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| Policy Title | Teaching, Learning and Curriculum Policy |
| Date Policy Approved | June 2018 |
| Policy Owner & Position | Director of Teaching and Learning |
| Team Responsible for Policy | Director of Teaching and Learning, Curriculum Team (Faculty Leaders) |
| Authorised by | The Principal |
| Who is the Policy for? | Teaching and Learning Staff, Students |
| Version Control | Version 1 |
| Government Requirements for Schools | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Victorian Curriculum & Assessment Authority • Education and Training Reform Act 2006 (Part 2.5 - Curriculum and Assessment, Part 2.6 Victorian Institute of Teaching) • Australian Education Act 2013 • Australian Education Regulation Act 2014 • Australian Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Authority • Victorian Institute for Teaching Professional Standards • Australian Institute for Teachers Standards for Teachers and Leaders • Education and Training Reform Regulations 2017 |
| Relevant Cross References | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christian Schools Australia Curriculum Guidelines 'God's Big Story' • Independent Schools Victoria Curriculum Guidelines • Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority Guidelines • Ballarat Christian College Constitution, amended 2018 • The Department of Education & Training Victoria - Principles of Learning and Teaching (PoLT) |
| Review Date | 2020 |

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| Purpose of the Policy | <p>The policy will guide the planning, developing and implementation of all teaching and learning curriculum provided by Ballarat Christian College. All core curriculum units will be aligned to the Australian Curriculum (ACARA) and will reflect the College's Statement of Faith, Vision, Objects and Values. Further to this the policy will purposefully guide the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved student learning across all subject areas and year levels in a manner consistent with Australian and Victorian educational requirements and inclusive of locally identified needs. • Promotion of skills, values and knowledge that will enable the students to be life-long learners, valuable citizens who reach their God-given potential in the vocational fields of their choice. • Quality teaching and learning programs where best practice is promoted through collegiate support, the Principles of Learning and Teaching (PoLT) and all available quality curriculum documentation consistent with the standards of the Australian Curriculum and recommendations of |
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| | Christian Schools Australia, Independent Schools Victoria and the College's Objects, Values and Statement of Faith. |
| Responsibility for Management of Policy | Director of Teaching and Learning Faculty Leaders and Curriculum Team All Ballarat Christian College Teaching Staff |
| The Policy Statement | <p>Curriculum encompasses all the programs and organisational processes that the school uses for student learning. Teaching and learning is inclusive of the means by which the programs are delivered.</p> <p>Ballarat Christian College is committed to delivering quality teaching and learning programs that are based on planned, purposeful, ACARA based curriculum and also provide opportunity for each learning unit to be delivered from a Christian perspective and a Biblical worldview.</p> <p>The College's Vision, (Every learner reaching their God-given potential), and Purpose (To provide each student Christian education that gives opportunities to develop gifts and talents to fulfil the will of God in his or her life) and the Values of respect, commitment, compassion, honesty, unity and excellence, will underpin all teaching, learning and curriculum.</p> |
| The Procedure | <p>The Australian Curriculum and the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority guidelines will provide resource and guidance for core teaching, including the development and implementation of sequential based units supported by the College's Christian educational perspective as outlined in the Vision, Purpose, Objects, Values and Statement of Faith, (see Appendix 1).</p> <p>Teaching staff will work in teams in the development and implementation of the curriculum. Teams may consist of teachers from the same curriculum level or across the entire school, for example, members of the Science Faculty and members of the Executive Leadership Team.</p> <p>Support will be provided for the introduction and continuation of current Australian educational initiatives by offering professional development opportunities, collegiate support and professional dialogue sessions at staff and faculty meetings which will be held regularly each semester.</p> <p>This Policy will be used in conjunction with relevant educational authorities and the College's Reporting and Assessment Policy and protocols and aligned with the College ethos and philosophy of educating Christianly, (inclusive of the 'Statement of Faith').</p> <p>Student achievements will be measured and reported to students, parents, the College Board and the wider community against the Australian Curriculum and the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority standards and achievement levels from Foundation to Year 12.</p> <p>All teaching staff will participate in the collection and analysis of student achievement data and have input into the school's decisions resulting from this interpretation.</p> <p>The College's Executive Leadership Team and the College's Board will provide adequate resources for curriculum implementation and professional development toward the building of teacher capacity and the delivery of quality</p> |

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| | <p>teaching and learning at every level, Foundation to Year 12, through the annual budget and implementation program.</p> <p>The College will offer secondary certification in a variety of formats including Distance Education and Vocational Education Training in Schools, in addition to subjects from Foundation to Year 12 and will consistently make provision for students of a range of academic and learning abilities inclusive of those with special and additional needs.</p> <p>Differentiated learning programs designed to cater for students with a wide range of learning abilities and cultural backgrounds, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin, will be provided based on the individual learning needs of the students. Teachers will, in cooperation with Learning Enhancement Centre staff, implement stimulating teaching and learning programs that support the planned and developed Individual Education Plans for students with special needs. Teachers will work in cooperation with the expectations and standards required by their Head of School and supported by the Director of Teaching and Learning. All teachers will follow the Staff Code of Conduct, be V.I.T. registered, appropriately qualified and familiar with and operating within the standards as set out by the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership 2011, in addition to a knowledge and understanding of the Disabilities Standards 2005 for inclusive education.</p> <p>All teachers will provide a stimulating and engaging classroom and learning environment, supported by quality school-based resources and reflective of best practice, enabling students to achieve to their potential across all areas of the curriculum. The teaching and learning programs throughout the College will embrace a learning continuum whereby teachers provide structured week by week and term by term curriculum planning documents that reflect the scope and sequence of each of the eight key learning areas, English, Mathematics, Science, Humanities and Social Sciences, the Arts, Technologies, Health and Physical Education and Languages, in addition to Christian Living Studies, Certificate III in Christian Studies at Senior School level and a range of subject electives across the year levels where staffing and resources allow.</p> |
| Effectiveness of the Policy | To be monitored by the Director of Teaching and Learning. |
| Associated Documents | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment and Reporting Policy • Reporting Protocols • Ballarat Christian College Constitution adopted 2006, amended 2018; (See Appendix 1) Sections 2.1, 2.2, 4.1-> 4.13. (Objects & Values and Statement of Faith) • Australian Curriculum - https://australiancurriculum.edu.au/ • Victorian Curriculum - http://victoriancurriculum.vcaa.vic.edu.au/ • Christian Distinctive National Professional Standards for Teachers - https://csa.edu.au/ |
| Acknowledgement | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australian Curriculum and Assessment Authority - https://australiancurriculum.edu.au/ • Christian Schools Australia - https://csa.edu.au/ |

APPENDIX 1

Ballarat Christian College Vision: 'Every learner reaching their God-given potential'.

(Excerpts from the Ballarat Christian College Constitution)

2. OBJECTS & VALUES

2.1 Objects

In recognition that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, knowledge and understanding, the objects of the Company are to advance the Kingdom of God, strengthen the Church of Jesus Christ and promulgate the knowledge of God that is revealed in the Bible and that is in accord with the Statement of Faith. In furtherance of these Objects the College will;

- Contribute to the educational facilities of Australia by establishing, maintaining and supporting, in such places that may be thought suitable pre-school, primary, secondary, tertiary and other educational institutions and methods of the highest standards;
- Provide an education of high academic and vocational standards that is based on:
 - (i) an acceptance of the Lordship of Jesus Christ, and
 - (ii) an acceptance of the Bible as the revealed word of God, as these are defined in the Statement of Faith;
- Provide an education that also:
 - (i) fosters self-discipline in staff and students while teaching them to accept the authority of the Christian community, which is the church universal to honour and obey their parents and the laws of the governments of Australia.
 - (ii) caters for the individual needs of all staff and students while stressing their responsibility to contribute positively to others as part of a Christian community.
 - (iii) nurtures staff and students in the moral and ethical standards of the Bible, encourages them to develop a biblical world view and to make life choices consistent with a formative Christian faith, while appreciating the rights of others to hold different views.
 - (iv) develops the creative and critical abilities of staff and students.
 - (v) fosters the development of the gifts, skills and abilities of staff and students for the service of Jesus Christ in the church universal and the wider community.
- Provide Christian activities, worship and teaching in accordance with these Objects, the Principles and the Statement of Faith.

2.2 Values

Our Objects, Vision and Purpose is supported by the College's Core Values, namely;

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| Commitment | Isaiah 37:32 |
| Excellence | Philippians 4:8 |
| Respect | 1 Peter 2:17 |
| Unity | Ephesians 4:13 |
| Compassion | Philippians 2:1 |
| Honesty | 2 Kings 12:15 |

Our Core Values are underpinned by reference to biblical principles as derived from the Bible.

4. Statement of Faith

4.1 The Scriptures

We believe in the Divine inspiration, the infallibility and supreme authority of the Old and New Testaments in their entirety and that the Holy Spirit so moved the writers that what they wrote are authoritative statements of truth for all matters of faith and conduct. It is indispensable and determinative for all our knowledge of God, of ourselves and the rest of creation.

Matthew 4:4; 5: 17-18; 24:35; John 5:39; 10:35; 17:17; Acts 28:23; I Corinthians 2:7-16; 2 Timothy 3: 15-17; 2 Peter 1:19-21

4.2 The Godhead

We believe that the one living and true God eternally exists in three persons (the Trinity): Father, Son and Holy Spirit. God depends on nothing and no-one; everything and everyone depends on Him. God is holy, just, wise, loving and good. God created all things and by His Word they are sustained and controlled.

Matthew 3:16-17; 28: 19; John 14: 16-17; I Corinthians 12:4-6; 2 Corinthians 13:14; Ephesians 2:18; 4:4-6.

4.3 The Father

God the Father is the first Person of the triune Godhead. He is the eternal Father in position not in generation. He is personal, ever-present sovereign, self-existent, invisible, immortal, holy, unchanging, good, merciful, all-powerful, all knowing, loving, gracious, faithful and just.

Leviticus 11:44, Malachi 3:6, Numbers 23:19, Deuteronomy 4:39, Daniel 4:35, 2 Corinthians 1:3; Psalm 90:2, 102:25-27, 107:1, Romans 2:4.

4.4 The Son

The Lord Jesus Christ is the eternally existing, only begotten Son of the Father. He is the Son in position not in generation. He is the Creator and Sustainer of all things. When God the Son came to earth to provide for salvation He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of a virgin, truly God and truly man. He lived a sinless life and died for sin in our place. He was buried, rose from the dead in bodily form and ascended to heaven.

John 1:1-3, Isaiah 7:14, 9:6, John 14:9-10, 17:1,5, Philippians 2:5-11, Romans 5:8, Colossians 1:14-22, Hebrews 1:3-8.

4.5 The Holy Spirit

We believe that the Holy Spirit is the third Person of the Godhead, the divine Empowerer of all created life, the Source of true spiritual knowledge and of faith in Christ, and that He indwells every true believer, sealing them to redemption and empowering them to live a sanctified life in obedience to God's will.

John 14:16-17, 26, 1 Corinthians 6:19-20, 12:13, 2 Corinthians 3:17, 2 Peter 1:20-21, Luke 4:1, 18-21, Acts 4:31.

4.6 The Need & Provision of Salvation

- (a) The Bible teaches that all people are born with a sin nature, and that every person chooses to rebel against God and willfully sins against Him. Sin is the breaking of the law of God. No-one is righteous, without sin, and all are guilty before the righteous God who created us.
- (b) Jesus Christ, God who became man, lived a sinless life and died for the sin of all men. He has fully paid the debt of sin and offers forgiveness to all who put their trust in Him.

- (c) Salvation is solely by grace and is received through genuine repentance (asking God to forgive us), and wholehearted trust in the Lord Jesus Christ. It is also known as the 'new birth'.
- (d) There is no other means by which mankind may be saved, except through the salvation provided by the Lord Jesus Christ.
- (e) A genuine conversion produces an outwardly changed life that is upright and moral.
John 1:29, 3:16-17, 4:42; Ephesians 1:6-7, 2:8-9, Romans 5:1, 18, Acts 3:19, 4:12, Titus 3:4-7, 2 Corinthians 5:14-15, Hebrews 2:9.

4.7 Satan - The Devil

We believe in the person of Satan, created by God as a perfect being, yet being lifted up with pride, was cast out of Heaven to exist as the unholy prince of this world destined to eternal judgment. He is the author of spiritual darkness, full of all subtlety and malignity, continually seeking to frustrate the purpose of God and to ensnare mankind.

Genesis 3:1-5; Matthew 25:41; Luke 10:18; 2 Corinthians 4:4; Ephesians 2:2; 6:11-12; Colossians 2:16; James 4:7; 1 Peter 5:8-9; 1 John 3:8; Revelation 12:7-9, 11-12; 20:10.

4.8 The Church

We believe that the church universal is the body of Christ, composed of all born again believers of all generations, of which Jesus is the living Head. We believe that the local church is an organised body of believers faithfully meeting together to observe the ordinances and to carry out all the principles, precepts and commissions of Christ.

Romans 12:4-5; 1 Corinthians 12:27; Ephesians 5:23, 26-27; 2:22; 1 Peter 2:5, 9; Titus 2: 14; Matthew 28: 19-20

4.9 Man

We believe;

- (a) God created one biological male, Adam, and one biological female, Eve, to be the parents of all humankind. We believe that all human beings, males and females, are created in the image of God and that there are no other God-given gender definitions or expressions. The biological sex a person is born with cannot change or be altered, and should be embraced as the gift of God for the purposes God designed. God designed the two genders, male and female, for the purpose of joy and procreation within the sole relationship of marriage. So a marriage can only be between a male and a female, and upon this foundation alone should children be conceived and families formed.
- (b) Men and women are created to worship their Creator by loving and serving Him, and by exercising dominion under God's rule by inhabiting, possessing, ruling, caring for and enjoying God's creation. Consequently, the purpose of human existence is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever.
- (c) All humankind is fallen (born with a sin nature) and, whatever his character and attainment, is lost in sin and without hope apart from the salvation available in the Lord Jesus Christ.
- (d) Those that are born with disorders of sex development do not constitute a third sex, they are all medically identifiable deformities and are rightly recognised as disorders. They are equally created in God's image, and should embrace their biological sex in so far as it may be known. Transgender is a social construct which denies our God-given biological

sex.

Genesis 1:26-27, Romans 5:12, 16-17, Jeremiah 17:9, Ephesians 2:1-3, 12, John 6:44, John 3:3-7, Acts 4:12, 2 Corinthians 11:3.

4.10 Prayer

Prayer is communion with God by which the believer can offer praise and thanksgiving, intercede for others and commit our cares and needs to the Lord. Through prayer, the believer can communicate, find fellowship with God and receive comfort, guidance, reassurance, encouragement, direction and edification.

Psalms 100:4, Jeremiah 33:3, Matthew 7:7-8, 11, 21-22, John 4:24, 14:13-14, 16:23-24, Ephesians 6:18, Philippians 4:6-7, James 1:5-6, 1 John 5:14-15, Romans 8:26-27.

4.11 Last Things

- (a) We believe the Lord Jesus Christ will return in person with His saints and that the full consummation of the Kingdom of God awaits His return.
- (b) We believe those who have been regenerated by the Holy Spirit will receive a resurrection body at the return of Jesus Christ and be forever with the Lord, while those who have not believed will be resurrected to stand at the judgment seat of God to receive His judgment and eternal condemnation to Hell.

Matthew 24:29-44, Acts 1:11, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, 5:1-11, 2 Peter 3:7-14, Revelation 20:1-15, Daniel 12:2-3, John 5:28-29, 6:39-40, 1 Corinthians 15, Philippians 3:21.

4.12 Creation

- (a) All things were created by God so that “what is seen was made out of things which do not appear” (Hebrews 11:3). God the Son created all things by His Word, to the glorification of His Holy Name. It is also by God’s hand, power and care that all created things are preserved and managed.
- (b) In order to understand the world, humanity and history, they must be seen in their relationship to God as the Bible speaks of them.

Hebrews 11:3, Genesis 1 & 2, John 1:3, 10, Colossians 1:16, Exodus 20:11; Revelation 4:11.

4.13 The Bible and Science

Creation as well as Scripture has been brought forth by the same God of truth. Any seeming discrepancy between the Bible and science should be resolved so that the Bible is preferred, remembering that science continually changes as new knowledge is obtained. The Bible is the unchanging truth God has revealed. The Bible, though not a science text book, touches many areas of science, and where it does so is entirely authoritative. These scientific details were given sometimes hundreds, or thousands, of years before modern scientific discovery.