstrated in many forms in our College environment. We have an excellent learning community and an excellent staff community. We have teachers that provide academic rigour with challenging and engaging learning opportunities. We are aware, however, that the external pursuit of excellence alone does not determine a quality life, and that excellence is not perfectionism. Our concept of excellence is based upon the Biblical view of being the best version of ourselves with God's grace. It means always doing our best, whilst being committed to continual improvement. Excellence means that we match our practise with our potential. This allows for the development of self-assurance, contentment and the celebration of others, who's gifts and talents may differ to their own. Thus, creating an environment where uniqueness and the individual is celebrated without envy.

### Implications for Teaching and Learning

We aim to create a culture where excellence is thoughtfully considered and authentically and wisely pursued in all its various guises. In our approach to excellence, we will know and develop the best in each student, so that they can fulfil their potential and contribute their unique strengths to the world. We will acknowledge hard work and effort and seek to advance our students' understanding of the importance of these attributes in attaining excellence. We will develop an understanding that excellence requires wholehearted endeavour; It must be pursued to be achieved. Hard can be good.

As professionals, we will seek to become excellent in our practise: we will develop our professional capacity and become experts in our various disciplines. We believe that an excellent teacher is one who is also an excellent learner.

Our learning opportunities will be designed to exemplify and nurture excellence through purposeful, challenging Knowledge rich curriculum and activities that generate robust thinking and academic rigour. We understand the place for accountability and that proper accountability gives dignity and honours the learner and the process of learning. It involves conversation and feedback that is constructive and affirming.

### Indicators

We will see this happening when:

- Learning is authentic, rich and rigorous and students are intellectually challenged, engaged and prepared
- Growth and effort are expected and celebrated for all students
- Excellent relationships are understood, modelled and cultivated



- Processes are in place that motivate students to learn in ways that make a sustained, substantial and positive influence on how they think, act and feel
- Learning and growth are translated into action and ongoing lifestyle
- Students take responsibility for their own learning and are committed to their own growth and development
- Assessment of learning involves finding out about what a student knows as well as what they can do (we are not just interested in results and standards that rank students)
- Staff model learning as well as impart knowledge
- Staff are well developed professionally and are committed to continual improvement, lifelong learning and communicate this to those around them
- Teaching staff use current research and best practice to inform instruction and are aware of effective teaching and learning principles. They consider the purpose of pedagogy
- Staff use data to inform instruction
- Teaching staff meet, plan and reflect on great learning experiences and activities
- There is rigorous Christian curriculum in place that is unique to Coolum Christian College
- Curriculum documents are in place that are sequential, low variance and provide opportunities for students to understand and appreciating the world
- Student achievement data reflects sustained improvement and growth
- NAPLAN and Whole School Testing results continue to improve (targets are set to measure improvements)
- We have differentiated high expectations which are related to the students' effort and engagement
- We have accountability processes for staff and students that are understood and are both constructive and affirming
- There is no dichotomy between nurture, care and accountability
- Assessment involves differentiated expectations not just comparisons
- Parents care about the school community and hold high expectations for educational outcomes